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NEW REPORT: *Audit and Best Practice for Chronic Disease Extension Project, 2005–2009: Final Report*. After experiencing some technical difficulties with the PDF of this report on our website, we have uploaded a new version at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/lowitja-institute-publishing>> which hopefully will be easy to download: please try again! Hard copies can be requested from E: <admin@lowitja.org.au>.

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RESEARCH AT THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE

In the next few editions of the eBulletin, we will feature the projects being currently undertaken at the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health.

Project HSHL 002: One21seventy workforce development package (in Program 1 Health Start, Health Life – Program Manager is Dr Liz Izquierdo, E: <liz.izquierdo@lowitja.org.au>)

This project is to support the effective implementation of the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) model developed under the CRAH's ABCDE project, through the spin-off company One21seventy.

The project will enable One21seventy to complete its workforce development package that includes high quality, professionally produced training materials to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health care services to apply CQI to improve organisational systems to deliver quality health care.

By supporting the design, development and adaption of these materials, the CRCATSIH will ensure that health centres have access to high quality tools, without having to pay increased fees to cover their production.

Project HCS 001: Understanding and addressing racism against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians through the LEAD program (in Program 2 Healthy Communities and Settings – Program Manager is Ms Vanessa Harris, E: <Vanessa.Harris@lowitja.org.au>)

This project will add an enhanced Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspective to a broader program of work, the LEAD program. The project will focus on ensuring that those components of the LEAD evaluation of concern to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are implemented appropriately and that the benefit of LEAD is maximised for both communities and mainstream policy-makers and providers with the potential to impact positively in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs.

Project EPS 001: The role of planning processes in implementing National Partnership Agreements in Indigenous health: Understanding process and evaluating effectiveness (in Program 3 Enabling Policy and Systems – Program Manager is Ms Vanessa Harris, E: <Vanessa.Harris@lowitja.org.au>)

The need to develop effective processes to align programs and policy with community needs and values is increasingly being seen as critical to the practical and political success of government initiatives. This is particularly true in Indigenous health where implementation failure has been attributed to lack of recognition of the processes and outcomes considered useful and important by Indigenous communities, that is their values. The main response to this concern has been a proliferation of locally based initiatives to address health and welfare issues. However, there has been little attention to how community values can be incorporated at higher policy levels or the extent to which these policy environments support or constrain local initiatives.

The aim of this project is to develop a theoretical framework for analysis of agreements and planning processes in Indigenous health, particularly in relation to how they operate as mechanisms to support community participation in higher level policy. It will draw upon social network analysis to assess the processes of developing agreements.

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SPEECHES BY THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE LEADERSHIP

Please visit <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/speeches>> to see details of past and forthcoming speeches and addresses by The Lowitja Institute leadership. Some full-text PDFs are available. Forthcoming speeches include The Redfern Oration by Dr Kerry Arabena at the The Royal Australasian College of Physicians Congress 2011 in May, Darwin; a keynote address by Chairperson Ms Pat Anderson at the Coalition for Research to Improve Aboriginal Health Conference 2011 in May, Sydney; and a keynote address by Dr Kerry Arabena at the 7th Health Services and Policy Research Conference in December 2011, Adelaide.

Co-Chairs of The National Congress of Australia's First Peoples announced

Ms Jody Broun and Mr Les Malezer have been declared Co-Chairs Elect. Congratulations to the appointees and Congress! For more information: <<http://nationalcongress.com.au/co-chair-election-2/>>.

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Invitation to comment on a Senate Community Affairs Committee inquiry into the National Health Amendment (PBS) Bill (by 30 June)

The effectiveness of the special arrangements for the supply of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines to remote area Aboriginal Health Services

On 24 March 2011 the Senate referred the following matter to the Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 18 August 2011: The effectiveness of the special arrangements established in 1999 under section 100 of the National Health Act 1953, for the supply of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines to remote area Aboriginal Health Services. The complete Terms of Reference for this inquiry can be found at <http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/clac_ctte/pbs_medicines/tor.htm>.

The Committee invites you to provide a submission addressing issues that may be of relevance to you. The Committee prefers to receive submissions in electronic form submitted online <<https://senate.aph.gov.au/submissions/pages/index.aspx>> or sent by email to <community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au> as an attached Adobe PDF or MS Word format document. The email must include full postal address and contact details. Submissions become Committee documents and are made public only after a decision by the Committee. Publication of submissions includes loading them onto the internet and their being available to other interested parties including the media. Persons making submissions must not release them without the approval of the Committee. Submissions are covered by parliamentary privilege but the unauthorised release of them is not protected. Information relating to Senate Committee inquiries, including notes to assist in the preparation of submissions for a Committee, is available at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/wit_sub/index.htm>, or from the Committee Secretariat, T: 02 6277 3515 or toll-free 1800 728 963.

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Invitation to provide feedback on the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Plan Human Health (Human Health NARP) (by 13 May)

NCCARF is revising the Human Health NARP. The review is being lead by Prof. Tony Capon. A revised Implementation Plan is also being prepared. This will outline how research into climate change adaptation for the Human Health theme will be commissioned.

You can contribute by identifying:

1. Recent and current research activities that are changing the knowledge landscape, particularly
 - a. any research that is relevant to climate change adaptation for human health;
 - b. any other sources of knowledge;
2. current key end user knowledge, tool and information requirements, which may have changed since the NARP was finalised; and
3. potential research investment sources for adaptation and human health.

You may provide your input in two ways:

1. participate in an on-line survey about the current NARP and Implementation Plan <<https://www.survs.com/survey/R5A291E0A6/tsurvey>> or

2. provide advice directly to NCCARF (f.stadler@griffith.edu.au).

For more information: <<http://climatehealthresearch.org/>>.

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Reminders: 2011 Australasian Evaluation Society Conference Support Grants, closing 27 May: <<http://www.aes2011.com.au/rego-grants.asp>>.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS

8th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Environmental Health Conference, Darwin, 27–30 September: <<https://www.natsieh.com.au/>>. **Closing date is 15 May.**

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CRANAp/plus 2011 Conference, Perth, 11–14 October: <<http://www.crana.org.au/208-call-for-abstracts.html>>. **Closing date is 15 May.**

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8th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Environmental Health Conference, Darwin, 27–30 September: <<http://www.natsieh.com.au/index.html>>. **Closing date is 15 May.**

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Oceania Tobacco Control Conference 2011, Brisbane, 18–20 October: <<http://www.oceaniatc2011.org>>. **Closing date is 23 May.**

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The Leaders In Indigenous Medical Education (2) CONNECTION IV, Aotearoa/New Zealand, 29 Nov–1 Dec: <<http://www.limenetwork.net.au>>. **Closing date is 27 May.**

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The Early Years Conference 2012 ‘The Development of Children’s Mental Health: How Do We Become Who We Are?’, Vancouver, 2–4 February 2012: <interprofessional.ubc.ca/Early_Years.htm>. **Closing date is 31 May 2011.**

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7th Health Services & Policy Research Conference 2011, Adelaide, 5–7 December: <<http://www.healthservicesconference.com.au/>>. **Closing date is 10 July.**

CONFERENCES

Conferences previously featured in this eBulletin are now available at our website page **Conferences 2011**: <www.lowitja.org.au/conferences-2011>.

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Royal Australian College of Physicians Congress 2011 ‘Take up the Challenge: Indigenous Health and Chronic Disease’, Darwin, 22–25 May. The Congress will explore the challenges of Indigenous health and chronic disease from the perspectives of the College Divisional, Faculty and Chapter groups through various keynote and concurrent sessions. Keynote speakers will include medical experts and educators from Australia and overseas, including New Zealand, United Kingdom and Pakistan: <<http://www.racpcongress2011.com.au/>>.

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22nd Annual Australian Cardiovascular Health and Rehabilitation Association (ACRA) Conference, Perth, WA, 8–10 August. The theme of the meeting, *Casting a wider net*, embraces the challenge of making cardiovascular health and rehabilitation services more

inclusive and accessible to cardiac patients, including minority groups and Aboriginal Australians: <<http://www.cdesign.com.au/acra2011/>>.

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World Conference on Social Determinants of Health 2011, Rio de Janeiro, 19–21 October. The aim of the World Conference on Social Determinants of Health is to bring Member States and other actors together to catalyse high-level political support for national policies to address social determinants of health to reduce health inequities. Its specific objectives are to: strengthen political commitment by Member States to develop and implement national policies on social determinants of health to reduce health inequities; and share experiences, challenges and technical knowledge on addressing social determinants of health, taking into account the need for strengthening governance arrangements and learning from different contexts. Website: <<http://bit.ly/edL4Ts>>.

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2011 Philanthropy for Health and Medical Research Conference ‘Building a sustainable social investment strategy for health and medical research’, Sydney, 29–30 August. The Conference will bring together local and international experts, and will explore general themes focused on philanthropy for health and medical research: <<http://researchaustraliaphilanthropy.org/2011-philanthropy-conference/>>.

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North American Primary Care Research Group Annual Meeting, Alberta, Canada, 12–16 November: <<http://www.napcrg.org/>>.

EVENTS

Thursday 28 July 2011 is **National Hepatitis Awareness Day** with the objective to raise awareness about hepatitis B and C. ‘Love your Liver’ lunches are being organized; please visit <<http://loveyourliver.com.au/>>. Resources available: t-shirts, posters, lapel buttons, temporary tattoos and balloons.

JOBS

Nutrition and Food Security Course Coordinator, 3-year contract, at the Menzies School of Health Research, Darwin. This position is responsible for coordinating the ‘Nutrition & Food Security; Approaches to Improving the Health of Women and Children’ short course including implementation, adaption and delivery of the course in Australia and other countries in the Asia and Pacific region. The successful applicant will have a background in nutrition, significant teaching experience, the capacity to work effectively within diverse social, political and cultural environments and the ability to initiate and develop culturally appropriate teaching methodologies, curriculum and assessment. The position will require travel to remote Indigenous communities in Australia and countries in the Asia Pacific region. Contact Vijaya Joshi, T: 08 89227667, E: <Vijaya.Joshi@menzies.edu.au>. **Vacancy closes 6 May.**

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Aboriginal Health Workers and Nurses, casual, at the Menzies Child Health Division, Menzies School of Health Research, Darwin. The Child Health Division has *casual* positions vacant for Nurses and Aboriginal Health Workers for remote field work in immunisation and healthy skin related research projects. The remote fieldwork requires travel and stays in

communities for up to 10 days including weekends. You will need to have competent four wheel driving skills. You will receive training in research skills and other related requirements specific to the research projects. **Indigenous people are strongly encouraged to apply.** Contact Irene O’Meara, T: 08 8922 7927, 08 8922 8773, or E: <irene.omeara@menzies.edu.au>. **Closes 4 May.**

MEDIA

Please <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/media-releases>> to see our media releases and <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/media>> for stories in the media about the Lowitja Institute, including:

Healthy outlook as Lowitja Institute head office opens: base is in ideal location, by Kirstie Parker, *The Koori Mail* 6 April 2011: ‘It was inevitable – given current Indigenous health and life-expectancy statistics – that there’d be some melancholy, but the recent launch of the Lowitja Institute’s head office in Melbourne was overwhelmingly cause for celebration. Speakers and performers at the event remarked how much brighter the future seemed with the ground-breaking organisation’s establishment in one of the country’s top health precincts...’ Download full text and view photographs, courtesy of *The Koori Mail*: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/media>>.

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It’s Time to Talk Reconciliation, Reconciliation Australia Media Release, 13 April 2011: ‘Reconciliation Australia Chief Executive Leah Armstrong is calling on the Australian public to join a national conversation about recognition in the lead up to National Reconciliation Week (27 May– 3 June).

The theme for this year’s National Reconciliation Week is ‘*Let’s Talk Recognition*’ and a range of activities will be held around the country during this time that focus on the value of recognition.

“Recognition comes in all sorts of ways, and means different things to different people, but everyone likes it when they get it,” Ms Armstrong said.

“In what ways do you recognise the people around you, and in what ways do they recognise you?”

“The Expert Panel on Constitutional Recognition of Indigenous Australians will be exploring how we recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Australian Constitution through their consultation and education work over the coming months,” Ms Armstrong said.

“And it is important to start the conversation now about the value of recognition for us all and why it is important for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in particular.”

Reconciliation Australia recently released the findings of the second biennial Australian Reconciliation Barometer, which tracks the attitudes of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians and where they are positioned in relation to each other.

The Barometer revealed the majority of Australians (87%) believed the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people was important, and almost half (48%) believed it was improving.

But the study also found people still do not trust each other—just nine per cent of the general population felt the trust between the two groups was good.

“Relationships and trust go hand in hand so it’s encouraging to see a willingness to improve the relationship—and these statistics show where we need to do the work,” Ms Armstrong said.

“Events like National Reconciliation Week can provide a focus for all Australians to reflect on reconciliation, learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures—and strengthen the relationships.”

National Reconciliation Week is an annual celebration from 27 May to 3 June and is a time for all Australians to reflect on our shared histories, contributions and achievements. For more information visit: <<http://www.reconciliation.org.au/home/get-involved/national-reconciliation-week>>.

PUBLICATIONS

Developmental Progress in Urban Aboriginal Infants: A cohort study, J. L. McDonald, E. Comino, J. Knight & V. Webster 2011, *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health*, doi: 10.1111/j.1440-1754.2011.02067.x

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Putting Indigenous Cultural Training into Nursing Practice, R. Downing & E. Kowal 2011, *Contemporary Nurse*, vol. 37(1): <<http://www.contemporarynurse.com/archives/vol/37/issue/1/article/3916/putting-indigenous-cultural-training-into-nursing>>.

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A Postcolonial Analysis of Indigenous Cultural Training for Health Workers, R. Downing & E. Kowal 2011, *Health Sociology Review* vol. 20(1): 5-15.

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The Stigma of White Privilege: Australian anti-racists and Indigenous improvement, E. Kowal 2011, *Cultural Studies*, vol. 25(3): 313-333.

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Contracting for Indigenous Health Care: Towards mutual accountability, J. M. Dwyer, J. Lavoie, K. O'Donnell, U. Marlina, P. Sullivan, *Australian Journal of Public Administration*, vol. 70: 34–36.

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Will the Real Aborigine Please Stand Up': Strategies for Breaking the Stereotypes and Changing the Conversation, S. Gorringer, J. Ross, C. Fforde 2011, AIATSIS Research Discussion Paper no.28: <www.aiatsis.gov.au/research/discussion.html>.

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Culture Shock and Healthcare Workers in Remote Indigenous Communities of Australia: What do we know and how can we measure it?, A. Muecke, S. Lenthall & M. Lindeman 2011, *Remote and Rural Health*: <<http://www.rrh.org.au/articles/showarticlenew.asp?ArticleID=1607>>.

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Policy-relevant Population Health Research: New approaches and opportunities, S. Redman, B. Stickney & J. Mitchell 2011, *NSW Public Health Bulletin*, vol. 22 (1–2) Jan–Feb 2011: http://www.publish.csiro.au/?act=view_file&file_id=NB10074.pdf.

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2010 Indigenous Expenditure Report, Productivity Commission 2011: <<http://www.pc.gov.au/ier/publications/ier-2010>>.

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Review of Indigenous Oral Health, S. Williams 2011, Australian Indigenous Health/InfoNet: <http://www.healthinonet.ecu.edu.au/uploads/docs/oral_health_review_2011.pdf>.

Review of Indigenous Offender Health, J. Grace 2011, Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet: <http://www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/uploads/docs/offender_health_review_2011.pdf>.

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Through APO:

Coordinator General for Remote Indigenous Services: Six monthly report, September 2010 – March 2011, B. Gleeson 2011, Office of the Coordinator General for Remote Indigenous Services: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/coordinator-general-remote-indigenous-services-six-monthly-report-september-2010-march-2011>>.

2010 Social Justice and Native Title Reports: A Community Guide, Australian Human Rights Commission 2011: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/2010-social-justice-and-native-title-reports-community-guide>>.

Health and the Environment: A Compilation of Evidence, R. Long & L. Sainsbury 2011, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/health-and-environment-compilation-evidence>>.

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WHO Social Determinants of Health Discussion Paper Series: Debates, Policy & Practice, Case Studies, edited by the World Health Organization, Department of Ethics, Equity, Trade and Human Rights (Social Determinants of Health)

No 1. Action on the Social Determinants of Health: learning from previous experiences: <<http://bit.ly/i6yU3w>>

No 2. A Conceptual Framework for Action on the Social Determinants of Health: <<http://bit.ly/hhFPdW>>

No 3. Monitoring Social Well-being to Support Policies on the Social Determinants of Health: the case of New Zealand's "Social Reports/Te Purongo Oranga Tangata": <<http://bit.ly/eadqns>>

RESOURCES AND WEBSITES

New **WHO growth standards based on children in six diverse sites** (Ghana, Brazil, India, Norway, Oman and USA) are being rolled out globally. They are intended to monitor the growth of every child worldwide, regardless of ethnicity, socioeconomic status and type of feeding: <<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/89/4/11-040411/en/>>.

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The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) research discussion papers are available at: <www.aiatsis.gov.au/research/discussion.html>.

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Podcast and transcript: **Social Inequalities in Health**, *The Health Report*, ABC Radio National, presented by Norman Swann on 11 April 2011. Professor Sir Michael Marmot is a well-known researcher into the social determinants of health. At a special symposium in Australia in April he expressed the view that 'Doctors can tackle health inequalities by addressing the causes of the causes of ill health when they see their patients': <<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/healthreport/stories/2011/3186177.htm>>.

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Australian Policy Online (APO) webpages on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research and other information: <<http://www.apo.org.au/indigenous>>.

New at the HealthInfoNet:

The **2010 Indigenous men's health review** now available to read or download at <http://www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/population-groups/men/reviews/our-review>.

There is also a new collections section that comprises a vast searchable bibliography of over 17,000 publications as well as a searchable database of health promotion resources.

Bibliography: <http://www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/health-resources/bibliography>.

Database: <http://www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/health-resources/promotion-resources>.

New section on **Indigenous lung health** <http://www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/chronic-conditions/respiratory>

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The archive of **AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples** is available at: <http://www.alternative.ac.nz/search-journal>.

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Indigenous Teaching at Australian Universities, a website by the Australian Learning and Teaching Council: <http://www.indigenousteaching.com/>.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, FUNDING, GRANTS & TENDERS

ARC Discovery Indigenous for funding commencing 2012 (closing 7 June 2011)

The *Discovery Indigenous* scheme provides funding to Eligible Organisations to support research programs led by an Indigenous Australian researcher and build research capacity of higher degree research and early career researchers.

Discovery Indigenous for funding commencing in 2012 includes the new Discovery Indigenous Award (DIA), available to Chief Investigators who are Indigenous Australian Researchers.

The *Discovery Indigenous* Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2012 are now available.

The objectives of the *Discovery Indigenous* scheme are to:

- develop the research expertise of Indigenous Australian researchers;
- support fundamental research and research training by Indigenous Australian researchers as individuals and as teams;
- support and retain established Indigenous Australian researchers in Australian higher education institutions; and expand Australia's knowledge base and research capability.

Funding rules: http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/di/di_fundingrules.htm.

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Post Doctoral Fellowship at the Centre for Children & Young People (CCYP) at Southern Cross University, Lismore, NSW. The CCYP is well known for its multidisciplinary research aimed at improving policy and practice in relation to the participation and wellbeing of children and young people. For more information, please contact Professor Anne Graham at E: anne.graham@scu.edu.au, W: <http://www.scu.edu.au/research/index.php/82/>; www.ccyp.scu.edu.au. **Closing date is 6 May.**

SEMINARS, COURSES, COLLOQUIA AND SYMPOSIA

Diabetes Care at the Centre: Delivery at the Frontline, an Educational Symposium, in Alice Springs, 2 June. This symposium is designed to inform medical care and treatment options of Indigenous people with diabetes and cardiovascular disease living in Central Australia. It aims to highlight best practice service delivery, inform preventative strategies and detail

treatment protocols. It will discuss various models of care and explore risk factors impacting the clinical management of people with diabetes and related chronic illness. Registration is free but essential: <<http://bakeridi.edu.au/Page.aspx?ID=645>>

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Race, Culture, Indigeneity and the Politics of Disadvantage, in Melbourne, 14–15 June, offered by the McCaughey Centre and *Onemda* VicHealth Koori Health Unit at the University of Melbourne and designed for professionals, policy makers and researchers who work in Indigenous health, social work, education and related areas:
<<http://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/sph-shortcourses/2011/02/25/mccaughey-centre-onemda-2011>>. **Registrations close 6 June.**

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

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