

# Summary of Discovery Indigenous Researchers Development Proposals for Funding to Commence in 2009

## New South Wales

### The University of Newcastle

DI0989055 Mrs SM Dyer; Prof KJ Burgess; Prof J Maynard

**Approved Project Title** Private Sector Workplace Employment Programs for Indigenous Australians

2009 : \$ 29,500

2010 : \$ 25,500

Primary RFCD 3502 BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

Administering Organisation The University of Newcastle

#### Project Summary

The research examines the workplace programs aimed at Indigenous employment in the top 50 companies in Australia. It identifies workplace conditions and policies that govern the success of such programs and provides a benchmark for workplace program development to assist Indigenous Australians, one of the most disadvantaged groups in the labour market.

## University of Western Sydney

DI0989059 Mr AW Dillon; Prof RG Craven; Dr AS Yeung; Prof I Wilson

**Approved Project Title** Attention Deficit Hyper Activity Disorder: A critical analysis elucidating constructs that influence parental acceptance/rejection of diagnosis and response

2009 : \$ 60,000

2010 : \$ 30,000

Primary RFCD 3301 EDUCATION STUDIES

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

#### Project Summary

Part of the controversy surrounding ADHD is the increasing use of stimulant medication to deal with children who have been given a diagnosis of ADHD. Given the absence of scientific evidence that demonstrates an underlying causal physical pathology for ADHD, many claim that medication is inappropriate, with some suggesting that it is harmful. This research seeks to explicate parents' perceptions of ADHD & the impact of psycho-social constructs on parents' decisions to accept/reject a diagnosis & respond. This research offers important educational & social benefits. The outcomes of this research have the potential to 'break the cycle' of increasing medication; build parents' capacity to respond; & contribute to a healthy start to life.

## Victoria

### Monash University

DI0989294 Ms S Faulkhead; Prof LW Russell; Prof SM McKemmish

**Approved Project Title** Koorie archiving: Community and records working together

2009 : \$ 90,000

2010 : \$ 100,000

Primary RFCD 4203 CULTURAL STUDIES

Administering Organisation Monash University

#### Project Summary

The integration, preservation and accessibility of all archival sources, forms and media of Koorie knowledge are vital to processes of recovery for those affected by past government policies and to national reconciliation. Working in partnership with the Gunditjmara community of the Victorian Western District and the Koorie Heritage Trust, the Project will assist Koorie and other Indigenous communities to access and control information about them and their culture, and to build sustainable community archives. This will help in establishing identity, reconnecting families, pursuing land claims, intergenerational healing, preserving culture, and redress. The Project will place Australia at the forefront of Indigenous archiving research.

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## The University of Melbourne

**DI0989457** Mr LC Ormond-Parker; Prof ML Langton; A/Prof RJ Sloggett

**Approved Project Title** **Digitisation and Indigenous Communities: A study of the development of online collections. The interface between international institutions and Australian Indigenous communities.**

**2009 :** \$ 30,000

**2010 :** \$ 18,000

**Primary RFCD** 4003 CURATORIAL STUDIES

**Administering Organisation** The University of Melbourne

### Project Summary

The preservation and protection of Australian Indigenous knowledge in the digital age is in the National interest. This research may offer much valued insight into the ways in which Indigenous people are engaging in the protection of traditional knowledge in Australia in the digital age. At the international level has seen the start of development at the World Intellectual Property Organisation into the International legal mechanisms concerning the protection of traditional knowledge and the intellectual property aspects of access to and benefit-sharing from such knowledge. This study will explore these important developments which are in Australia's national interest.

## Queensland

### James Cook University

**DI0989521** Mr A Miller; Prof R Speare; Dr JA Judd

**Approved Project Title** **A Qualitative Study of Barriers to Effective Infectious and Parasitic Disease Interventions in Aboriginal Communities**

**2009 :** \$ 40,000

**2010 :** \$ 60,000

**2011 :** \$ 50,000

**Primary RFCD** 3212 PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES

**Administering Organisation** James Cook University

### Project Summary

This project is significant and innovative as it will enhance current understandings of the experience Indigenous communities have with infectious diseases. To date there have been no significant qualitative studies that examine the perceptions Indigenous communities have about infectious disease treatment interventions that draw on their current knowledge, experiences and on health, functionality and well-being. This study will develop a model that Indigenous communities, clinicians, policy makers and researchers can use to guide the implementation of sustainable infectious disease interventions. The outcomes of this project will help guide, inform and improve future infectious disease intervention strategies and programs.

## University of Southern Queensland

**DI0989086** Ms G Garvey; Dr VL Beesley; Dr PC Valery; Dr M Janda; Dr PK O'Rourke; Prof AC Green

**Approved Project Title** **Evaluation of an Instrument to Assess the Needs of Indigenous Patients with Cancer**

**2009 :** \$ 95,000

**2010 :** \$ 90,000

**Primary RFCD** 3212 PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES

**Administering Organisation** University of Southern Queensland

### Project Summary

There is an urgent need to address the differentials in health outcomes for Indigenous populations through a variety of programs addressing access to cancer care. An important part of any health program is measurement of health outcomes. This proposed research will develop and evaluate culturally sensitive needs assessment tools to ensure that the future of service provision is targeted to meet the priority needs of Indigenous cancer patients. Armed with an appropriate understanding of Indigenous peoples needs and how to assess these, care provision will be able to improve and maintain good health and also ensure that resource allocation is provided with considered economic, social and community benefits.

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## Western Australia

### Murdoch University

**DI0989770** Ms J Coffin; Prof B Down; Prof DS Cross

**Approved Project Title** **Solid Kids Solid Schools: conceptualising bullying in an Aboriginal context as reported by the Yamaji community**

**2009 :** \$ 40,000

**2010 :** \$ 40,000

**Primary RFCD** 3212 PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES

**Administering Organisation** Murdoch University

#### Project Summary

This project holds significant national benefit as the correlations between health and education outcomes are well evidenced as is the unacceptable inequity in education outcomes for Indigenous and non-Indigenous children. It seeks to improve school attendance, retention and academic achievements, as well as quality of school experience for Aboriginal children

**DI0989113** Mr GP Stasiuk; Mr L Collard; Prof CA McGarty; Dr KA Trees

**Approved Project Title** **Rottnest Island as Black Prison and White Playground: A case study of the problems and prospects for Reconciliation in Australia**

**2009 :** \$ 60,000

**2010 :** \$ 40,000

**Primary RFCD** 3799 OTHER STUDIES IN HUMAN SOCIETY

**Administering Organisation** Murdoch University

#### Project Summary

Many Australians are committed to Reconciliation. This project seeks to build on this commitment by finding out why the attempts to establish appropriate commemoration of the deaths of hundreds of Aboriginal and boys in the Rottnest Island Prison up to 1931 have so far been unsuccessful. The project will uncover new ways to advance the cause of Reconciliation and will bring these to public attention in the form of a documentary film. Rottnest Island could continue to be a source of division and shame but it also has the potential to be unlocked as a source of national pride.

## Australian Capital Territory

### The Australian National University

**DI0989056** Mr PJ Radoll; Prof KR Jacobs; Dr WD Fernandez; Dr BH Hunter; Prof M Dodson

**Approved Project Title** **Adoption and Effective Use of Information Communication Technologies in Indigenous Communities in Australia**

**2009 :** \$ 15,000

**2010 :** \$ 15,000

**Primary RFCD** 2801 INFORMATION SYSTEMS

**Administering Organisation** The Australian National University

#### Project Summary

This project on Indigenous use of the internet aims to identify the reasons why Indigenous Australians are 69% less likely to access the Internet than their non-Indigenous counterparts as demonstrated in the last census. This research will assist in innovative policy development including the creation of a culturally-sensitive model to assist Indigenous communities to raise their use of computers and the internet. Ultimately the aim of the research is to provide mechanisms to engage Indigenous people with current technology to advance health, education and housing outcomes in their communities.