



Advisory Group for Aboriginal Affairs Research Membership

February 2018

Associate Professor Nicholas Biddle



Senior Fellow, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy research (CAEPR) and Deputy Director ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods, Australian National University

Associate Professor Nicholas Biddle is a quantitative social scientist and a Senior Fellow at the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research (CAEPR) at the Australian National University (ANU). He is also the Deputy Director of the ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods. His areas of interest and expertise include population trends and policies, econometric and statistical methods, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander policy, social and cultural anthropology, public policy, urban and regional economics, labour economics and applied economics.

Nick has a Bachelor of Economics (Hons.) from the University of Sydney and a Master of Education from Monash University. He also has a PhD in Public Policy from the ANU where he wrote his thesis on the benefits of and participation in education of Indigenous Australians.

He previously held a Senior Research Officer and Assistant Director position in the Methodology Division of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Dr Kylie Cripps**Senior Lecturer and Acting Director, Indigenous Law Centre, University of New South Wales**

Kyllie Cripps has worked extensively over the past 15 years in the areas of family violence, sexual assault and child abuse with Indigenous communities, defining areas of need and considering intervention options at multiple levels. She has led two major Australian Research Council grants in the areas of Indigenous violence. The first grant involved defining and contextualizing, Indigenous and non Indigenous, community and service sector, understandings and practices of partnerships in the family violence sector. The research was significant in its methodology engaging Indigenous research practices and in its results communicating the many barriers impeding the success of partnerships.

In 2013 Kyllie commenced a further ARC grant with fellow Chief Investigators (Megan Davis and Annie Cossins) that involves an empirical analysis of the extent to which extra-legal factors about sexuality and Indigenous culture influence the sentencing of Indigenous sex offenders in the NT. Whilst several studies exist relating to the prosecution of sexual assault in Australia and its incidence in Indigenous communities, this is the first Australian study to analyse sentencing transcripts to determine the extent to which extra-legal factors influence judicial decision making in cases involving Indigenous victims and/or offenders. The study will produce needed evidence to support future NT policy, legal practice and law reform relating to sentencing in sexual assault cases with broader application to other Australian jurisdictions.

Professor Dennis Gray**Deputy Director, National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University**

Dennis Gray is a Deputy Director at the National Drug Research Institute at Curtin University, and a leader of the Institute's Aboriginal Research Program. He is an eminent researcher in this area and has a long history of conducting collaborative research with Aboriginal community-controlled organisations. Professor Gray has published extensively on Aboriginal substance misuse issues and has been invited to give presentations on his research in various national and international forums. His most recent work has focused upon the provision of alcohol and other drug services and on enhancing options for the management of alcohol- and cannabis-related problems in Aboriginal community-controlled health services. His research has had demonstrable outcomes at the national, state/ territory and regional/local levels.

He is a former member of the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee, his research team was awarded the 2006 National Alcohol and Drug Award for Excellence in Research, and in 2010 – in recognition of his significant contribution to the alcohol and other drugs field – he was named on the National Drug and Alcohol Honour Roll.

Associate Professor Janet Hunt**Deputy Director, Centre for Aboriginal Economic and Policy Research, Australian National University**

Janet Hunt is an Associate Professor at the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research (CAEPR) at the Australian National University. She joined CAEPR to manage the Indigenous Community Governance Project, an ARC Linkage Project with Reconciliation Australia 2004-2008 and has since conducted research on Indigenous engagement, the social benefits of Aboriginal involvement in natural resource management in NSW, and the work of International NGOs with Indigenous communities in Australia. She also has a strong interest in Indigenous policy in NSW and cultural heritage matters. She is currently researching success in Indigenous development, and maintains her focus on Indigenous governance and community development. For the last 8 years she has been a member of the Community Development Reference Group for the Central Land Council, advising them about their very successful multi-million dollar community development program in Central Australia. She has lectured in International and Community Development at RMIT and Deakin Universities and served on a number of Ministerial Advisory Committees. Her previous career was in international development, where she was the Executive Director of the International Women's Development Agency and the Australian Council for International Development. Janet has a degree in Geography and Education from Cambridge University, a Masters in Education from the University of New England and did her PhD in Social Science and Global Studies at RMIT University with a thesis on East Timorese civil society.

Dr Wendy Jarvie**Visiting Professor, School of Business, University of New South Wales Canberra**

Wendy Jarvie has had a diverse career as a public servant, researcher, evaluator and teacher. It has included 22 years in the Australian public service (seven years 2001-2008 as Deputy Secretary of Education Departments), three years (1998-2001) as an evaluation and operational policy manager in the World Bank, and most recently in independent research and international consulting.

She has had long engagement with Aboriginal communities, policy and programs, including seven years oversight of Australian government Aboriginal education programs, and five years (2003-2007) as a co-chair of the steering committee for the COAG trial in Murdi Paaki, Far West NSW.

Since 2010 she has been undertaking research and giving seminars on Indigenous policy and programs. Publications include Haven't we been this way before? Evaluation and the Impediments to Policy learning (2015) which explored the barriers to public servants' use of evaluation findings in Indigenous policy; and Working with complexity: community engagement and the Murdi Paaki COAG Trial 2002-2007 (2011) (both with J.Stewart).

She is currently a visiting professor at the School of Business at the University of NSW Canberra where she is undertaking research in early childhood education and Indigenous policies and programs, and the role of evidence, innovation and learning in public policy. She is also providing Executive Education courses on using evidence in policy making for the Australian National University, and works in early childhood education for the World Bank in the Pacific.

Professor Ilan Katz



Professor, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales

Ilan Katz joined the Social Policy Research Centre in January 2005. He has had many years of policy, practice and research experience in children and family services in the UK. He started his career as a social worker and manager, working in several local authorities and NGOs in London. He was head of Evaluation, Practice Development and Research at the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. After spending some time as a civil servant in the Department for Education and Skills, he returned to research to become Deputy Director of the Policy Research Bureau.

Ilan's research interests include evaluations of complex interventions; the interface between research, policy and practice; child protection systems; children in out-of-home-care; international comparison of welfare systems; disability; Indigenous social policy; community, social inclusion and social capital; youth mental health; migration and asylum; race and ethnicity; social policy in developing countries; and early intervention.

Dr Raymond Kelly



Research Academic, Purai Global Indigenous and Diaspora Research Studies Centre, University of Newcastle

Raymond Kelly was born and raised in Armidale and is a member of the Thangtitti and Gumbayngirr people.

Ray was an Aboriginal Research Officer on the NSW Sites of Significance Survey which was completed in 1987 and represented the first step towards the documentation of Aboriginal heritage across New South Wales. The work of Ray Kelly and other members of the survey team brought about change in National Parks and Wildlife Services management, conservation and knowledge of Aboriginal cultural heritage. Ray's PhD, from the University of Newcastle, was in Aboriginal languages, a field in which he continues his research. He has been involved in Aboriginal community development for over 30 years, delivering and advising on a broad range of areas including arts and culture, health, environment, management and administration. Ray advised Aboriginal Affairs on the preamble to the Aboriginal Languages Act 2017 and spoke in Thangtitti on the floor of the Legislative Council during its introduction.

Professor Richard Madden

Director, Sydney Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics, University of Sydney

Director, National Centre for Classification in Health, University of Sydney

Richard Madden is a recognised expert in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics. He is a member of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) advisory committees on life expectancy and the Indigenous Social Services Survey.

Richard contributed to the development of the Indigenous programs in the ABS and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) in his role as Deputy Australian Statistician at the ABS and as Director of the AIHW. He has had wide experience across the Australian health and community services sectors, including as Deputy Secretary of the NSW Health Department and as head of the Disability Programs Division in the then Commonwealth Department of Health and Community Services. He was also Head of the Treasuries of the Northern Territory (1983-86) and the Australian Capital Territory (1989-92).

Richard is the founding Director of the Sydney Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics. The centre aims to explore data development needs and issues that will contribute to the advancement and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, encourage best practice in data definition, collection and storage, undertake data set development, collection and analysis and build capacity in the sector.

Richard is the Director of the National Centre for Classification in Health, an international centre of excellence in health classifications. He is also co-stream leader for the National Disability Insurance Scheme at the Centre for Disability Research and Policy, University of Sydney.

Jeff McMullen AM

Journalist, author and film-maker

Jeff McMullen's work includes many decades as a foreign correspondent for Australian Broadcasting Corporation, reporting for Four Corners and Sixty Minutes, as the interviewer and anchor of the series on ABC Television, Difference of Opinion, and host of televised forums on the National Indigenous Television Network.

Jeff has written, filmed and campaigned around the world to improve the health, education and human rights of Indigenous people. Since 2001, he has been devoting most of his work to improving the health and education of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. From 2002-2014 he was CEO (gratis) of Ian Thorpe's Fountain for Youth, a not for profit organisation contributing support to early learning of pre-schoolers and literacy development in more than twenty remote communities and programs that support the cultural education of Indigenous children.

He continues to write and speak about the need for ethical reform of the media and has been honoured with Doctorates of Journalism from Central Queensland University and Doctorates of Letters from the University of Newcastle, Australia and Macquarie University, Sydney.

Jeff is a Director of Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME). Led by CEO, Jack Manning Bancroft, this brilliant program is now established on ten university sites. Undergraduates volunteer to be mentors for Aboriginal high-school students in urban areas, creating a rising tide of higher achievers completing high-school and entering tertiary education. McMullen is also a Director of the Australian Indigenous Engineering Aid Summer School program building opportunities for young engineering graduates.

In 2006, he was awarded an Order of Australia (AM), for service to journalism and efforts to raise awareness of economic, social and human rights issues in Australia and overseas, as well as service to charity.

Dr Gabrielle Russell-Mundine



Academic Leader, National Centre for Cultural Competence, University of Sydney

Gabrielle Russell-Mundine is an academic in the National Centre for Cultural Competence. Her diverse experience has been gained working in non-government organisations, politics, business, church and higher education. Gabrielle is particularly interested in how to develop cultural competence from a non-Indigenous perspective and in particular how to facilitate a deeper understanding of transformative ways to learn and work together. Gabrielle's formal qualifications include a BA (UNSW), an MBA (MGSM) and a PhD (SCU), as well as a Graduate Certificate in University Teaching (UNDA). Her PhD focused on capacity development in an Aboriginal corporation in Northern NSW, with a particular focus on the development of capacity for business enterprise.

Gabrielle has had a long interest in human rights and social justice issues. Early in her career this interest led her from working in the private sector to the NGO sector and then into politics as an adviser to a Federal Senator in the Foreign Affairs and International Development portfolios.

Gabrielle is currently working on a range of projects focusing on ethical and culturally appropriate ways of engaging with Aboriginal communities. These projects include the development of Community Service Hubs to facilitate the placement of students in Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, and the development of online educational resources, such as a Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) called Aboriginal Sydney, focusing on developing a deeper knowledge and understanding about Aboriginal peoples, history, cultures and places in Sydney.

Professor Heidi Norman**Professor, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Technology Sydney**

Heidi Norman is a Professor in the Communication Program at the University of Technology Sydney. She researches and publishes in the areas of NSW Aboriginal history and politics. Her research has included a history of the NSW Annual Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout, the influence of mining on the society and economy on Gomeri lands and the impact of economic change on urban Aboriginal lives. Her most recent book is titled, *What Do We Want? A Political History of Aboriginal Land Rights in NSW* (2015). In this first-ever study of land rights in NSW she documents the movement for land rights, how the laws changed relationships between Aboriginal people, the state and one another and the social, economic and cultural benefits they have delivered. She is an award winning researcher and teacher: in 2015 she was awarded the UTS research excellence medal for collaboration and in 2016 the National Teaching Excellence Award for her work in Indigenous studies. She is a descendant of the Gomeri people from north western NSW, a member of AIATSIS and Congress.

Professor Chris Sarra**Chairman of the Stronger Smarter Institute and Professor of Education, University of Canberra**

Professor Chris Sarra is the founder and Chairman of the Stronger Smarter Institute and Professor of Education at the University of Canberra where he specialises in school leadership, Indigenous education and educational equity.

Chris became the first Aboriginal principal at Cherbourg State School in Queensland in 1998. After leaving the school in 2005 he established the Indigenous Leadership Institute which later became the Stronger Smarter Institute, an independent, non-profit organisation.

Chris received a PhD in psychology from Murdoch University. His book, *Good Morning, Mr Sarra*, published in 2012, was the story of Chris' own journey and his life work for a stronger, smarter future for Indigenous children.

Chris is a Goreng Goreng man and was a national finalist for the Australian of the Year in 2010, and named NAIDOC 2016: Person of the Year.

Professor Juanita Sherwood**Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Indigenous Strategy and Services, University of Sydney**

Juanita Sherwood is a registered nurse, teacher, lecturer, researcher and manager with a depth of working experiences of some thirty years in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and education.

She has an extensive track record specifically in the area of Indigenous research spanning over 3 decades. Her career has encompassed the health and education government and non-government sector, as well as the academy. She has been involved in, and ran a number of Statewide and National projects, developed policies and strategic plans that have required wide-ranging consultation; in-depth literature reviews; data collection using government and non-government sources; and negotiated their implementation strategically and informatively.

Her research experience has been in the areas of Indigenous health, education, and social justice; lecturing in the spectrum of Indigenous social justice issues and Indigenous research approaches; mentoring and building the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander postgraduate students within an National Indigenous research development agenda; working with Aboriginal communities to assist in developing their research agendas and methods for undertaking research; establishing a National Indigenous Staff / Researcher Network within the University Departments of Rural Health across Australia; fostering “a how to rollout cultural competency” and safe learning environments for students Indigenous and non-Indigenous, academic and health staff; and the development of a unique Indigenous health resource website - <http://utsindigenoushealth.com/>

Dr Shawn Wilson

Director of Research, Gnibi College of Indigenous Australian Peoples, Southern Cross University

Lecturer, Indigenous Health Research, University Centre for Rural Health, School of Public Health, University of Sydney

Shawn Wilson is Opaskwayak Cree from northern Manitoba, Canada. His doctorate is in Social Sciences and Indigenous Studies. His expertise is in research methodology and epistemologies, particularly in ways of knowing and conducting research used by Indigenous peoples. He has applied these within the contexts of Indigenous education, counselling and counsellor education, Indigenous mental health and general Indigenous studies through comparison between Indigenous peoples internationally. His research has helped to communicate the theories underlying Indigenous Knowledges and research methodologies to diverse audiences. Previously, he documented ideas about what an Elder is, and how they can be supported, in his book *Gwich'in Native Elders: Not Just Knowledge but a Way of Looking at the World*. His latest book *Research is Ceremony: Indigenous Research Methods* examines some of the similarities in philosophy underlying Indigenous peoples' research methodologies in Canada and Australia. In addition to further articulating and research paradigms, his research focuses on the inter-related concepts of identity, health and healing, culture and wellbeing.