Transition Broome: Collaborating to Care for Our Common Home

Tuesday 24th July 2018
12:30 – 1:30pm

Associate Professor Sandra Wooltorton

Transition initiatives are locally-guided community development projects that bring individuals and groups together to make their communities happier, healthier, more resilient and gentler on the earth. There are now thousands of these projects in place around the world. Broome’s transition initiative originally started in 2015, and is currently re-emerging through activities generated by many organisations including Environs Kimberley, Broome’s Catholic Parish, groups of local schools and teachers, Incredible Edible Broome and a number of new economic enterprises. The contribution by Nulungu Research Institute to this movement is to support the Collaboration through research. As of semester two 2018, three PhD researchers will be undertaking action-oriented community-engaged research supported by teams of senior professors, many of whom have substantial international reputations. The three PhD scholarship-funded research projects are Community Development for Sustainable Futures (Ms Anne Jennings), Indigenous Knowledges for Sustainable Futures (Ms Bobbie Chew Bigby) and Transformative Learning for Sustainable Futures (researcher not yet appointed). Projects such as this are rarely without paradox, contradiction and constraint. When these tensions are acknowledged and gently re-worked, new creative opportunities arise. This presentation will be a Transition Broome progress report, along with an outline of social theory being developed to support the initiative.

Associate Professor Sandra Wooltorton has been a university-based teacher-researcher and research director for over twenty years. She has received a number of national teaching awards, and has conducted and published substantial interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary research in fields such as sustainability education, action research for social change, Aboriginal education, environmental philosophy and cultural geography.

Venue: The University of Notre Dame Australia, Behind the screen building (NDB11), 88 Guy Street, Broome

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