

22 AUGUST 2011

This fortnightly bulletin is prepared by the Lowitja Institute to provide you with information on issues of interest to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research. To subscribe: <www.lowitja.org.au/node/add/profile>. To unsubscribe: E: <admin@lowitja.org.au>.

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FAREWELL AND THANK YOU TO OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE, DR KERRY ARABENA

The Lowitja Institute Board of Directors would like to thank Kerry very much for her contribution to the Institute since she joined us in August 2010. The beginnings of implementing our vision for the Institute has been an exciting and challenging period and we acknowledge all of Kerry's efforts in furthering this vision.

The Board wishes Kerry every success and happiness in all her future endeavours both personally and professionally.

Kerry left the Institute on 19 August 2011 in order to pursue other opportunities.

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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS CASE STUDIES PUBLISHED

Last week the Lowitja Institute released *Taking Care of Business: Corporate Services for Indigenous Primary Health Care Services – Case Studies* by Kate Silburn, Alistair Thorpe and Ian

Anderson, with Bila Muuji Health Services Incorporated, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress, Katherine West Health Board, and Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council. This is a companion document to the *Taking Care of Business: Corporate Services for Indigenous Primary Health Care Services – Overview Report 2011*, that was recently released. This case studies report focuses specifically on existing models for sharing corporate services and highlights the different ways those working in the sector have developed strategies for addressing their specific needs. Both reports are available at:

<<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/taking-care-business-reports>>

A summary report and a web tool will be available soon.

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NEW ORDER FORM FOR RESEARCHING INDIGENOUS HEALTH

Researching Indigenous Health: A Practical Guide for Researchers (2011) written by Alison Laycock with support from Diane Walker, Nea Harrison and Jenny Brands, is available for purchase from the Lowitja Institute. A new interactive pdf order form is available to make it easier to email your orders to us. To download the form, go to

<<http://www.lowitja.org.au/resources-researchers#purchase>>

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GENETICS RESEARCH REPORT RELEASED

The Lowitja Institute has released a new report: *Genetic Research in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities: Beginning the Conversation* by Emma Kowal, Lobna Rouhani and Ian Anderson.

This discussion paper is the outcome of the first national discussion of the conduct of genetic research in Indigenous communities in Australia, convened by the Lowitja Institute in 2010. It reviews the ethical issues relevant to genetic research in an Australian Indigenous context, the existing guidelines for genetic research in indigenous communities internationally, and the literature on genetic literacy in Indigenous contexts. Finally, the discussion paper presents a summary of the productive and challenging conversations at the roundtable.

<<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/files/docs/Genetics-research-DP.pdf>>

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PHCRIS INFONET EDITORIAL ON THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE

The Lowitja Institute's Director of Research and Innovation, Professor Ian Anderson, has written the guest editorial for this month's online newsletter *PHC RIS infonet* (vol. 15, issue 6, August 2011).

The Primary Health Care Research & Information Service (PHC RIS) is an important knowledge broker in the health research space and the Lowitja Institute is continuing its strong links with the organisation begun under our predecessor CRCs.

In his editorial, Professor Anderson focuses on our Program 1 research activities and how they contribute to improving the standard of primary care delivered by community controlled health organisations: <<http://www.phcris.org.au/publications/infonet/2011/august/editorial.php>>.

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RESEARCH AT THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE

Information about our programs is available at <www.lowitja.org.au/research-programs>.

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SPEECHES BY THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE LEADERSHIP

Archive of speeches is available at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/speeches>>.

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PUBLICATIONS BY THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE and the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health are available in PDF format at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/publications>> and can be ordered by email from <publications@lowitja.org.au>.

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WE ARE ON TWITTER!

'Follow us on Twitter' button now on our home webpage: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/>>.

CONFERENCES, CALLS FOR ABSTRACTS & FUNDING

A list of 2011 conferences is available at: <www.lowitja.org.au/conferences-2011>.

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Call for papers: **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Symposium** at The University of Melbourne Thursday 3 November 2011. Murrup Barak Melbourne Institute for Indigenous Development, *Onemda* VicHealth Koori Health Unit, the Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Tobacco Control, and Professor Marcia Langton (Foundation Chair of Australian Indigenous Studies at the University of Melbourne), together with the Lowitja Institute, are pleased to announce this inaugural Research Symposium. Abstracts are due on 16 September. For more information: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/call-papers-aboriginal-torres-strait-islander-research-symposium>>

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International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies: Call for Papers 2012 and 2013

The International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies, published by the Indigenous Studies Research Network, is a fully refereed international journal published twice each year.

Indigenous peoples from around the world share common experiences of colonisation and have been involved in the struggle for self-determination at the global level. The journal is seeking articles, review essays and book reviews from a variety of disciplines that include the Humanities, Social Sciences, Health Sciences, Law and Education in the field of Indigenous Studies: <<http://www.isrn.qut.edu.au/publications/internationaljournal/>>.

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Sigmund Freud Award at 6th World Congress for Psychotherapy (WCP2011): World Dreaming

The World Council for Psychotherapy's Sigmund Freud Award recognises the life work of individuals and groups that have made original contributions to the field of psychotherapy. The joint award recipients are: Winthrop Professor Helen Milroy; Kamilaroi Elder, Aunty Lorraine Peeters; and the Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council (NPY Project) represented by traditional healers (Ngankari) Mr Rupert Peters and Mr Ginger Toby. The award will be presented at WCP2011, which is taking place on 24–28 August 2011 in Sydney.

Congratulations! More information at <www.wcp2011.org>.

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The Aboriginal Health Conference 2012 'Everyone's Responsibility', Melbourne, 24–25 May 2012. The conference aims to inform and inspire delegates through defining the context of Aboriginal health in Victoria; outlining the priority areas and enablers for better health outcomes; demonstrating the value of investment in Aboriginal health; work-shopping ways to close the health gap (it's not easy but not impossible); sharing the experience of innovative and excellent work happening in Victoria; and learning how better health outcomes are being achieved for Aboriginal people: <www.health.vic.gov.au/aboriginalhealth/conference.htm>.

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Indigenous Pre-conference Workshop Oceania Tobacco Control 2011 ‘Burying the Habit: Moving to a Tobacco Free Future’, Brisbane, 17 October. Registrations are now open. More information is available at <<http://www.ceitc.org.au/>> or contact Ngarrra Murray, T: 03 9035 8292, E: <nmurray@unimelb.edu.au>.

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REMINDER: The Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education (LIME) Network calls for nominations for the LIMELight awards, to be awarded at the LIME Connection IV dinner on 30 November, in Auckland, New Zealand. Nominations close on 26 August 2011. For more information: <<http://limenetwork.net.au/content/limelight-awards-2011>>, or contact E: <lime-network@unimelb.edu.au>, T: +61 3 8344 0828.

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REMINDER: First call for abstracts: International Indigenous Development Research Conference 2012, 27 – 30 June 2012, Auckland, New Zealand. Abstract submissions close on 1 December 2011. For more information, go to <<http://www.indigenousdevelopment2012.ac.nz/>>.

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REMINDER: The National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC) is raising funds to support workers to attend the 2012 NIDAC Conference, and is seeking your assistance. You can purchase a limited edition print: *Diversity of One Working Together, 2010*, by Aboriginal artist Mr Max Mansell, at <<http://www.nidac.org.au/>>. For further information about the Conference, is at <<http://www.nidaconference.com.au/>>.

EVENTS

REMINDER: Monday 26 September 2011, 6.00–7.30 pm, Queensland University of Technology, Kelvin Grove, Qld: **Oodgeroo Noonuccal Public Lecture**. Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson, Professor of Indigenous Studies and Director, Indigenous Studies Research Network, Queensland University of Technology will present the lecture, titled ‘Representations of Aboriginality in Australian media’. RSVP by 2 September on T: (07) 3138 3610 or E: <information.oodgeroo@qut.edu.au>.

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REMINDERS:

Tuesday 20 September, 6.00 to 7.30 pm, in Shepparton, Victoria: **Dungala Kaiela Oration**, to be delivered by Mr Saul Eslake, Program Director, Productivity Growth.

Thursday 03 November, 6.00 to 8.00 pm, in Melbourne: **Narrm Oration**, presented by Murrup Barak Melbourne Institute for Indigenous Development. The Orator will be Mr Willie Hensley, an Inuit Leader known for his extraordinary contribution to the Alaskan Native Land Claims Movement.

More details for both events available at <<http://www.murrupbarak.unimelb.edu.au/>>.

JOBS

Community Translation Officer – 60% FTE contract until December 2012, in Brisbane. The main role of this position is to engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and relevant stakeholders regarding research and other projects conducted by the team. The position will also provide research support to researchers and other team members. Enquiries

to Patricia Valery on T: 07 3309 3418 or E: <Patricia.Valery@menzies.edu.au>. Download position description from <<http://www.menzies.edu.au/careers/current-employment-opportunities>>. Closing date is 5 September.

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Early Career Academics (Lecturers). Queensland University of Technology is currently recruiting 30 Early Career Academics (ongoing Lecturers) through its Early Career Academic Recruitment and Development (ECARD) program. Appointees will participate in an extensive development program designed specifically for this cohort. The program is designed to accelerate the professional development and cultural integration of early career academics. Further information on these positions at

<<https://qut.nga.net.au/cp/index.cfm?event=jobs.listJobs&jobListid=50edd518-e355-b8bf-90ee-5b5684c68332>>.

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Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Remote Health (Flinders Rural & Remote Health), School of Medicine, Alice Springs, Research Academic Level C, Vacancy Reference No: 11247, full-time until December 2014. The successful applicant will contribute to the Centre of Research Excellence (CRE) for accessible and equitable primary health service provision in rural and remote Australia. The Centre will provide systematic evidence and identify objective criteria relating to the nature, volume and distribution of the resources required to overcome problems of poor access to primary health care services and to deliver equal health outcomes. For further enquiries, contact Prof. John Wakerman on E: <john.wakerman@flinders.edu.au> or T: 08 8951 4703. More information at <<http://flinders.edu.au/employment/vacancies/academic.cfm>>. Closing date is 30 August.

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NHMRC jobs <www.nhmrc.gov.au/about/careers>

Principal Medical Advisor, Medical Officer Class 4, Canberra, ongoing. The Principal Medical Advisor acts as key advisor to the NHMRC's Executive and provides advice to NHMRC's Council and Principal Committees. The Advisor will also contribute to NHMRC work on clinical guidelines, advisory statements, research translation and clinical aspects of all research funding schemes. The successful applicant will possess medical qualifications and a PhD (or equivalent) and extensive clinical research experience. Closing date is 24 August.

Assistant Director, Several Positions, NHMRC, Canberra, ongoing. The Research Programs Branch is seeking to appoint talented Assistant Directors to effectively lead small teams to develop policy and administer a range of NHMRC research funding schemes. The successful applicants will be strong communicators who can develop productive relationships with a broad range of stakeholders, manage projects effectively and work flexibly to produce quality outcomes. Closing date is 1 September.

Workshop and Events Coordinator, Canberra, ongoing. NHMRC is seeking an experienced and highly motivated person to fill the position of Workshop and Events Coordinator. The Coordinator will have expertise and experience in high level event management and VIP protocol and be responsible for the provision of high quality event planning and coordination that supports the strategic direction of NHMRC. Closing date is 25 August.

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Project Officer, Closing the Aboriginal Health Gap in Hume Region, Young Women's Health Project. Women's Health Goulburn North East is currently seeking applications for

this full-time position to support the implementation and evaluation of the Hume Region Closing the Health Gap - Young Women's Health Project. A copy of the position description can be obtained from <www.whealth.com.au> (Latest News) or by contacting Susie Reid on T: 03 5722 3009. Applications close 29 August.

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Jobs at the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence: Regional Tobacco Coordinator, Tobacco Action Workers (2), Healthy Lifestyle Worker, and Learning & Development Coordinator. Employees must understand the holistic health needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, respecting culture, values and ways of doing business. These are identified Indigenous positions: only Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders may apply. Training will be provided where necessary. Please email resume to jobs@ncie.org.au. Applications close 31 August.

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REMINDER: Associate Lecturer Indigenous Health (Teaching/ Student support), Position number 11251, The Poche Centre for Indigenous Health and Wellbeing at Flinders University: <<http://www.flinders.edu.au/employment/vacancies/academic.cfm>>. Closing date: Monday, 29 August.

MEDIA

Past media releases are at: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/media-releases>>. Stories about the Lowitja Institute in the media are listed at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/media>>.

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Breaking Down Communication Barriers Between Health Professionals and Indigenous People in *Sydney University News*, 4 August 2011

'An innovative Indigenous online teaching resource launched on 4 August will help 'close the gap' between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians through improving communication between health professionals and Indigenous people.' Full article at <<http://sydney.edu.au/news/84.html?newsstoryid=7450>>.

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Council Appointed to Promote Indigenous Health, Media Release from The Hon. Warren Snowdon MP, the Minister for Indigenous Health, 11 August 2011.

'Professor Ian Anderson had been reappointed as Chair and Ms Tanya Hosch as Deputy Chair of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Equality Council (NATSIHEC), formerly called the National Indigenous Health Equality Council. Seven new members have been appointed for three years, including four Indigenous members, and six members have been reappointed to the council for two years.' Full text at <<http://www.warrensnowdon.com/media/council-appointed-to-promote-indigenous-health/>>.

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Indigenous Family Therapy Graduates, La Trobe University Media Release, 15 August 2011.

'Family therapists and graduates of the Bouverie Centre and La Trobe University's post Graduate Certificate in Family Therapy celebrated the launch of the Indigenous Family Therapy Network at the Inaugural Family Therapy Forum Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 August, 2011.' Full text at: <<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/news/articles/2011/article/indigenous-family-therapy-graduates>>.

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Genomics Was Great but it's Time for a New Medical Revolution by Warwick Anderson, NHMRC CEO, in *The Conversation* on 20 May 2011.

'Medical science has changed the human health and lifespan in the last century and now another revolution is coming in health. This revolution will entail closing the chasm between what medical evidence tells us we should be doing and what we actually do in practice.'

Read full article: <<http://theconversation.edu.au/genomics-was-great-but-its-time-for-a-new-medical-revolution-449>>

PUBLICATIONS

Taking Care of Business: Corporate Services for Indigenous Primary Health Care Services – Case Studies by Silburn, K., Thorpe, A. & Anderson, I. with Bila Muuji Health Services Incorporated, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress, Katherine West Health Board, and Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council 2011, The Lowitja Institute, Melbourne: <http://www.lowitja.org.au/files/docs/Taking_Care_of_Business-Case_Studies.pdf>. Summary report also available.

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Genetic Research in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities: Beginning the Conversation by Kowal, E., Rouhani, L. & Anderson, I. 2011, The Lowitja Institute, Melbourne. <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/files/docs/Genetics-research-DP.pdf>>

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Researching Indigenous Health: A Practical Guide for Researchers, by A. Laycock with D. Walker, D., N. Harrison & J. Brands 2011, The Lowitja Institute, Melbourne. More information at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/resources-researchers>>.

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Needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Clients Residing in Australian Residential Aged-Care Facilities by N. J. Brooke 2011, *Australian Journal of Rural Health*, 19(4):166–70. <<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21771156>>

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Indigenous Australians are under-represented in longitudinal ageing studies by K. J. Anstey, K. M. Kiely, H. Booth, C. L. Birrell, P. Butterworth, J. Byles, M. A. Luszcz & R. Gibson in *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*, vol. 35, issue 4, pp. 331–6. <<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1753-6405.2011.00727.x/abstract>>

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Maternal smoking during pregnancy among Aboriginal women in New South Wales is linked to social gradient by A. P. Thrift, H. Nancarrow & A. E. Bauman 2011, *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*, vol. 35, issue 4, pp. 337–42. <<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1753-6405.2011.00728.x/abstract>>

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Pre-pregnancy predictors linked to miscarriage among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in North Queensland by S. Campbell, J. Lynch, A. Esterman & R. McDermott 2011, *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*, vol. 35, issue 4, pp. 343–51. <<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1753-6405.2011.00729.x/abstract>>

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Fortnightly e-bulletin from Aboriginal Health, Department of Health, Victoria <<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/aboriginalhealth/publications/bulletin.htm>>

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Through APO

Health literacy and Australian Indigenous peoples: an analysis of the role of language and worldview by A. Mitchell, Yurranydjil Dhurrkay, A. Vass 2011, Health Promotion Journal of Australia: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/health-literacy-and-australian-indigenous-peoples-analysis-role-language-and-worldview>>.

Aboriginal peoples' right to traditional homelands in the Northern Territory by Amnesty International 2011:<<http://www.apo.org.au/research/aboriginal-peoples-right-traditional-homelands-northern-territory>>.

Urban social housing for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders: respecting culture and adapting services, by Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute 2011: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/urban-social-housing-aboriginal-people-and-torres-strait-islanders-respecting-culture-and-a>>.

Modelling crowding in Aboriginal Australia by P. Memmott 2011, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/Modelling-crowding-in-Aboriginal-Australia>>.

The national apology three years later by Gay McAuley 2011, *Australian Studies*, vol. 3: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/national-apology-three-years-later>>.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education action plan 2010–2014 by Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs 2011: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-education-action-plan-2010%E2%80%932014>>.

The longitudinal study of Australian children: Annual statistical report 2010 by B. Maguire 2011, Australian Institute of Family Studies: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/longitudinal-study-australian-children-annual-statistical-report-2010>>.

I'm not racist, but...: zero tolerance or zero acknowledgement. Transcript of the speech given by Race Discrimination Commissioner, Graeme Innes, at the National Press Club on Tuesday 9 August, 2011: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/i%E2%80%99m-not-racist-zero-tolerance-or-zero-acknowledgement>>.

RESOURCES AND WEBSITES

Facilitating communication between health providers and pregnant women

Researchers at the Menzies School of Health Research in Darwin have developed a set of resources to improve communication with pregnant women on screening tests for fetal anomalies such as Down syndrome.

The research was initiated after data showed very low uptake of these tests in the Northern Territory compared with other states in Australia. The study investigated Aboriginal women's views about the screening and diagnostic tests, and found women of all ages across the urban and remote study sites wanted more information about these tests. The research also identified many logistical barriers to offering the tests, and that health providers found it

challenging to discuss complex topics such as 'risk'.

A set of resources was developed to improve communication around fetal anomaly screening. These include an illustrated flipbook for health providers, a take home booklet for parents, a DVD in Yolngu language, and posters on folic acid supplementation and the screening process. These resources can be downloaded from <<http://menzies.edu.au/research/child-health/resources/fetal-anomaly-screening-resources>>.

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Do Something Real website

The Minister for Indigenous Health, Warren Snowdon, is encouraging nurses, doctors, dentists, pharmacists and other health practitioners to consider extending their careers to help provide care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders across Australia. Do Something Real provides stories (about practitioners such as Ngiare Brown and Monica Lawrence) and employment opportunities to inspire health professionals and final year students studying health and medicine: <<http://dosomethingreal.govspace.gov.au/>>.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, FUNDING, GRANTS & TENDERS

Please see our Scholarships and Grants web page for a list of available opportunities: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/scholarships-and-grants>>.

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Indigenous Scholarships at Australian National University

Indigenous Australian Graduate Scholarship for Indigenous Australians enrolled in a graduate program at ANU; Indigenous Australian Reconciliation PhD Scholarship; and Ken Wanganeen Scholarship (to support Indigenous Australians in a graduate coursework program at ANU): <http://www.anu.edu.au/sas/scholarships/research/scholarships_domestic_students/indigenous_australian_graduate_scholarship.php>. Closing date is 31 October.

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REMINDER: The Charlie Perkins Scholarships 2012: <www.perkinstrust.com.au>. Applications close on 14 October.

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The Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship and Support Scheme will close 16 September 2011 in several streams, including:

professional development for nurses working in an Aboriginal Medical Services

<http://www.rcna.org.au/scholarships/professional_development_ams>, and

clinical placement scholarship for students participating in clinical placement in an Aboriginal Medical Service <http://www.rcna.org.au/scholarships/clinical_placement_ams>.

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REMINDER: The Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship Scheme

<www.rcna.org.au/scholarships/puggy_hunter>, T: 1800 688 628 or E:

<scholarships@rcna.org.au>. Closing date is 16 September.

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2012 Fulbright Australian Scholarships are open until 31 August. Full information is available at <<http://www.fulbright.com.au/scholarships/australian/application-information.html>>.

SEMINARS, COURSES, COLLOQUIA AND SYMPOSIA

REMINDER: Doing Research with Aboriginal People, on Tuesday 27 September, in Toowoomba, Qld. Special Keynote Address by Prof John Lowe, RN, PhD.

This seminar is free with lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided. It will be hosted by the Centre for Rural and Remote Area Health and the Centre for Australian Indigenous Knowledges. Please register by email: E: < wardra@usq.edu.au> or nanka@usq.edu.au, T: 07 4631 5444. Registrations close 21 September.

If you have any difficulties opening links, or other queries, please contact E: <publications@lowitja.org.au>. Archives of the CRCAH, CRCATSIH and Lowitja Institute eBulletins are available at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/newsletters>>. To unsubscribe, please E: <admin@lowitja.org.au>.

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