

NULUNGU NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2025



Photo from the Nulungu Reconciliation Lecture

Message from the Director, Assoc Prof Melissa Marshall

As we bring you news of our research activities across the past few months, we reflect on a tremendous year that has been. As we continue to collectively activate and advocate for the transformation of society as evidenced by the collaborative cross-cultural transdisciplinary research we engage in and deliver, the celebration of Indigenous cultures and communities is foundational to this. Through events such as the phenomenal Nulungu Reconciliation Lecture delivered by Magabala Books CEO Dr Lilly Brown, to the transformative professional development short courses delivered, and the substantial research outputs inclusive of the Kimberley Clean Energy Forum and the Wake Up the Snake exhibition at the WA Museum, the Nulungu team have continued to collaboratively produce with outstanding impact.

As another intensely rewarding year draws to a close, we wish you all the best over the festive season and invite you to enjoy our reflections on the year that has been. We once again recognise the contribution of so many and would like to thank you all for your ongoing support of the Nulungu Research Institute. This comes at a time as a nation, when we are considering the recent events in Sydney and the impact this has had on so many. We offer our condolences to all this has touched while hoping that there may be light to illuminate a path forward for all during this festive season and beyond.

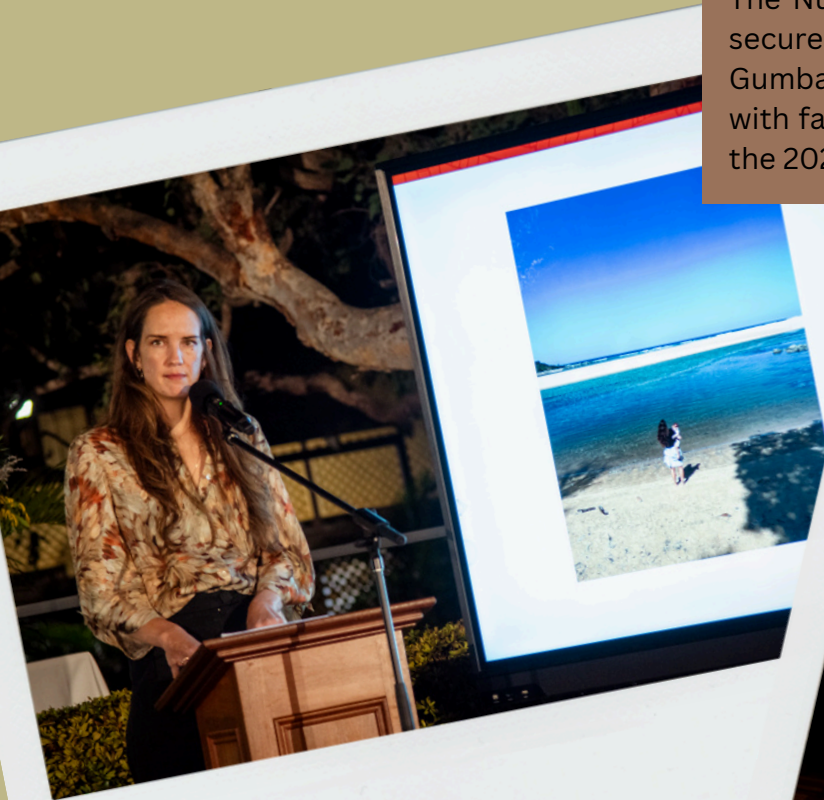
About the artwork
Galgaruru janyba ngan-
ga (Kookaburra sharing
stories) by Maxine
Charlie.

The artwork represents
the different Countries
of the Kimberley:
saltwater, ranges,
desert and river.

The bird is a
kookaburra, travelling
across the region,
keeping stories alive
and people connected.

Nulungu Reconciliation Lecture 2025

By Steve Kinnane



Dr Lilly Brown

The Nulungu Research Institute was fortunate to have secured Dr Lilly Brown, CEO of Magabala Books - a Gumbaynggirr woman who lives in Rubibi (Broome) with familial links to the Yawuru community - to deliver the 2025 Nulungu Reconciliation Lecture.



Dr Brown's work as an inter-disciplinary facilitator, educator and co-founder of the women-led collective, Shifting Ground, is informed by her work exploring intergenerational education, transmission of knowledge and wellbeing. Having worked across non-government, government, cultural and creative industries with a focus on Indigenous empowerment, Dr Lilly Brown's inclusion into the cannon of Nulungu Reconciliation Lecture presenters was grounded in her significant achievements, humility and commitment to supporting and upholding diverse Aboriginal voices.



Following a Welcome by Yawuru Elder, Di Appleby, and a captivating performance by the Burrb Wanggarraju Nurlu Dancers, Dr Brown was introduced by Associate Professor Stephen Kinnane (Miriwoong), Chair of Indigenous Research.



Dr Lilly Brown eloquently chose to examine reconciliation through the lens of First Nations self-determination and the power of Indigenous narrative under the title; Re-imagining First Nations Futures: Re-imagining our future. Through examination of tensions between culture, identity, narrative and audience, Dr Brown highlighted this dynamism, drawing the audience into her own creative and personal journey, set against examples of creative Indigenous narratives. In understanding the layered nature of identity and belonging, and how Indigenous creators have sought to re-imagine reconciliation as a form of reckoning with our shared histories and our imagined and unfolding futures – Dr Brown invited us to understand the complexity of the impacts of colonisation between generations, and what this means for us all as Australians - to find empathy and belonging within the complexity of Australia's deep, connected and ongoing Indigenous foundations.

[View the recording here](#)

Kimberley Indigenous Energy Affordability Workshop brings together experts and communities

Nulungu researchers are exploring solutions to energy poverty in remote communities – a widespread issue that leaves vulnerable people without power during prolonged periods of extreme heat. As part of this work, a recent workshop at the university's Broome Campus brought together researchers, community voices and policy experts to explore practical, research-based solutions aimed at long-term change.



The recent Kimberley Indigenous Energy Affordability Workshop focused on four priority areas – housing energy efficiency; energy costs and tariffs; climate change and future proofing remote communities; and technology and appliances.

The Workshop was attended by remote community residents from Ardyaloon, Djarindjin, Wangkatjungka and Mowanjum, as well as representatives from the Kimberley Land Council, Horizon Power's remote community teams, and CSIRO's National Energy Analysis Centre.

Participants discussed national best practice and the techniques already being used by First Nations people to manage high energy costs and extreme heat. They identified research and data gaps and explored practical partnerships. The two-day workshop took place amid growing national discussions about the impacts of climate change and the need for major investment to enable adaption to its predicted effects.

The workshop brought together research minds, including Dr Kathryn Thorburn, Anna Dwyer and Steve Kinnane from Notre Dame's Broome-based Nulungu Research Institute; Australian National University's Brad Riley; Dr Tom Longden from Western Sydney University; clean energy advocate Lauren Mellor from Original Power and Indigenous Renewable Energy advocate, engineer and researcher, Ruby Heard, of Alinga Energy.

The workshop was funded by Notre Dame's Big Ideas scheme.

A few weeks after the workshop the Right to Power report was launched. This landmark report was Australia's first national report into the impact of prepayment electricity systems on First Nations communities.

It revealed that over 15,000 First Nations households rely on prepayment power meters, which often result in immediate disconnections when credit runs out. In one year alone, 440,000 disconnection events were recorded across 8,878 households in Western Australia, Northern Territory and Queensland, averaging 49 disconnections per household annually.

Nulungu Research Institute partnered with Indigenous-led organisation Original Power and the Western Sydney University in collaboration with Indigenous led-organisations from the NT, SA and Qld. The Right to Power project was funded by Energy Consumers Australia.

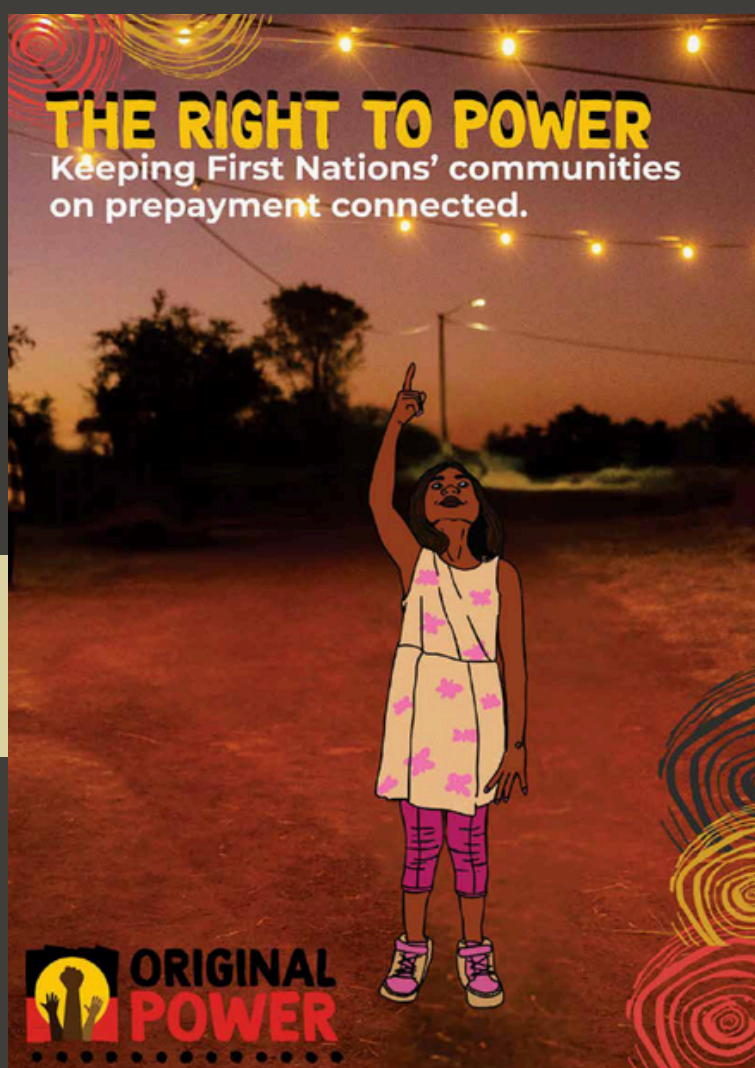
Article by Dr Kathryn Thorburn.



Kathryn Thorburn accompanied Chris Tan, Walkley award-winning SBS/NITV journalist, to Djarindjin and Ardyaloon, to assist with a story about electricity disconnections.

This story – which appeared on the SBS news, online and on radio – was timed to be released on the day of the Right to Power report, a collaboration between researchers at Nulungu including Anna Dwyer and Lloyd Pigram as well as researchers from the University of Western Sydney and Original Power.

The report documents the extent of electricity disconnections across WA, the NT and SA. It received extensive media coverage.



The Right to Power team continues to advocate across state, Territory and Commonwealth governments for the implementation of a range of reforms including:

- Better reporting by utilities of disconnections
- Better defining of customer hardship – and responsiveness to it
- Removing barriers to rooftop solar ownership
- Implement measures to assist vulnerable people during extreme temperature
- Implement national priority services register to support vulnerable customers
- Remove mandated prepayment arrangements

Check out the full report here: https://www.originalpower.org.au/the_right_to_power

Check out some of the media coverage here:

SBS podcast - <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/podcast-episode/when-power-isnt-guaranteed-indigenous-families-in-northern-australia-face-deadly-risks-in-extreme-heat/ax4dvkwbk>

SBS online: <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/australian-households-facing-prepaid-energy-crisis/w5to5n2r1> (featuring our very own Lloyd Pigram)

ABC Breakfast National - [Energy insecurity rife among remote First Nations communities](#) - ABC listen

ABC National - [Prepaid electricity consumers sweltering under regular disconnections, report finds](#) - ABC News

Conserving Heritage in Stone: Lasers and Culture in Partnerships

This year saw the commencement of a cutting edge collaborative research project, focused on the potential use of laser technology in rock art conservation in Kakadu. Funded through the Australian Research Council's (ARC) Discovery Program, the project brings together Traditional Owners and rangers from Kakadu National Park with a national team of multi disciplinary professionals and university researchers to investigate using robotic technology based on cultural decision making, paired with a type of cold (femtosecond) laser cleaning.



This is an emerging technique that may one day help safely remove damaging mineral accretions without touching or heating fragile sandstone surfaces. The project, 'Conserving Heritage in Stone: Lasers and Culture in Partnerships', will explore new ways of preserving ancient rock art through a blend of science, technology and cultural knowledge.

There have been long-held concerns expressed by Bininj and Mungguy (Kakadu Traditional Owners) about accretions, biological growth, dust, graffiti and other forms of deterioration affecting rock art across the Arnhem Plateau, which is partly located in Kakadu. With more than 5,000 recorded bim (rock art) sites and many thousands more yet to be formally documented, the project came together in Kakadu in September and again in Sydney and Canberra in October, to undertake a knowledge exchange. With immersion activities conducted on Country and in laboratories alike, all shared an enthusiasm and passion for conservation. *Continued on next page*



These weeks were an opportunity for all members of the research project to come together across different sites and begin the work with a cultural knowledge focus with team members sharing their reflections. Joe Markham (Bolmo/Jaowyn clan) is looking forward to the collaboration maintaining the cultural significance of the Kakadu sites. This project will draw a focus too and assist in the protection of rock art and cultural heritage learning. Mandy Muir (Murumburr clan) believes the cultural heritage focus is a new way of thinking for protection of rock art, culture and the history of the longest continuing culture in the world.



The academic team members involved also reflected on the significance of the knowledge exchange. ANU Physicists Ksenia Maximova, Andrea Rode and Ludovic Rapp were excited to collaborate with the academic partners, Kakadu National Park Rangers and the Traditional Owners.

“ It was a privilege to host the delegation from Kakadu and share our latest research, ” they said.

Project Lead and UC Heritage Conservator Alison Wain said getting everybody together doing experiments in the laboratories at UTS and ANU led to a blending of knowledge and understanding across the team.

The knowledge exchange immersions were designed to strengthen relationships, build confidence, and support culturally governed decision-making at the heart of the project. Across the next three years, the research team will combine Indigenous knowledges with geochemistry, physics, robotics and heritage science to:

- Investigate non-thermal laser cleaning using ultra-short light pulses.
- Map complex mineral and pigment structures in sandstone.
- Design robotic systems to safely and precisely apply laser cleaning.
- Establish culturally appropriate research and treatment protocols.
- Strengthen collaborative relationships and support discussions around ICIP, permissions and sample custodianship.



Kakadu National Park's Cultural Heritage Manager, Ethan Williams, said the project represents an important step forward in caring for one of the world's most significant rock art regions.

“Kakadu's rock art and Bininj Mungguy obligations to care for these places, is a story of tens of thousands of years of cultural knowledge that is still ongoing,” Mr Williams said.

“This project brings together cutting-edge technology and Indigenous cultural knowledge to explore innovative and respectful ways to help protect this heritage for future generations.”

The ARC project is led by the University of Canberra in partnership with the University of Notre Dame Australia, University of Sydney, Australian National University, University of Technology Sydney and Kakadu National Park.

WAKE UP THE SNAKE



On Tuesday 9 December the WA Museum Boola Bardip hosted the launch of the Wake Up The Snake exhibition in the foyer of level one where it will remain until early June 2026.

There were 150 invited guests from the project teams filling the room where we were welcomed by Auntie Sandra Harben Whadjuk/Balardong Nyungar and Leanne Woods, Senior Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisor at the WAM.

Professor Anne Poelina delivered a speech to introduce the project and Lloyd Kwilla, West Kimberley Advisory Group and one of the principal artists of the exhibition spoke about spirit, Country and water and his connection to the land and the water.



WAKE UP THE SNAKE is an exhibition to wake up the consciousness of all people to the significance that water has to sustain all life and the protection of water sources such as the Martuwarra (Fitzroy River) in the West Kimberley, as well as the gnamma (water holes) in the Great Western Woodlands. It is based on the outcomes of an ARC funded research project to understand the transfer of Indigenous knowledges in two Western Australian regions. The research teams in each location have prepared connected exhibits that reflect their findings under this project. Each community shares its unique perspective on water, culture, and knowledge transfer, revealing how listening, looking, and learning on Country can guide us toward a sustainable future.

Aboriginal cultural systems hold knowledge of national and international significance for Aboriginal wellbeing and addressing climate change, food insecurity, water scarcity and species loss. However, the continuity and integrity of these knowledges is of considerable concern to Aboriginal people, due to disruptions to Aboriginal lifeways.

This Exhibition presents the outcomes of a research project to understand the transfer of knowledge in a West Kimberley and a southwest region of Western Australia. It was funded partially by the Australian Government through the ARC's Linkage Projects funding scheme (LP 210301390). The research was led by Nulungu Institute (University of Notre Dame Australia). There are two research partners: the Centre for People, Place & Planet (Edith Cowan University) and Millennium Kids, Inc.; two funding partners: Water Corporation and WA Museum; and three contributing partners: Mudjulla Inc., Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council and Yurmulun Aboriginal Corporation.

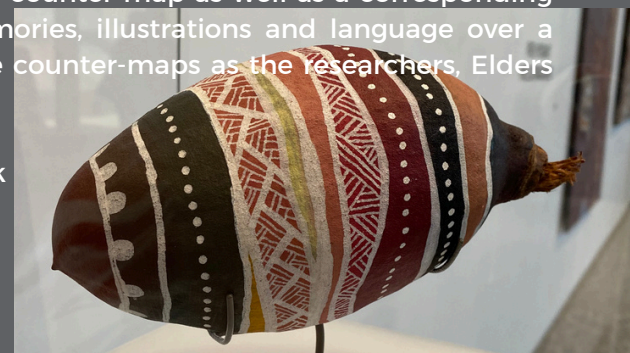
The research teams in each location have prepared connected exhibits that reflect their findings under this project.

West Kimberley: This section offers you an experience within an alternative worldview – to listen to voices of the West Kimberley describing cultural values, knowledge and practices which can persist despite on-going colonial interruptions. It is created as an immersive experience featuring the voices and artworks of respected Elders and Traditional Owners. Visitors are invited to reflect on the meaning of the words, paintings and carvings.

Great Western Woodlands: The Kids on Country exhibition shows five places in the Great Western Woodlands of Western Australia. Each place is represented by a Kids on Country counter-map as well as a corresponding photo essay. The counter-maps are created by layering water memories, illustrations and language over a number of visits. Photo essays document the process of creating the counter-maps as the researchers, Elders and participants visited each location over and over.

<https://www.notredame.edu.au/research/institutes-and-initiatives/ictik>

<https://visit.museum.wa.gov.au/boolabardip/wake-snake>



ARTICLE BY:
PROF ANNE POELINA &
LACHIE CARRACHER



COP That!

“

CULTURE OF WATER

NOVEMBER 2025

BRAZIL

COP30 2025 was the first COP Lachie and I have attended. Our first stopover was Brasilia, Brazil to attend the 6th International Conference of the Global Network of Water Museums (WAMU-NET). The conference explored adaptation strategies to climate change with a focus on the role of museums and cultural institutions in promoting a renewed 'culture of water', a new mindset for cultural change. We shared the West Kimberley Climate Adaptation Project in a time when conference participants agreed, we face mounting water scarcity, extreme weather events and increased fragile ecosystems.



As a member of GARN Indigenous Council we had an opportunity to attend a gathering to share what Indigenous peoples, First Nations and native peoples are doing in support for both cultural rights and the rights of nature, <https://www.garn.org/indigenous-council/>

I participated in Art's Planet - Sharing Stories on invitation from Dr. Tatiana Donato Trevisan and Associate Professor Brett Biles - Murrawarri man and Pro Vice Chancellor Indigenous Engagement and Research UNSW. Other panel members included ENERGIES 2050 (France/Global), Earth Savers Movement (Philippines), Fundação Getulio Vargas (Brazil).



THE EVENT CAN BE
VIEWED ON THIS LINK:
[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUB
E.COM/WATCH?
V=SJWLIKJFJSA&LIST=PL
DBE4PLLXJZHxK_DFEOL
PK8ONF_GODHNK&IN
DEX=7](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SJWLIKJFJSA&list=PLDBE4PLLXJZHxK_DFEOLPK8ONF_GODHNK&index=7)

Our premium event was a great success; we shared a wide range of topics. Iona Miller provided deep insight in the capacity of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientist (WGCS) and their National Blueprint for Australia, to repair degraded lands and waters. Lachie highlighted our key achievements of the West Kimberley Traditional Owner Climate Adaptation Project. I spoke to the opportunity to engage with Indigenous peoples and the vision to build the biocultural and bioregional governance.

ON REFLECTION COP30 WAS AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE!

Nulungu Research Institute's Attendance at the KALACC Festival (40th Anniversary) 2025



The Nulungu Research Institute has a long and valued relationship with the Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre (KALACC) and has attended KALACC Festivals and Annual General Meetings to report on research and issues of relevance for almost 20 years.

The 2025 KALACC Festival held at Ngumpan on Gooniyandi Country bordering Walmajarri Country in the Central Kimberley, and celebrated KALACC's 40th anniversary (actually 2024, but celebrated in 2025). Ngumpan has been a site of significant KALACC Meetings for decades and was chosen for the 40th Anniversary Celebration because of this significance.

Nulungu Staff members, Stephen Kinnane, Vanessa Poelina and UNDA Arts and Sciences Lecturer, Maxine Chi were in attendance in support of the Peak Kimberley Aboriginal Organisations who have shared their AGMs for well over 40 years, including The Kimberley Land Council, Kimberley Language Resource Centre, KALACC and in recent years, Arnja.

Nulungu Adjunct Research Fellows Dr Maya Haviland and Bruce Goring were also in attendance, working alongside Nulungu staff in continuing and strengthening Kimberley community relationships and upholding and respecting Kimberley cultural governance. Partner researchers, Dr Mandy Yap, of ANU, and KALACC Research Coordinator, Wade Freeman, collaborated with Stephen Kinnane and Maya Haviland in returning the results of the 'Strong Culture Project'.

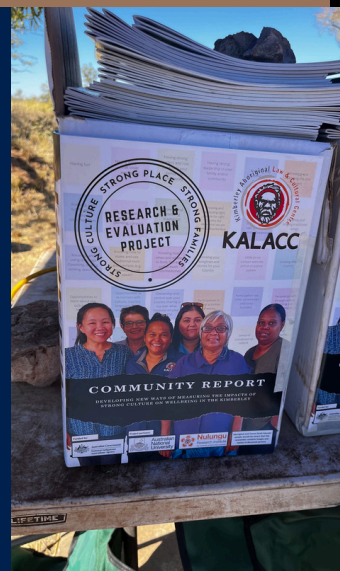
The Strong Culture, Strong Place, Strong Families project, was funded by the NIAA (National Indigenous Australians Agency), and was a major research initiative of the Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre (KALACC). Developed in partnership with ANU's Centre for Indigenous Policy Research (CIPR), and collaborating in on-ground research with the Nulungu Research Institute, it aimed to create frameworks showing how strong culture directly boosts wellbeing, empowers communities and can be used to lead investments in cultural activities. The overall goal was to generate better health, safety, and self-belief, using co-designed methods to develop culture-based indicators of success.



Mandy Yap (ANU) and Maya Haviland (Nulungu Adjunct Research Fellow) sharing results with community members.

Nulungu congratulates KALACC on its 40th Anniversary and looks forward to collaborating on future research of benefit to Kimberley Aboriginal community members.

Community Reports were returned to community members via one-on-one discussions, via a stall, at community meetings and with support of KALACC Staff. Copies of the 'Strong Culture Report' are available via the CIPR Website; [20250623-Strong-Culture-Strong-Place-Strong-Families-Final-Project-Report-as-at-08-October-2025.pdf](#)



NAIDOC Event 2025

The Broome Campus NAIDOC event 'The Next Generation: Strength, Vision and Legacy' went exceptionally well. There was a great turn out of staff, students and the public community.

Our guest speaker Kyra Edwards gave an inspiring speech, where she delivered a message to the community, especially to the next generation about 'Strength, Vision and Legacy'. Kyra highlighted the importance of culture and identity to create strength. Once you develop the strength through identity and experiences both good and bad, you will develop your vision for the future, which then you can lead and create a legacy for future generations. This captivating speech can be viewed via the Nulungu Events page: https://researchonline.nd.edu.au/nulungu_naidoc/2025/schedule/1/

Singer and song writer Jada Hunter and her sister Adi Cox performed and captured the audience with Jada's elegantly composed lyrics and their harmonious voices.

The art competition was a highlight and we had many creative entries, designing NAIDOC inspired artwork onto lanyards and bookmarks. Four individuals walked away with a fun prize. It created a competitive but fun atmosphere for participants.

The event overall was a great opportunity which brought everyone together to celebrate the 2025 NAIDOC National Theme. It was also an avenue to encourage the community to continue their work in reconciliation, not just within the Kullarri NAIDOC Festivities, or the National NAIDOC Week, but to practice reconciliation in our everyday lives for the better of our nation at large.

Article by Uweinna Albert.



TWO-WAY RESEARCH: COLLABORATING THROUGH INDIGENOUS METHODOLOGIES



For three days in August, Nulungu once again hosted the Two-way research course on the Broome campus. We were joined by 12 enthusiastic participants from diverse sectors including the creative arts, community development, environment and conservation, health, and native title. The course participants were treated to a Welcome to Country and Smoking with Dianne Appleby, an excursion to Nyamba Buru Yawuru, and a lunch at Mabu Mayi cafe. The staff at NBY were very generous with their time once again.

We also had another informative session with Slade Sibosado from KAHRA. There was also time for the participants to plan and troubleshoot their own community-based research projects, with support and advice from facilitators Anna Dwyer, Lloyd Pigram, Steve Kinnane and Gillian Kennedy. Here is some of the positive feedback we received at the end of the course:

Great training. Would love it to be longer. 5 days.

Foundational to all work moving forward.

I really, really loved the program and facilitators. I found it an incredibly enriching experience.

Amazing program. So well run. I got so much out of it. Deep and generous knowledge, understanding of projects and supportive opinions for projects.

We'll run these courses again in May and August 2026. All welcome!

Written by Gillian Kennedy, Course Coordinator and Lecturer.



UPCOMING COURSE DATES FOR 2026 : 5 - 7 MAY & AUGUST TBC

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES
PLEASE SEE OUR [WEBPAGE](#)**

Talking Heads Seminar Series



The Talking Heads Seminar Series was first established in 2014 at the Nulungu Research Institute as a space for showcasing prominent local and visiting research on a range of topics relevant to the Kimberley region. Speakers are drawn from the local community, Aboriginal representative organisations, national and international universities, government and industry. The seminars provide insight into the 'hot topics' affecting our region, with an aim to fostering a shared understanding of local knowledge and research outcomes, encouraging robust public discussions, and providing a unique opportunity for community networking. Researchers and community project managers from far and wide are invited each year to present their work to a public audience, either on the Broome Campus or via Zoom. The seminars are held fortnightly between the months of April and October during the mid-week lunch-time slot of 12:30pm. The seminars comprise a 45 minute presentation with a 15 minute Q&A.

The 2025 series was another jam packed season which was launched by Dalisa Pigram and Rachael Swain from Marrugeku and a further twelve seminars followed.

To view these recorded presentations please visit:

https://researchonline.nd.edu.au/nulungu_talkingheads/2025/

If you are interested in presenting a seminar in 2026 please email nulungu@nd.edu.au

WA Museum Language Centre



Anna Dwyer pictured with Freedom Marshall

Nulungu Research Fellow Anna Dwyer recently visited the Language Centre at the WA Museum Boola Bardip and we listened to her recording which is one of around 85 distinct Aboriginal languages in WA, often with hundreds of dialects on the interactive WA Language Map where she spoke about her Country, Karajarri Country.

Passing visitors at the museum were pleased to meet Anna in person proudly talking about the recording in her proud and fun loving way.

By Jo Wilkins.

CONGRATULATIONS



Professor Stephen Muecke pictured standing alongside Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC

On Monday, 29 September 2025 Professor Stephen Muecke received an award at a reception for the UNESCO Clubs Adelaide Chapter Awards at Government House Adelaide.

The Governor, Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC (pictured far right) told the audience that

“The mission of UNESCO is to promote peace and security through international cooperation in education, sciences, culture, communication and information. ”

Five people were given awards: Ms Natalie Badcock, Mr Brian Chatterton, Professor Stephen Muecke, Ms April Lawrie, and Dr Michael Brisco.

The Governor noted that “Their contributions are diverse, but they are linked by a passion to lift up their communities, by supporting young people and their teachers to be informed and active members of our democracy; enriching lives by promoting and sharing the beauty of music; championing the translations and preservation of Indigenous languages, cultures, stories and histories; advocating for the rights, development and wellbeing of Aboriginal children and young people and supporting them to realise their potential as future leaders; spreading hope and building community by restoring and gifting unwanted bikes to refugees in need of transport.”

Professor Muecke’s citation read : ‘For outstanding achievements in the field of Indigenous Australian Cultural Studies, with the prolific publishing of books and articles in ethnography, translating and preserving important Aboriginal stories and histories.’

Congratulations



Congratulations to Nulungu Research Institute Director, Assoc Prof Melissa Marshall and Nulungu Research Fellow, Kat Taylor for their Australian Research Council funding success.

Notre Dame has achieved the highest national success rate of any university in the latest Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Researcher Award round.

Three early career researchers were awarded more than \$1.5 million in a highly competitive round for projects tackling climate threatened Indigenous heritage, public trust and water security.

[Read more about our Discovery Early Career Research Award Fellows.](#)



This year Nulungu added a new element to the Nulungu Reconciliation Lecture, the Nulungu Honours. This new addition is a space where we honour students who have completed their PhD supervised by Nulungu researchers and Elders who have made a significant impact in sharing Cultural Knowledge.

Dr Sarah Yu pictured above with Prof Selma Allix received her Doctor of Philosophy degree with honours from the University of Heidelberg, Germany. She currently works at Nyamba Buru Yawuru on archival and cultural heritage projects and is an Adjunct Research Fellow with the University of Notre Dame Australia, the Western Australian Museum and the Australian National University.

The Certificate of Recognition was awarded to Dr Sarah Yu for the contribution she makes as a Nulungu Adjunct. Alongside Sarah, both Dr Barbara Bynder and Dr Ariatja Schipf received certificates to celebrate the recent conferrals of their doctorates at the UNDA Fremantle Graduation.

Elder Annie Milgin was awarded a certificate in recognition of the tireless contribution she has made to her community and beyond, in the fields of Aboriginal health, education and preservation of Aboriginal customs, law, language, heritage and culture. Unfortunately Annie was unable to attend on the night.

Nulungu Publications

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Nulungu Publications

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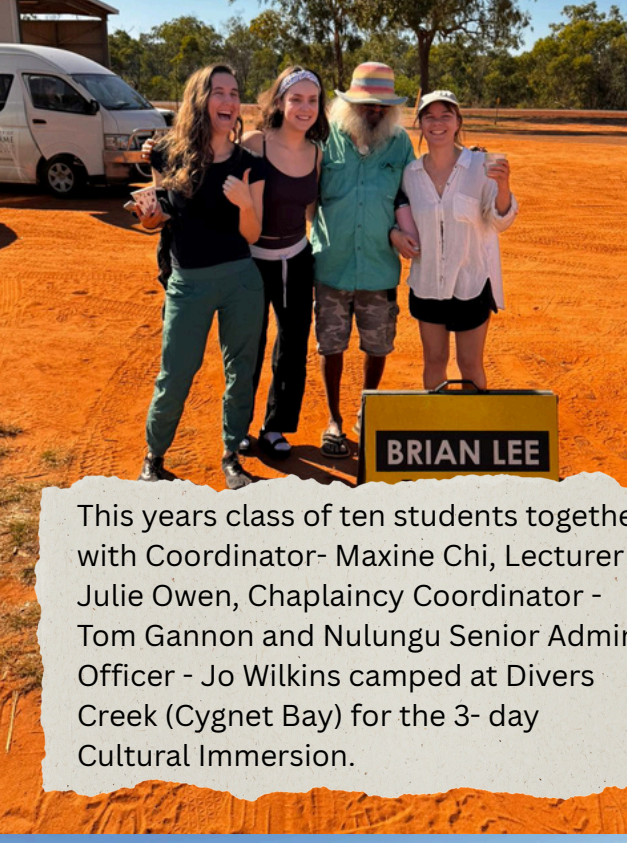
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GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ABORIGINAL STUDIES



This years class of ten students together with Coordinator- Maxine Chi, Lecturer - Julie Owen, Chaplaincy Coordinator - Tom Gannon and Nulungu Senior Admin Officer - Jo Wilkins camped at Divers Creek (Cygnet Bay) for the 3- day Cultural Immersion.



Class of 2025



Day 1.
First stop Beagle Bay 'Mother of Pearl' Church followed by lunch at the Community park. We then set up camp at Divers Creek in Cygnet Bay and enjoyed the last light at the beach before an enjoyable feed of Barramundi (Fish and rice!)



Day 2.
Breaking camp after breakfast to spend the day at Hunters Creek with Traditional Owner Brian Lee. The morning is spent learning about the local vegetation and how it is used for food and medicine. With the use of 3 x four wheel drive vehicles we arrive at the creek where Brian introduces the students to customary hunting and shows us how to prepare a stingray (pictured to the left)

Hunters Creek



Day 3.
The final day was spent with Bundy (Traditional Owner) who took us on his Cultural Tour on Bardi Country. He showed us where and how to collect shells and the elusive mudcrab! Fortunately his grandchildren came back from their hunt and provided us with a feed of fresh caught fish and crabs!



ENROL NOW FOR 2026



Research Endeavour Awards

Nulungu Research Institute has been a proud sponsor over the past five years of the Research Endeavour Awards for graduating Year 12 Students from Broome Senior High School and St Mary's College.

Dr Kathryn Thorburn attended the St Mary's College Presentation Night on the 24th October to present the awards which include a book and \$200 each.

Miss Lei Yuen received the Research Endeavour Award in Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) and Mr James Mitchell received the Research Endeavour Award in Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).



Miss Lei Yuen, Mr James Mitchell and Dr Kathryn Thorburn

Vennessa Poelina attended the Broome Senior High School Graduation Ceremony at the Broome Civic Centre on the 16th October to present the awards to Mr Dominic Rann for the Research Endeavour Award in Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) and Mr Elias Wright for the Research Endeavour Award in Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

These awards are offered to encourage the next generation of researchers in the Kimberley and recognise the significant effort they made in their respective areas. We look forward to seeing what they achieve as part of the next phase of their educational journey.



Nulungu Research Fellow Vennessa Poelina, Mr Dominic Rann and BSHS Principal Mathew Burt



Nulungu Research Fellow Vennessa Poelina, Mr Elias Wright and BSHS Principal Mathew Burt

MEET THE NULUNGU TEAM

Prof Anne Poelina
Chair of
Indigenous
Knowledges



Ms Anna Dwyer
Research Fellow &
Associate Lecturer



Ms Kate Golson
Research Fellow



Mr Lachie Carracher
Operations Manager
Climate Adaption Project



Ms Vennessa Poelina
Research Fellow



Mr Hozaus Claire
Research Fellow



Assoc Prof
Melissa Marshall
Director



Dr Kathryn Thorburn
Translational
Research Fellow



Mr Lloyd Pigram
Research Fellow



Miss Jennifer Eadie
Research Fellow



Mrs Jo Wilkins
Senior Admin Officer



Assoc Prof
Stephen Kinnane
Chair of
Indigenous Studies



Ms Gillian Kennedy
Translational
Research Fellow



Mrs Maria Morgan
Cultural Security Officer



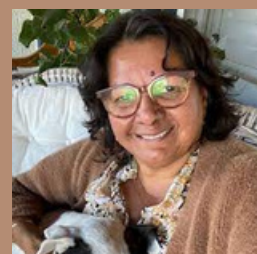
Ms Maxine Chi
GCAS Coordinator



Ms Uweinna Albert
Senior Admin Officer



Dr Barbara Bynder
Research Fellow



Prof Sandra
Wooltorton
Senior Research
Fellow



Prof Stephen Muecke
Research Fellow



Dr Kat Taylor
Research Fellow



Mr Edwin Mulligan
Research Fellow



Dr Virginia Westwood
Research Fellow





Nulungu Adjuncts



Professor Patrick Sullivan

Professor Jeanette Ward

Professor Juli Coffin

Professor Lynette Henderson-Yates

Ms Marianne (Ria) Jago

Professor John Guenther

Professor Leonard Collard

Professor Laurie Guimond

Assoc Professor William Lempert

Dr Sarah Yu

Professor Kevin Kenneally

Assoc Professor Judith Wilks

Dr Nick Smith

Dr Sarah Laborde

Dr Maya Haviland

Dr Janelle White

Assoc Professor John Ryan

Assoc Professor Janet Hunt

Mr Joseph Edgar

Dr Holly Farley

Mr Bruce Goring

Our HdR Students

Jennifer Eadie

Jesse Fleay

Gwen McDermott

Thelma Parker

Jacqueline Remond

Elizabeth Kent

Heaven Ryan

Louisa Stredwick

Tony MacGregor

Anna Dwyer

Affiliated Students

Sara Cavalcanti Marques

Kathleen McNary Wood

Marianne (Ria) Jago

Dr Eves Mayer

Marco Moreno Vargas

Elizabeth Damoah

Camila Pardo Uribo

The Nulungu Way is based on relationships of trust, openness, respect and recognition of Indigenous rights, values, culture and governance and upholding values of social justice.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
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B R O O M E C A M P U S

<https://www.notredame.edu.au/research/nulungu/home>

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We hope you enjoyed this edition of the Nulungu Newsletter and encourage you to share it with your contacts.

