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1 BACKGROUND

The Aboriginal Environments Research Centre (AERC) leads research in Indigenous living environments. AERC is a multi-disciplinary research and resource centre based at the University of Queensland (Australia) in the School of Architecture and the Institute for Social Science Research. The AERC focuses on Indigenous people, environments and design. Its functions include research, teaching, advocacy and Indigenous research capacity building.

We are committed to advancing research for a healthy, sustainable and prosperous Australia. Our strategic direction is consistent with the Australian Government’s five strategic research priorities:

- Living in a changing environment
- Promoting population health and well being
- Managing our food and water assets
- Securing Australia’s place in a changing world
- Lifting productivity and economic growth

We work on numerous research commissions for community and government organisations, and maintain a specialised collection of research material.

The AERC’s commitment to realising the UQ Advantage is organised under the three strategic priorities outlined in the University of Queensland’s Strategic Plan 2013-2017 of discovery, learning and engagement. Our activities are further underpinned by the UQ Global Strategy and Internationalisation Plan; Equity and Diversity Plan and UQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Plan.

1.1 Our Vision

To lead research in Indigenous living environments.

1.2 Our Purpose

To improve the quality of Indigenous living environments through knowledge exchange.

1.3 Our Objectives

- Collaborate with Indigenous people on research that relates to improvements in the quality of their living environments
- Deliver innovative research in people and environment studies
- Lead in the teaching and exchange of skills in the field of Indigenous living environments
- Diversify and build relationships with domestic and international organisations
- Advocate for better policy through research

(See Section 7 - AERC Strategic Plan 2013-2017.)
1.4 Our Strategic Opportunities

- Partnering with the community, government, scientific and private sectors to advance outcomes for Indigenous people.
- Meeting the research needs of communities, government and other key partners for the ongoing benefit of Indigenous people.

2 STRENGTHS

- The AERC is unique in maintaining a focus on Indigenous culture, environment and architecture, a reasonably sized postgraduate body, and a significant publication count and engagement with industry, government and professions, considering its size and funding levels.
- The theoretical framework of people-environment relations as applied to Indigenous contexts generates a wealth of research subjects and issues that span across a range of natural and built environment disciplines, the social sciences and philosophy. It exposes a number of gaps in the pure and applied research of more conventional disciplines that focus on Indigenous studies. Such a challenging framework continues to produce a stimulating culture of research amongst the AERC’s postgraduate students and collaborating researchers.
- Aside from other areas of research activity, the AERC provides a national focal point for issues of Aboriginal housing and institutional architecture. In this regard the Centre has gained widespread recognition from Architecture and Anthropology Schools within Australian Universities, as well as from a range of government agencies and Indigenous organisations. The Centre carries out regular research projects on Indigenous housing for the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI).
2.1 AERC’s links with School of Architecture and Institute for Social Science Research

The AERC has a dual composition of staff appointments and projects between School of Architecture (EAIT Faculty) and the Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR).

Appendix 1 provides a more detailed mapping of functions in the AERC, the School of Architecture and the Institute for Social Science Research.

The structural position of AERC at UQ, bridging between School of Architecture and ISSR.

Part of the AERC strength is to act as a bridge between the design and engineering professions, environmental and architectural sciences, and the social and behavioural sciences in addressing complex issues in Aboriginal societies.
3 RESOURCES

3.1 The People

3.1.1 The Director - Professor Paul Memmott

The Director of the Aboriginal Environments Research Centre (AERC), Professor Paul Memmott is an anthropologist and architect at the University of Queensland with a dual appointment in the Institute for Social Science Research and School of Architecture. Memmott was one of the first full-time anthropological consultants in Australia, being principal of a research consultancy practice in Aboriginal projects during 1980 to 2008. His research interests encompass Aboriginal sustainable housing and settlement design, Aboriginal access to institutional architecture, Indigenous constructs of place and cultural heritage, vernacular architecture, social planning in Indigenous communities, cultural change and architectural anthropology. Current commissioned research in the AERC addresses social problems of housing management, crowding, homelessness and family violence in both metropolitan and remote parts of Indigenous Australia. The AERC maintains research linkages with other scholars in New Zealand and the Pacific Rim who are engaged in Indigenous research themes.

Memmott’s scholarly research output includes over 225 publications (including 8 books and monographs), 215 applied research reports and 36 competitive grants. Memmott has supervised 39 postgraduate students and has won a number of prestigious teaching awards in Indigenous education (including an Australian Award for University Teaching – AAUT). One of his books, titled Gunyah, Goondie + Wurley: Aboriginal Architecture of Australia, received three national book awards in 2008, including the prestigious Stanner Award from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.

Prof Memmott also has extensive professional anthropological experience in Aboriginal land rights claims, Native Title claims and associated court work since 1980. He has presented evidence and been examined in a variety of Australian courts as an expert witness on a cross-section of Indigenous issues, in addition to the Native Title work.

Awarded Life Fellowship of the Australian Institute of Architects issued 29th August 2012.

3.1.2 Incoming Professor Mark Moran, Chair in Development Effectiveness

Following public advertising during 2012, Professor Mark Moran has been appointed using VC’s Special Initiative Funding, to fill a Chair in Development Effectiveness within ISSR, from mid 2013.
3.1.3 Research and Adjunct Staff

A diverse and high achieving research team are involved in the research activities of the AERC. During 2012/2013 the total number of personnel in the AERC was 34 (Research Fellows, Post-Doctoral Fellows, affiliated lecturers (Res/teach), adjuncts, Research Higher Degrees, Honours students, Summer Scholars, Research Assistants and Personal Assistants).

3.2 Resource Centre

Functioning as a resource and study centre for postgraduate students, visiting researchers and consultants, the Centre contains an extensive collection of data focused mainly on Australian Indigenous groups, their cultures and environments. The archive contains a wide variety of material including bibliographies and associated collections of literature, manuscripts, digital & still photographs, slides, maps, genealogies, interview material, cassette recordings, video footage and other types of data.
3.3 Environment

Purpose-designed accommodation provides the Centre with a strong physical identity and facilitating shared research space in the School of Architecture, University of Queensland. This space includes an Archive, a meeting room with electronic conferencing and kitchenette features, visitor study areas, administration support and research officer workstations and a research space for up to eight research fellows, postgraduates and visiting researchers.

Floor Plan Layout of Aboriginal Environments Research Centre, Level 5, Zelman Cowen Building.

3.4 Delivering Against UQ’s Strategic Priorities

The following sections report on the AERC’s delivery and commitment to the UQ Advantage and is organised under the three strategic priorities of discovery, learning and engagement. Under each of these headings the report is further broken down against the AERC’s strategic objectives.
4 DISCOVERY

The Aboriginal Environments Research Centre produces academic and applied research on Indigenous cultures, environments and architecture, places and geographies, and social capacities and issues. With extensive experience in the cultures of Australian Indigenous people our vision is to expand our existing engagement with Indigenous people in Oceania, the Pacific Rim and South East Asia.

4.1 Collaborate with Indigenous people on research that relates to improvements in the quality of their living environments

The AERC collaborates with Indigenous people on many research projects that relate to improvements in the quality of their living environments. Recent examples are the:

- ARC Discovery Project on Spinifex as a Biomimetic Resource
- Mornington Island Peacemaking Programme
- Myuma Teaching project
- Jimaylya Topsy Harry Centre and the Tennant Creek Women’s Refuge
- UQ Arid Zone Field Station

ARC Discovery Project on Spinifex Grasses

A flagship project run out of the AERC that draws on Aboriginal cultural landscapes and their sacred sites is the ARC Discovery Project on Spinifex Grass (DP0877161). An Aboriginal collaborative group and field workers are assisting in exploration of the traditional uses and ecological knowledge of spinifex...
grass with a view to developing both low-tech and high-tech modern commercial applications for fibres and resins. Research strands include field ethnography, ecology and lab-based material science. One aim is to develop a sustainable harvesting method so as to catalyse a cottage industry of remote desert harvesters and regional bio-processing plants.

Mornington Island Peacemaking Programme

The “Mornington Island Restorative Justice (MIRJ) Project” is a mediation or peacemaking service that has operated in the Aboriginal community of Gununa or Mornington Island, Southern Gulf of Carpentaria. It recognises and respects Mornington Island kinship and culture while conforming to the requirements of the criminal justice system. A range of mediation services are provided to prevent the likelihood of escalating violence in a crisis and to address ongoing conflict. The project also works to reconcile offenders and their victims through court-referred restorative justice mediation.

The MIRJ project has been funded in a partnership of the Dispute Resolution Branch of the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General (Qld) with the Australian Attorney-General’s Department. The project operated in partnership with Elders and other respected family members who co-mediate with a department Project Manager. Professor Paul Memmott of the Aboriginal Environments Research Centre has provided expert anthropological advice since the program’s inception through its establishment phase based on his knowledge of traditional dispute resolution processes and the complex family kinship structures in the community.

GUNUNA PEACEMAKING PROGRAM

The iconic diagram to symbolize the Mornington Island ‘Peacemaking Project’ developed by Paul Memmott in conjunction with Queensland Attorney-General’s Department and Mornington Island Elders.
Myuma Teaching project at Camooweal

Professor Memmott was invited by Myuma Pty Ltd to participate in the pre-vocational teaching program for young Aboriginal adults entering the construction and mining industries. For seven years he has travelled to Camooweal to deliver workshops on local and regional Aboriginal culture and histories in association with Aboriginal Elders and mentors. One of his most career-challenging teaching experiences is engaging with trainees’ and strengthening their cultural identity, equipping them to position themselves across both Aboriginal and mainstream work environment cultures, through raising their awareness about potential vulnerabilities arising from family problems and substance abuse.

Mt Isa’s Jimaylya Topsy Harry Centre and the Tennant Creek Women’s Refuge.

As part of the FaHCSIA funded research project on Indigenous homelessness in regional Australia, our research team (PM and DN) profiled the Jimaylya Topsy Harry Centre (JTHC) in Mt Isa and the Women’s Refuge in Tennant Creek. The JTHC is a centre for homeless people which is staffed mostly by Indigenous workers and caters to a majority of Indigenous clients who have a range of complex needs. Following an unusual model of service delivery, the Centre operates a managed alcohol program as well as crisis support and a transitional housing program through to mainstream tenancies. Another profiled agency, the Tennant Creek Women’s Refuge also operates with Indigenous people on staff and on the board of management to provide support for women and children who need crisis accommodation in the Barkly region. In a collaborative research process, the researchers engaged with the management and staff of both Centres, through the planning and investigation stages, to provide them with information which would be most useful for acquiring funding and other support from relevant agencies.

UQ Arid Zone Field Station

The AeRC has initiated a project for a UQ Arid Zone Field Station near Camooweal (to be constructed 2014-15), which will be the focus of interdisciplinary projects and visiting international students, initially involving geography, botany, archaeology, engineering and architecture. The project involves collaboration between the AeRC and the Indjalandji-Dhidhanu Traditional Owners of the upper Georgina River basin who are sub-leasing a site to UQ for the Field Station on their land. The underlying philosophy of this Field Station will be to promote a three-way learning process between academic researchers, students and Aboriginal Elders. International collaborators will also be hosted there.
4.2 Deliver innovative research in people and environment studies

The AERC has delivered leading research commissions and consultancies and published findings on a large range of innovative research projects in the field of people and environment studies during 2012/2013. Please see Section 9 for a list grants won in 2012/2013 and Section 10 for a list of recent publications. This research included a community based research project in Western Queensland on Indigenous perception of climate change funded by the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) and the completion of four Doctorate of Philosophy candidatures.

Aboriginal responses to climate change: The Upper Georgina River Basin Community Report

The Upper Georgina River Basin climate change scoping study was carried out by a team of researchers affiliated with the Aboriginal Environments Research Centre (AERC) at the University of Queensland in collaboration with local Aboriginal people. Funded by the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF), the research aimed to investigate and document Aboriginal perceptions and knowledge of climate change. The geographic focus was the Upper Georgina River basin, an interior arid-zone region in far northwest Queensland. The aim was to study the capacity of remote Aboriginal communities to respond and adapt to the effects of climate change, by focusing on four strategic planning streams: 1) preparedness for weather extremes; 2) land and riverine management; 3) housing and infrastructure adaptation; and 4) enterprise development. In 2012, our research team carried out interviews and workshops with Indigenous people from Mt Isa, Dajarra, Urandangi, Alpururrulam and Camooweal. Findings were compared with that of a national study and demonstrated Aboriginal concerns about climate change, including remarkable resilience and resourcefulness.
5 LEARNING

5.1 Lead in the teaching and exchange of skills in the field of Indigenous living environments

The Aboriginal Environments Research Centre (AERC) functions as a vehicle for teaching and research. It has focused on gaining an understanding and appreciation of Indigenous cultures as well as equipping architectural and design graduates professional awareness of Aboriginal communities and the complex challenges of socio economic issues within contexts of ongoing cultural change.

The centre provides teaching on Indigenous cultures and environments within the University of Queensland and facilitates research skill exchange and capacity building in Indigenous communities.

‘Housing, People and Place’ (ARCH1230) and ‘Culture, Environment and Design’ (ARCH3210)

The interdisciplinary courses of Housing, People and Place (ARCH1230) a compulsory first year course, and Culture Environment and Design (ARCH3210), an elective typically taken in third year, have been transformed in their content over the past three years by Dr Kelly Greenop to incorporate research emanating from the Aboriginal Environments Research Centre. Each student is made aware of the pressing need for architects to understand and incorporate cultural considerations into their designs and approach. Additionally teaching into Masters of Architecture research selectives has involved students with Indigenous research themes, including mapping ‘Aboriginal Brisbane’, an exchange to New Zealand to learn first hand about Māori culture and homelessness, and working with visiting researchers and PhD students to deliver cutting edge teaching themes, such as Pasifika Architecture.

Masters of Architecture research courses are delivered each semester with groups of 12 to 20 students selecting a seminar (selective) topic. Topics related to AERC research projects have included earth construction and Indigenous housing (2011), spinifex in building construction (2012), and Aboriginal housing and climate change (2012). Across the two semesters of 2013, groups of students have participated in research work on Stradbroke Island with Quandamooka Aboriginal people living at a self-constructed settlement called the ‘One Mile’.

5.1.1 AERC Research Higher Degree (RHD) program

The AERC was privileged by a number of high-standard Research Higher Degree graduates during 2012 including: Cameo Dalley (Anthropology), Angela Kreutz (Environmental Psychology), Tim O’Rourke (Architecture) and Dan Rosendahl (Archaeology). See Appendix 4 for a brief description of their work. The following people were enrolled as Research Higher Degree students during 2012 and receiving supervision from AERC personnel: Jenine Godwin, Vivian Hauser, Malcolm Connolly, Mary-Jean Sutton (enrolled in the School of Social Science), Rodger Barnes, Lisa Xian (enrolled in School of Agriculture and Food Science), Charmaine Ilaiu Talei and Nasim Amiralian (enrolled in Australian Institute of Bioengineering and Nano-technology).

Two AERC personnel were successful in winning grants and scholarships during 2012. RHD student Charmaine Ilaiu Talei won both the Gunson Prize and Ceridwen Indigenous Scholarship December 2012 whilst Post Doctoral Fellow James Davidson won the Early Career Researcher Development at Shanghai Jiao Tong University December 2012.
5.1.2 RHD Graduates during 2012

- Cameo Dalley (PhD)
- Angela Kreutz (PhD)
- Daniel Rosendahl (PhD)
- Timothy O’Rourke (PhD)

(See Appendix 2 for PhD title and short abstracts.)

5.1.3 Enrolled Research Higher Degree Students as at December 2012

- Kelly Greenop (since graduated with PhD)
- Jenine Godwin
- Vivian Hauser
- Malcolm Connolly
- Mary-Jean Sutton (enrolled in School of Social Science)
- Rodger Barnes
- Lisa Xian (enrolled in School of Agriculture and Food Science)
- Charmaine Ilaiu Talei
- Nasim Amiralian (enrolled in Aust’n Institute of Bioengineering and Nano-technology)

PhD student Nasim Amiralian creating nano-materials from spinifex grass in the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and nano-technology. (Photo: Nasim Amiralian.)
6 ENGAGEMENT

The Aboriginal Environments Research Centre engages with, and builds networks between key stakeholders concerned with Indigenous living environments from multiple sectors including the community, academia, industry and government. The following two goals are part of the AERC Strategic Plan.

6.1 Diversify and build relationships with domestic and international organisations

The AERC's current Australian networks in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research include the ANU (Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research), Griffith University, Curtin University, University of Tasmania as well as throughout other parts of UQ. See Appendix 3 for a mapping network, across community, academia, industry and government. To develop a world class research capacity, the AERC is building institution-to-institution connections. Professor Paul Memmott’s has targeted two Universitas 21 institutions in countries with Indigenous peoples, the Universities of Auckland and British Columbia. The AERC is growing linkages to these two international sites, to mount cross-comparative Indigenous research projects, with a focus on metropolitan settings. Scholarly relationships with our Auckland colleagues have been strengthened at The Society of Architectural Historians Australia and New Zealand (SAHANZ) conferences as well as through plenary presentation on Aboriginal homelessness at the ‘New Zealand Coalition to End Homelessness’ Conference in Auckland (2011).

6.2 Advocate for better policy through research

Within Australia, the AERC provides a national focal point for issues of Indigenous housing, architecture, anthropology and a related set of socio-cultural problems to which members of the academic, government and community sectors can refer. The AERC has made a regular impact on academic, industry and government sectors through public presentations of the applied and policy significances of its research. Since Professor Paul Memmott’s full-time appointment at UQ in 2008, he has been an invited guest speaker at 18 conferences, and given another 14 invited keynote addresses that have impacted on government policy change, including Commonwealth ministerial and standing committees and policy forums, professional and industry symposiums, ‘think-tanks’ and ‘lock-ups’, public lectures, gallery openings and book launches. See Appendix 4 for a list of recent domestic and international lecture and conference presentations.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Key performance indicators</th>
<th>Targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Collaborate with Indigenous people on research that relates to improvements in the quality of their living environments</td>
<td>1.1 Work with local communities and Indigenous organisations with similar interests</td>
<td>Number of community relationships formed or re-energised.</td>
<td>Max. of community projects involve collaboration with Indigenous people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.2 Strengthen networks and linkages with Indigenous academics, researchers and peak Indigenous organisations</td>
<td>Number of Indigenous networks formed or re-energised. Indigenous feedback on our work.</td>
<td>Max. of research projects include consultation with Indigenous academics, researchers and peak organisations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.3 Build Indigenous research capacity</td>
<td>Create pathways for Indigenous students into research.</td>
<td>Nos. of affiliated Indigenous students, researchers and adjuncts increase annually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seek research projects with opportunities for local Indigenous research capacity building. Hosting of Indigenous researchers in AERC.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Max. funding submissions include component focused on building Indigenous research capacity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Deliver innovative research in people and environment studies</td>
<td>2.1 Seek and build a high achieving research team</td>
<td>Ongoing professional development and training.</td>
<td>Implement Action Plan arising from staff reviews, achievements &amp; objectives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.2 Deliver leading research commissions and consultancies</td>
<td>Publication/conference/seminar outputs.</td>
<td>Increase in team publication output from baseline of over 35 per year (2003-2012).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Competitive grant funding success.</td>
<td>Consistent increase in grant funding applications from baseline of 2012/2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.3 Consolidate ties with key research partners</td>
<td>New research opportunities established between AERC and the Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR).</td>
<td>Investment in AERC/ISSR partnership contributes positively towards collaborative research projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Lead in the teaching and exchange of skills in the field of Indigenous living environments</td>
<td>3.1 Provide opportunities for students and researchers to gain inclusive perspectives on Indigenous people</td>
<td>Support core staff in School of Architecture, University of Queensland to embed Indigenous studies and themes into architectural curriculum.</td>
<td>Support is provided to teaching staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.2 Facilitate knowledge exchange for students, researchers and Indigenous people to participate in collaborative research projects</td>
<td>The Remote Arid Field Station is progressed to actualisation.</td>
<td>Remote Arid Field Station in operation by December 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Diversify and build relationships with domestic and international organisations</td>
<td>4.1 Build networks domestically and in developed and developing countries</td>
<td>Membership in international network of centres researching development in Indigenous contexts. Completion of Website.</td>
<td>Increase in research projects with a focus on in international networks from 2012 baseline. Website up to date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Advocate for better policy through research</td>
<td>5.1 Form collaborations with Aboriginal Peak Organisations and lead organisations to jointly present key findings</td>
<td>Number of government forums/roundtables attended. Number of research commissions/consultancies. Number of Indigenous Community forums attended.</td>
<td>Investment in government networks contributes positively towards policy and practice change.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## AERC 2012 YEAR TO DATE (YTD) ACTUALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>2011 Carry Forward</th>
<th>Other Expenditure</th>
<th>General Salaries</th>
<th>External Revenue</th>
<th>Internal Allocations</th>
<th>Academic Salaries</th>
<th>2012 YTD Actuals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AHURI HOME</td>
<td>614</td>
<td>614</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>AHURI Remote Indigenous Housing Procurement</td>
<td>31,756</td>
<td>(605)</td>
<td>32,360</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>AHURI Overcrowding Indigenous</td>
<td>68,191</td>
<td>17,795</td>
<td>93,852</td>
<td>6,979</td>
<td>109,130</td>
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<tr>
<td>AHURI MYRP Addressing Concentrations</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,924</td>
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<td>Spinifex ARC</td>
<td>58,087</td>
<td>43,787</td>
<td>89,639</td>
<td>41,771</td>
<td>32,738</td>
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<td>NCCARF Aboriginal Responses to Climate Change</td>
<td>43,158</td>
<td>26,437</td>
<td>280,000</td>
<td>81,986</td>
<td>128,420</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACA-AERC General</td>
<td>94,697</td>
<td>36,050</td>
<td>17,011</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>1,103</td>
<td>57,578</td>
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<tr>
<td>VCSI AERC</td>
<td>130,718</td>
<td>38,953</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>34,715</td>
<td>57,050</td>
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<td>CEIF Spinifex</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>19,904</td>
<td>55,096</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neville Bonner Teaching Award</td>
<td>21,149</td>
<td>968</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20,181</td>
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<tr>
<td>DKCRC-AHURI Indigenous Scholarships</td>
<td>9,785</td>
<td>8,183</td>
<td>1,199</td>
<td>403</td>
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<tr>
<td>RSH NHMRC BIRC Grant</td>
<td>8,396</td>
<td>8,396</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frederick Ost Scholarship</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,608</td>
<td>2,608</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Project</td>
<td>9,622</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
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<td>9,522</td>
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</table>

**School of Architecture**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>2011 Carry Forward</th>
<th>Other Expenditure</th>
<th>General Salaries</th>
<th>External Revenue</th>
<th>Internal Allocations</th>
<th>Academic Salaries</th>
<th>2012 YTD Actuals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUB-TOTAL</td>
<td>507,975</td>
<td>180,950</td>
<td>226,199</td>
<td>408,034</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>198,914</td>
<td>419,946</td>
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<tr>
<td>FaHCSIA Indigenous Homelessness</td>
<td>25,388</td>
<td>58,264</td>
<td></td>
<td>154,324</td>
<td></td>
<td>54,840</td>
<td>66,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHURI MYRP Housing Conditionality</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>533,343</strong></td>
<td><strong>239,214</strong></td>
<td><strong>226,199</strong></td>
<td><strong>642,358</strong></td>
<td><strong>30,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>257,754</strong></td>
<td><strong>486,534</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## AERC Grants Won in 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Investigator</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Co-Investigator(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012-2014</td>
<td>UQ Firstlink: Sheltering the Isa: Community Action Responses to Indigenous Homelessness</td>
<td>UQ Firstlink</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>P. Mammott</td>
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<td>2012-2014</td>
<td>UQ Firstlink: Intercultural architectural and material cultural heritage and conservation in Moreton Bay</td>
<td>UQ Firstlink</td>
<td>$4,185</td>
<td>D. van der Plaat, J. Macarthur, P. Mammott, K. Greenop, R. Dowling, F. J. Gardiner</td>
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<td>Code</td>
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<td>2008-12</td>
<td>Towards Novel Biomimetic Building Materials: Evaluation Aboriginal and Western Scientific Knowledge of Spinifex Grasses.'</td>
<td>Spinifex Discovery Grant DP0877161</td>
<td>$770,000</td>
<td>S. Pinnegar, B. Randolph, M. Reynolds, L. Saugeres, A. Spinney, W. Stone, A. Tice, I. Vizel, P. Williams</td>
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<td>2010-12</td>
<td>Developing effective service responses to homeless and public place dwelling Indigenous people</td>
<td>FaHCSIA 10/RFT688</td>
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<td>P. Memmott, C. Birdsall-Jones, K. Greenop, C. Go-Sam, V. Corunna, L. Shepperd</td>
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10  AERC PUBLICATIONS

2010


Buultjens, J., Brereton, D., Memmott, P., Reser, J., Thomson, L., Barker, T. & O’Rourke, T. 2010 “The mining sector and indigenous tourism development in Weipa, Queensland”, in Tourism Management, Vol. 31, pp. 597-606. [Web: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6V9R-4WY5BBH-1&_user=331728&_coverDate=10%2F31%2F2010&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=search&_origin=search&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_searchStrId=1463959267&_rerunOrigin=google&acct=C000016898&view=c&_acct=C000016898&version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=331728&md5=6b1c2b95a99772a0b7dd57d95b58568e&searchtype=a]


Memmott, P. 2010 “Material Culture of the North Wellesley Islands”, ATSIS Unit Research Report Series, University of Queensland, St Lucia. [Refereed.] (160pp).


Milligan, V., Phillips, R., Easthope, H. & Memmott, P. 2010 “Service directions and issues in social housing for Indigenous households in urban and regional areas”, Positioning Paper No. 130, for the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI), Queensland Research Centre, June.


Mondal, S., Martin, D. & Memmott, P. 2010 “Renewable resource-based polyurethane from spinifex resin: synthesis and characterization”. Paper submitted to the 32nd Australian Polymer Symposium of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, Coffs Harbour, 13-16/2/11.


Neave, G. 2010 “Regeneration of spinifex (Triodia spp) grasslands after burning or harvesting”, B.Env.Sc. Hons thesis, School of Biological Science, University of Queensland, St Lucia.


Phillips, R., Parsell, C., Seage, N. & Memmott, P. 2010 “Assertive Outreach”, Positioning Paper No. 136, for the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, Queensland Research Centre, January.


2011


Nobel, L., 2011 “Spinifex as a coating: a study in the viability of making a timber coating from spinifex resin”, Master of Architecture Thesis, School of Architecture, University of Qld, St Lucia.

O’Rourke, T. 2011 “Delivering drinking water to Dajarra, North West Queensland, DKCRC Report 64, Ninti One limited, Alice Springs.

O’Rourke, T. 2011 “Skill in Aboriginal building traditions and the well-crafted mija”, in Moulis, A. (ed) Proceedings of the XXVIIth International Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians, Australian and New Zealand, Brisbane, 7-10 July 2011, Society of Architectural Historians, Australia New Zealand, Brisbane, Australia. [CD-ROM]


Wade, V., Wallis, L.A. and Woolgar Valley Aboriginal Corporation in press Aboriginal rock art sites on Middle Park Station, inland northwest Queensland. Australian Archaeology (Accepted for publication February 2011).


Wallis, L.A. A comparative study of phytolith assemblages in modern sediments for the Kimberley, Western Australia. Submitted to Quaternary Research.

2012


Dalley, C. “Social relations and layered identities in a remote Aboriginal town, Mornington Island, southern Gulf of Carpentaria, Australia, Ph.D. Thesis submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Queensland in Jun 2012 (Final version) AERC.


Table of AERC functions arranged to closely show cross-over and outlier functions in relation to ISSR & School of Architecture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AERC Functions</th>
<th>ISSR functions</th>
<th>ISSR, Dev’t Eff. &amp; Indigenous Clusters</th>
<th>AERC functions</th>
<th>School of Arch. functions</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Qualitative data analysis</td>
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<td>Engagement with NT Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qualitative analysis</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Indigenous students</td>
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<td>Indigenous staff / adjuncts</td>
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</table>

1 The ISSR Development Effectiveness Cluster and Indigenous Cluster
APPENDIX 2

Doctorate of Philosophy Graduates

During 2012 the AERC had four Doctorate of Philosophy candidates complete innovative research in people and environment studies:

Cameo Dalley 2012

PhD Title:
Social relations and layered identities in a remote Aboriginal town, Mornington Island, south Gulf of Carpentaria, Australia

This thesis is about the ways in which remote living Aboriginal people on Mornington Island in the southern Gulf of Carpentaria, Australia, construct their identities. In an ethnography focused on daily life, I argue that the pervasive nature and intensity of social relations significantly informs Aboriginal people’s subjectivities. While some aspects of identity were derived from the historical past, others have been formed and reformed through more contemporary social interactions, including with Whitefellas. In interpreting the implications of dwelling in an Aboriginal community remote from urban and regional Australian society, I argue that the contained nature of the town of Gununa and the intensity of social relations contributed to the formation of a particular ‘Mornington Islander’ identity. This collective identity was layered with other distinct local identities derived from both traditional culture and relationships with outsiders. These layers of identity were evident across the key realms of Mornington Islander social life which I address in this thesis. The research is set in the context of the 1st decade’s vigorous examinations of the maintenance of Aboriginality in remote settings. This has involved debates in Australian anthropology as well as in the wider political arena. By providing findings from a particular remote case study, this thesis offers significant data to inform such discussions, while at the same time contributing to more established theoretical debates.

Cameo Dalley and Cyril Moon at the Mornington Island airstrip (Photo: Daniel Rosendahl).
Aboriginal Environments Research Centre

**Angela Kreutz 2012**

*PhD Title:*

*Munu gukooreree: Aboriginal children's use and experience of space and place in Cherbourg*

Aboriginal children’s movement through and use of space and place has rarely been subjected to systematic and in-depth study in Australia. This thesis presents the first empirical study on Australian Aboriginal children’s environments from within the multidisciplinary field of children and the environment. The overall significance of the thesis lies within its combined academic and practical contributions. On the one hand, the research contributes to the literature on children’s environments and to specific theoretical constructs and conceptual models from environmental psychology and ecological psychology by empirically examining these ideas within a distinct cross-cultural setting, while on the other hand, the research yields significant insight with respect to the design of Aboriginal children’s environments for planners, architects and landscapers.

**Tim O’Rourke 2012**

*PhD Title:*

*The well-crafted mija: Traditional Aboriginal building skills and knowledge in the Australian Wet Tropics*

In the tropical rainforests of northeastern Queensland, nineteenth and early twentieth century photographers recorded a distinctive repertoire of Aboriginal dwellings. Compared with other records of Aboriginal dwellings across the continent, these buildings were distinguished by their relatively large domical forms and pallet of rainforest construction materials. Early in the twenty-first century, Girramay and Jirrbal people in the Tully–Murray river district reconstructed ten of their traditional dwellings, or mija, for the purpose of this thesis. An interdisciplinary approach to the study is used to trace the continuity and erosion of Girramay and Jirrbal building traditions across three centuries. A combination of research methods and techniques produced data that raised a number of questions about the evidence, meaning, and significance of the building traditions in the past and the present.

*Construction of mija near Tully, North Qld.* (Photo: Tim O’Rourke.)
Daniel Rosendahl 2012

PhD Title:
The Way It Changes Like the Shoreline and the Sea: The Archaeology of the Sandalwood River, Mornington Island, Southeast Gulf of Carpentaria, Australia

Defining and understanding change as observed in the mid-to-date Holocene Australian archaeological record is the primary focus of this thesis. I conducted a detailed local archaeological survey of a mid-to-late Holocene landscape to examine aspects of continuity and change in the coastal environments of the Sandalwood River in the Yilkan Embayment, Mornington Island, southeast Gulf of Carpentaria, Australia. Focus is given to the theoretical and methodological problems emerging in coastal and island archaeology such as the importance of constructing reliable chronologies, interpreting the archaeological data in the context of local landscape and environmental development, and assessing the integrity of open tropical archaeological coastal sites. Using data from three shell mound excavations and the terminal chronology from 18 other cultural deposits, along with seven dated natural features, including black-lipped oyster bioherms, this research demonstrates that human occupation of the Sandalwood River catchment commenced in the late Holocene after almost a millennia of large-scale landscape development closely linked to the final stages of the marine transgression. A model of local landscape development and human-environment interaction is presented.

Daniel Rosendahl excavating at Wirrikiwirriki, a cave on Sweers Island. (Photo: Emma Oliver.)
### APPENDIX 3

**Mapping of networks across community, academia, industry and government**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Australian Government</th>
<th>Indigenous NGOs</th>
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<td>FaHCSIA (CGRIS)</td>
<td>Centre for Appropriate Technology</td>
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<td>AusAID</td>
<td>Central Land Council</td>
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<td>Productivity Commission</td>
<td>Reconciliation Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Finance and Deregulation</td>
<td>Institute for Urban Indigenous Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prime Minister and Cabinet</td>
<td>Congress</td>
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<td>Indigenous Business Australia</td>
<td>Cape York Orgs</td>
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<th>State Governments</th>
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<td>Queensland Health</td>
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<td>Qld Department of Communities</td>
<td>Save the Children</td>
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<td>NT Government ?</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>International</th>
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<td>Myuma, Camooweal</td>
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<td>Curtin University</td>
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APPENDIX 4

Diversify and build relationships with domestic and international organisations through conferences and seminars

2010

10-13 June 2010  Paul Memmott and Carroll Go-Sam of AERC participated (by invitation) in the second year of the Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI) at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA. The BIARI Institute in which we taught was titled “Towards a Critical Global Humanities” and we were in a particular sub-theme titled ‘Critical Entanglements: Humanities and the Sciences.’ In attendance were about 30 post-graduate, post-doctoral students, and academics from a wide global spread with an emphasis on non-Western countries and cultures.

1-2 July 2010  “Modelling the Continuity of Aboriginal ‘Law’ in Urban Native Title Claims”, invited speaker at the ‘Continuity, change, tradition, society and transformation’ Panel at ‘Turning the Tide: Anthropology for Native Title in South-East Australia’ Conference, University of Sydney.

2011


2012


7 June 2012  Memmott, P.  “Overcrowding for Indigenous households in non-remote areas”, (AHURI project 20640), AHURI’s Housing Research Seminar Series, Darwin Seminar. (Invited presentation.)


1 November 2012  Memmott, P. “Australian Indigenous house crowding” (AHURI Project 20640), Invited paper presented at the 7th National Housing Conference, Brisbane.

8 December 2012  Memmott, P. ‘Temporary Structures’ presentation for The 7th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT7) with Panel of artists Phuan Thai Meng and Tiffany Chung and PNG Museum Director Andrew Moutu, Gallery of Modern Art, Southbank, Brisbane. (Invited guest speaker and Discussion Panelist.)