

WHAT'S NEW AT THE KOORI CENTRE



Issue 4 - June 2005

Congratulations

Congratulations to Jimmy Little who received his Honorary Doctorate on 3 June, which was a fantastic end to Reconciliation Week. The press were there and recorded Jimmy placing a hand in the Sea of Hands, which was aired on ABC news that night. Following the ceremony Jimmy joined staff and students at the Koori Centre for afternoon tea, which stretched on to about 6.30 that night. Nobody wanted to leave, especially when Jimmy brought out his guitar. We hope that he will be able to come and visit us again soon.



Jimmy Little speaking at the 2005 Graduation Ceremony for Music students, following the presentation of his Honorary Doctorate.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Dr David Rose who has received a *2005 Vice Chancellor's Award for Support of the Student Experience*. David won the award for the work he has been doing on Adult Literacy with Indigenous students at the University. Congratulations to David and to everyone who has been involved in the Literacy Scaffolding Project.

Congratulations also to Sharon Galleguillos who received a Faculty of Education 2005 Outstanding Alumni Award from the Queensland University of Technology.

Scholarships

Congratulations to all the students who received College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHASS) Scholarships and College of Sciences and Technologies (CST) Scholarships.

First Year incentive scholarships will be announced next semester, so if you are in first year this year and you haven't put in an application already, please go to the website, print out and complete the application form and get it to Pat Davison or Student Admin by the end of August. Don't miss out!

Indigenous Student Games

Planning for the Student Indigenous Games is under way. Funding for the team is currently being sorted out and the Koori Centre has agreed to contribute towards many of the costs.

This year's team is made up of both mainstream and block students. The team members are: Ben Phillips, Phillip Orcher, Peter Hawkins, Michael Thorne, Jess Higgins, Kirsten

Cheatham, Kristy Widders, Kristy Kennedy, Jasmine Stewart, Hailey Dunn, Hope Saunders, Fiona Webb and Sarah Hamilton.

The Games are taking place at Newcastle University in September and this year marks 10 years since their inception.

Reconciliation Week



The 2005 Sea of Hands seen from the Clock Tower in the Main Quad.

Thank you to all who worked, volunteered or participated in the Reconciliation Week events. And thanks also to the Student Union who supported many of the events which were held on the main campus.

The speeches at the Flag Raising were excellent and special thanks should go to Professor Judyth Sachs, PVC Teaching and Learning, Kirsten Cheatham and Samia Hossain who spoke about their experiences on the 2005 Freedom Ride, and Sam Crosby the President of the Student Union.

The Sea of Hands proved to be a little more back-breaking for some than others, but everyone had a great time, regardless of the fact that certain people were laid up over the weekend, nursing sore backs, legs, hips, necks and

goodness knows what else. We thank Antar for their support in making it possible for us to host our third Sea of Hands at the Uni.

It was great to have some of the block students in during the week and they certainly made their presence felt at the Trivia Night, particularly when they were squeezed out of the top spot! Sharon did an excellent job on the night and it is easy to see why we ask her to officiate the Trivia Nights year after year.

Fingers crossed that the Student Union is able to support Reconciliation Week in 2006 and beyond.

New Units of Study

The Koori Centre will be introducing new units of study in 2006 and 2007 (pending approval). These are:

KOCR 2604

Colours of Identity: Indigenous Bodies
KOCR 3603

Discover and Devour: First Contacts
KOCR 2607

Indigenous Creative Expression
KOCR 3601

Indigenous Research Practice
KOCR 3604

International Indigenous Studies
KOCR 2602

Issues in Indigenous Rights
KOCR 2605

Speaking Gamilaraay 1
KOCR 2606

Torres Strait Histories and Experiences
Congratulations to all of the staff involved in the development of the new units and in the reconfiguring of old units to meet the new 6 credit point requirement for all units of study at the University.

Teaching Language

The Koori Centre is implementing a new graduate course in Indigenous language teaching; the Master of Education (Indigenous Languages). Scheduled to start in 2006, the course will be available to Indigenous teachers with four years of training and will focus on linguistics for Indigenous languages and second language teaching methodology. It will take one year full-time study to complete and will be offered in block release mode with six one week blocks of attendance.

A graduate diploma and certificate are expected to be implemented in 2007 based on completing three quarters or half of the masters units of study, and will be accessible to people who are yet to complete teacher training.

The masters will not require that students can speak an Indigenous language themselves but does provide an opportunity to begin learning one. There are also opportunities for students to undertake linguistic field work and language research.

People who are interested in the masters and would like more information can contact John Hobson on (02)9351 6994, or 1800 622 742.

New Tutoring Arrangements

Block students will be sent a survey about their tutoring arrangements for semester two and beyond. We hope that you will all complete these and get them back to us as quickly as possible, so we can put the new arrangements in place.

HSC Enrichment Camp

Sunday 3rd July for some student began with a little fear and anticipation, the

start of a long day and the beginning of an exciting week for Year 12 students completing the HSC in 2005.

They came from Lismore, Ballina, Dubbo, Dungog, Gunnedah, Hay Kempsey, Moree, Tamworth, Orange, Hay, Yass, Young, Forbes, Mossvale and Sydney to attend the HSC Camp at the University of Sydney. They came for the extra studies to find answers and a better understanding of what to expect in the coming examination papers. These students were taking no chances they gave up their holidays, their free time to take every opportunity for a successful outcome in the HSC exam.

What they got was that and more, motivation, inspiration, a new and positive outlook, a new direction and friends to share their concerns with but I don't think I would be wrong in saying that the Live Triple J show on a roof top at the ABC was the highlight of their outings although the shopping expedition and the field tripe to the North Shore proved to be pretty exciting and interesting. On our special night out for Dinner, student dined at a Thai Restaurant and joined in with a fellow student who was celebrate his 19th birthday making the occasion even more memorable.

These students are to be congratulated for their foresight determination and achievements and will no doubt be seen as role models for their peers in their schools and community.

The Camp has left the Indigenous Supervising students with a memorable

experience and are looking forward to the next group in 2006.

ATSI Week

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Week events will be taking place at the University between 22 and 26 August. On Monday 22 August at 11am there will be a Flag Raising at the Main Quad, our guest speaker is Professor John Lester, Director of Aboriginal Education and Training Directorate at NSW DET, and the Darlington School Choir will perform as they have for the past few years. The Flag Raising will be followed by a morning tea. There will be a performance and BBQ in the Manning Forecourt on Thursday at lunchtime, and we hope that Sharon will agree to another trivia night on the Wednesday evening (we will keep you posted).

Yooroang Garang have arranged events at Cumberland Campus, and we encourage you to try and get along to these. Please check at the Koori Centre to see if there is any space in a vehicle to get you there and back.