

OUTPUT 2 — DISSEMINATION OF RESEARCH AND INFORMATION

HIGHLIGHTS

- Aboriginal Studies Press developed its first mobile phone app
- Aboriginal Studies Press title shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Prize for Australian History
- The 2011 Stanner Award winner published under its changed conditions
- Online exhibition, *Remembering Mission Days*, launched making available a large set of magazines of particular interest for family history research.
- An online tutorial, *Connecting to Country*, was made available to assist other libraries and archives with the appropriate use of Indigenous place names when describing their collections.



DISSEMINATION DELIVERABLES

| Deliverables output 2 | Result |
|--|---|
| Developing a strategic Communications and Dissemination Plan. | Delivery in 2012-13 aligning to Council set priorities |
| Produce a diverse range of quality publications and promote Aboriginal Studies Press as a leading publisher of Indigenous works. | ASP published seven new titles and increased its e-publications output. |
| Publish and promote research to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and national and international communities. | Took part in a range of marketing activities and made publications available nationally and internationally. |
| Be proactive in attracting new material, including encouraging and publishing Indigenous authors. | Published new Stanner Award winner and in discussion with authors of two other submissions. |
| Develop appropriate dissemination and marketing strategies for publications, tied to promotion of AIATSIS. | Undertook selling stalls, supported authors attending conferences and established relations with two new venues for author promotion. |
| Develop outreach facilities to increase access to AIATSIS library and audiovisual collections. | The Library developed online tutorial to assist other libraries on how to use Indigenous place names. Due to resource issues the Audiovisual Archive was unable to undertake any community outreach activities, however, a number were planned for the 2012-13 FY. Finding aids were created for: 10 Moving Image collections; 40 Audio collections; 29 Pictorial collections; (see this chapter) |
| Develop events to increase the profile of AIATSIS personnel, collections, research capacity, publications, and community links to all users, including particularly communities, the research sector, government and membership. | The Audiovisual Archive has loaned digital audio equipment to the Cootamundra Girl's Home Centenary Committee and will send staff to assist with oral history recordings at their centenary commemoration in August. |
| Encourage visits to our premises and consider appropriateness of our building for these purposes. | Staged key events such as International Women's Day Celebrations and launches of online exhibitions that promote the Institute's uniqueness. 230 clients visited the Audiovisual Access Unit. Ongoing use of the Institute's meeting rooms by Indigenous and non-Indigenous organisations and community groups for meetings which were also appropriate for launches and seminars. |
| Developing collaborative relations and provide national leadership, coordination, and facilitation of access to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander collections in other institutions. | The Audiovisual Archive has had strategic alliances with several organisations, including; NLA, NMA, NFSA, ABC, DFAT, ANU, WA Film and Television Institute. An Audiovisual Archive staff member was seconded to the National Library of Australia to coordinate the online delivery of the <i>Bringing them Home</i> oral history interviews. |
| Supporting the activities of community knowledge centres. | The Audiovisual Archive has returned 2,739 items to the value of \$97,428 to communities free of charge. |

OVERVIEW

In 2011–12, AIATSIS again increased the amount of information available from its program areas. The corporate goal for dissemination of research and information is to create, develop and disseminate a diverse range of publications and services about Australian Indigenous cultures.

AIATSIS disseminates information through:

- the Executive and Communications Unit
- Aboriginal Studies Press, the Institute's publishing arm
- the Research Program and the Native Title Research Unit, which publish peer-reviewed papers and non peer-reviewed reports, and present papers at conferences, seminars and workshops and
- the Library and Audiovisual Archive, which provide access to the Institute's collections

Some material is produced for sale, for example, the Aboriginal Studies Press publication list, while other material is provided free. Available AIATSIS resources, and audience and client demand determine the choice of medium, for example print, CD/DVD or online delivery.

EXECUTIVE AND COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

The five member Executive and Communications Unit continued to work towards achieving not only more widespread recognition of AIATSIS as a vibrant and vital part of Australia's precious cultural and research institutions, but also to highlight the funding challenges facing the Institute.

During the reporting period, the Unit handled a significant amount of media liaison and interaction, several official delegations and community visits to the Institute and also coordinated and successfully managed key Institute events.

Through this work, AIATSIS continued to enjoy regular coverage across the Indigenous media sector and the Institute also gained generous mainstream media exposure. Over 50 media releases were issued during the year.

Executive and Communications worked with key Indigenous specific media organisations such as the two Indigenous newspapers, the *Koori Mail*

and the *National Indigenous Times*, as well as the National Indigenous News Service and National Indigenous Television.

The Institute gained significant mainstream media interest for UNESCO's World Day of Audiovisual Heritage (27 October 2011) highlighting the race and challenges to preserve priceless audiovisual recordings of the songs, language and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

To highlight the Institute's extensive archive of cultural material, the Executive and Communications Unit also contributed regular specific 'good news' stories for both the *Koori Mail*, the *National Indigenous Times* and other publications.

This included a visit to the Audiovisual Archives in May 2012 by four Aboriginal women from North Queensland who accessed the collection of extensive language recordings made by Australian linguist Bob Dixon. For the first time, Malanda elder, Yvonne Canendo heard her grandmother speak her native tongue, the Ngadjan language, recorded in the 1950–60s. The Ngadjan language has been virtually lost.

AIATSIS provided financial assistance to publish the first comprehensive Kaytetye to English dictionary. Kaytetye is an endangered language of Central Australia spoken by the Aboriginal people around Barrow Creek, approximately 300 kilometres from Alice Springs. In addition, AIATSIS provided field notes and audio recordings made by Dr Harold Koch from 1974 to the 1990s. The dictionary gives an alphabetical listing of Kaytetye words with English translations along with sentences.

During the first half of the reporting period, AIATSIS attracted substantial local and national media attention highlighting its failure to achieve ongoing funding in the Australian Government May 2011 Budget to continue the vital work of digitising AIATSIS' precious collection.

However, towards the close of the reporting period, media coverage across both the Indigenous and non-Indigenous sector focused on the \$6.4m two-year investment by the Australian Government as part of the 2012–13 Budget to continue the Institute's urgent digital preservation of its priceless audiovisual archives.

Visits to the Institute

The Institute again experienced an ever growing number and frequency of official visits over the past 12 months. Visits included groups of Indigenous students, delegations of foreign diplomats, staff and executive officers from national Indigenous organisations and also representatives of state and federal government agencies.

Events

To engage AIATSIS key stakeholders and to further promote the functions and activities of the Institute, Executive and Communications initiated and coordinated several key events during the course of the reporting period.

Islands of Aboriginal Song

On 19 July 2011, AIATSIS held a unique evening of Aboriginal music and cultural exchange featuring renowned Taiwanese Aboriginal singer Samingad and Australian Aboriginal singer songwriter Emma Donovan.

The special one off concert was a cultural expo and exchange between the Aboriginal nations of Taiwan and Australia, built on a growing partnership with the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office.

Samingad is an Aboriginal Taiwanese pop singer and songwriter. Born into a musical family in Taitung, her grandmother, Xui-Hua Zheng, is the representative of traditional Puyuma songs, so Samingad was raised with Puyuma music and performed with the family in tribal festivals.

AIATSIS joins fight to improve Indigenous literacy

On 8 September 2011, AIATSIS teamed up with the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF) to help raise vital funds in the fight to improve the literacy levels of Indigenous Australians.

Indigenous Literacy Day aims to help raise funds to raise literacy levels and to improve the lives and opportunities of Indigenous Australians living in remote and isolated regions. Funds raised by the ILF help buy books and literacy resources for these communities.

AIATAIS donated its facilities to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation which assisted the



Taiwanese Aboriginal singer Samingad performed at AIATSIS in a unique evening of Aboriginal music and cultural exchange between the Aboriginal nations of Taiwan and Australia.

Foundation to host a unique fund raising event featuring an 'in conversation' between the author of *Listening to Country* Ros Moriarty and Canberra's ABC Radio 666 personality Genevieve Jacobs. The event was hosted by the ILF and AIATSIS as part of the fifth Indigenous Literacy Day which was celebrated nationally on Wednesday 7 September 2011.

This year's event builds on previous support by the Institute for the work of the ILF, with AIATSIS' award winning publishing arm - Aboriginal Studies Press - again donating proceeds from sales of the *Aboriginal Australia* map to the Foundation.

Wade Davies - Explorer-in-Residence at National Geographic

On 13 September, Executive and Communications coordinated a lunchtime seminar by Wade Davis - a noted Canadian anthropologist, ethno botanist, author and photographer whose work has focused on Indigenous cultures.

Wade Davis was on a speaking tour around Australia including at the Brisbane Writer's Festival. He is an Explorer-in-Residence at National Geographic, and he specialises in visiting traditional peoples and exploring their religious practices. The seminar was co-hosted with The Nature Conservancy and was recorded by CAAMA Television.

International Women's Day 2012

AIATSIS staff and over 100 invited guests gathered at the Institute in Canberra on 8 March to celebrate and mark International Women's Day 2012. The event is establishing itself as wonderful annual tradition and celebration to acknowledge the contribution that women have made, and continue to make, to AIATSIS and through it, to the fabric of Australian society.

The event is also used to announce the Shirley Ann Williams Award, an annual award started in 2010 and presented to a female member of staff in recognition of her outstanding contribution and work in the Institute.

The award is proudly named after the late Shirley Ann Williams, a prominent member of the Aboriginal community of Queanbeyan and Canberra and still a greatly missed member of our AIATSIS family. Shirley worked in the Library's digitisation team and was working towards the online access of AIATSIS mission journals when she passed away in 2010.

Professor Dodson, with assistance from Shirley's son PJ (who also works at AIATSIS), presented the 2012 Shirley Ann Williams Award to Alana Harris. Ms Harris has worked at the Institute for 27 years since starting as a trainee photographer when she was a teenager. She would later become the Institute's senior photographer and even now is one of only a handful of professionally trained Aboriginal photographers in Australia.



Wade Davis, noted Canadian anthropologist, author and photographer whose work has focused on Indigenous cultures speaking at an AIATSIS seminar co-hosted with The Nature Conservancy. (Photograph by Daniel Walding)

NAIDOC on the Peninsula 2011

Funding constraints forced AIATSIS to cancel Canberra's premier NAIDOC Week event – NAIDOC on the Peninsula – scheduled for the first Sunday in July 2011.

AIATSIS and the local Indigenous community use the annual free outdoor public event to encourage and promote a greater understanding in the general community of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures and lifestyles. In 2010, the one day festival attracted a record crowd of over 4,500 people.

Council took the unenviable decision to cancel the event after failing to secure Australian Government funding in the May Budget to continue the digitisation of its priceless and growing audiovisual archives of film, sound recordings, photographs and print materials. Instead, the organisation was required to divert the savings to this work. AIATSIS Chairperson Professor Mick Dodson noted that 'I know how much the whole of Canberra and surrounding community look forward to NAIDOC on the Peninsula but it would have been remiss of Council in the current circumstances to have funded this event.'

At the end of the reporting period, planning was well underway to stage NAIDOC on the Peninsula 2012 on Sunday 1 July 2012. Funding to stage this event had been sourced and confirmed from external sponsors.

ABORIGINAL STUDIES PRESS

Through its publishing program, Aboriginal Studies Press (ASP) facilitates and promotes high-quality research, and an understanding of Australia's Indigenous cultures. During the year, ASP again published a vital and varied list of both scholarly and general interest books, including one bilingual publication.

Funding for ASP in 2010–11 totalled \$798,313, all of which except a grant of \$15,000 from the Australia Council's Literature Fund, came from AIATSIS. Of that budget, 54 per cent was for staffing, with 21 per cent for consultants and sourcing professional advice. This reflects the shift towards using contract staff for some tasks following the previous year's restructure. The balance of 25 per cent covered

administrative costs (including copy editors, proofreaders, map-makers and designers), fees to distributors, freight, royalty payments to authors, book and e-book production, and the costs of marketing and publicity.

Total revenue in this period was \$456,514 which was 3 per cent above the budgeted figure. As well as revenue from the sale of books and maps, income came from sales of CDs and DVDs of music and films, subscriptions to the *Australian Aboriginal Studies* (AAS) journal, income from the Copyright Agency Limited, the Educational Lending Scheme and royalties from licensed material. Despite a still depressed bookselling market and with the print media in flux, ASP maintained strong sales and good promotion of its titles in the print media and on radio.

Income from requests to use AIATSIS copyright material, including the *Aboriginal Australia* language map, was above last year's figure. The US distributor's income increased by 121 per cent, and the UK/European distributor's decreased by 21 per cent. Taken together they represent less than 5 per cent of total revenues.

Managing capacity

The restructure of Aboriginal Studies Press in 2010 continued to reap benefits, though some changes were made to improve productivity. These included an upgrading of the Graphic Design/Production position to a Publishing Manager role, the inclusion of production responsibilities to the editorial position and the transfer of marketing responsibilities from the Director to the direct sales contract staff.

ASP continued to use a series of contract staff to allow it to undertake mostly specialised work. This included book editing, some design work, printing, sales and marketing and publicity. Contractors were employed for new work on updating and expanding the content for the companion website to *The Little Red Yellow Black Book* (to be launched in October 2012), to explore the development of digital educational resources to complement the site and to promote the Institute's resources more widely, and to create the material for ASP's first mobile phone app (see New ventures).



Professor Peter Read launches Dr Fiona Paisley's book, *The Lone Protestor*, at Avid Reader Bookshop in Brisbane. (Photograph courtesy Krissy Kneen)

THE 'LONE PROTESTOR' RETURNS TO LONDON

Dr Fiona Paisley's book, *The Lone Protestor*, tells the extraordinary story of Aboriginal activist Anthony Fernando who, in the late 1920s, protested in London against the treatment of Australian Aboriginal people under British rule in his country.

The book was launched in Brisbane in May, then again in June in Sydney, and at the Bishopsgate Institute Library, London. It was a case of Fernando's story being heard where he spent so many years, having chosen not to return to Australia. The Bishopsgate Institute Library is next to the Old Spitalfields Market and around the corner from the Salvation Army Men's Hostel where Fernando lived. The book was launched by award-winning fiction writer Bernardine Evaristo MBE, whose own work explores themes of race, history, gender, and identity.

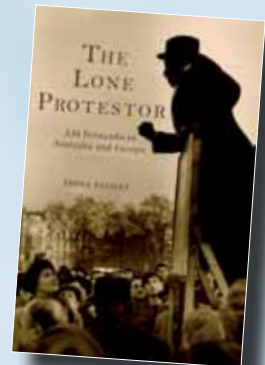
The audience was fascinated by the story of Fernando picketing outside Australia House in a coat clad with small carved skeletons and documenting racism on East London streets over 80 years ago, in the vicinity of where the launch was held.

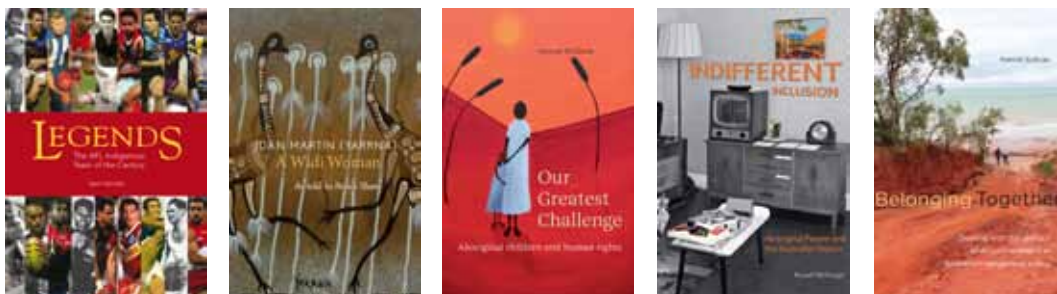
Descendants of two of the lawyers who had employed Fernando in London, and who had been his invaluable supporters in the 1920–30s, attended the launch.

One of the families presented Dr Paisley with Fernando's notebooks which Dr Paisley has generously donated to AIATSIS and which will be displayed in the AIATSIS foyer in 2012.

Two genealogical researchers who were inspired by Dr Paisley speaking at the launch in Sydney, have set themselves the task of finding Fernando's birth certificate and final resting place. Whatever the outcome, Fernando's story is far from complete.

A podcast of the event can be viewed at www.ucl.ac.uk/equianocentre/Podcasts.html.





Quality improvement

As well as the staff changes noted above, ASP worked with Corporate Services to implement a new accounting and inventory system which ties into existing financial accounting packages.

ASP continued to support authors, providing information, as well as email and phone assistance.

Endorsements from a range of academics and readers continued to reflect the high quality of ASP’s publications, and were used to market those books.

ASP staff broadened their professional skills by attending vocational courses. ASP also used AIATSIS resources to begin a staff exchange with Magabala Books in Broome with a staff member working there on fiction and children’s and young adult titles, working with illustrators and illustrations and helping at the AGM and an official event. ASP will host their equivalent staff member in 2013 (see box p.60).

New ventures

ASP’s small team of four people plus contractors, embarked on several new initiatives during 2011–12, reflecting the changing nature of publishing list development, the evolution from print to other formats and ASP’s attempt to sell into the educational (schools) sector.

ASP further adapted its relationship with the Publishing Advisory Committee (see p. 59), ensuring they had the opportunity to comment on partially completed manuscripts, so that their advice and comments could be used by the authors in shaping their finished manuscripts.

With the inclusion of the authors coming into the list from the 2011 Stanner Award, ASP is now firming up the 2013 publishing list and is scheduling books into 2014.

Ten manuscripts were received in the 2011 Stanner Award. The winner was announced in July and the book published in June 2012. The runner-up has been contracted by ASP for publication in 2013. The opening of the 2013 Stanner Award was announced in June 2012. Entries will close on 31 January 2013 and AIATSIS is hopeful that it will again receive a range of high-quality academic works to consider.

ASP worked with a contractor and developer on a mobile phone app to complement its 2010 title *Aboriginal Sydney*. The app allows users to take a self-guided tour of some of the sites in the book, and will be available for sale from the iTunes store. ASP will continue to look at extending the technology to other ASP titles.

ASP contributed to a seminar with University of Western Sydney academics who are translating both *Aboriginal Sydney* and *Aboriginal Darwin* into Chinese. ASP is working with those academics to liaise with an academic publisher in China who expects to publish both books there bilingually in 2013.

In the coming year ASP will decide how it will sell audio books, the research for which has been undertaken in the past two years.

ASP followed up on the work undertaken in the previous two years on developing a strong set of teachers’ notes which are a free resource. In this period they strongly promoted the notes through their educational distributors and direct to teachers through the Australian Teachers’ Federation (see Sales, marketing and distribution).

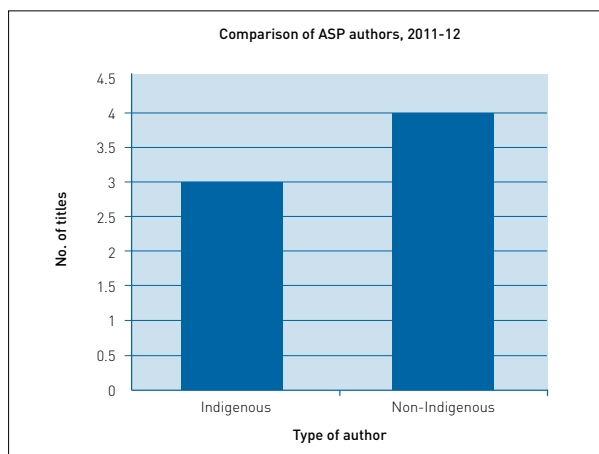


Figure 5: Comparison of ASP authors, 2011–12

New print publications

Continuing the previous publishing trend, in 2011–12 ASP published seven new titles. They included the scholarly texts *Indifferent Inclusion* (shortlisted for the Prime Minister’s Prize for Australian History) and *Belonging Together*, as well as books aimed more at a general market, though strongly informed by thorough research: Joan Martin’s autobiography; the social/sports history of the AFL’s Indigenous team of the century, *Legends*; a bilingual publication from the Pilbara region, *Kurlumarniny*; the biography of the early 20th century international protestor, AM Fernando, *The Lone Protestor* (see p. 57); and the publication of the 2011 Stanner Award winner, *Our Greatest Challenge*.

Three books were by Indigenous authors and four were by non-Indigenous authors (see Figure 5).

A total of twelve manuscripts were submitted for publication, along with six proposals, including for new editions, as well as the 2011 Stanner entrants.

Twelve titles were reprinted in 2011–12 to keep inventories at manageable levels. ASP made available for sale a backlist of almost 100 titles in print, 13 music CDs and 31 film DVDs. The DVDs in particular are a valuable resource for the educational sector.

Again, ASP donated to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (formerly project). Funds raised by the foundation help purchase and supply culturally appropriate books and literacy resources for more than 200 remote communities around Australia.

e-publications

With more than 85 titles available through ebooks.com, Ebook Library, Informit, Amazon and other e-book resellers, a large percentage of ASP publications are now available digitally.

Additional titles are being added as the books are released or digitised.

Publishing Advisory Committee

ASP’s publishing continued to benefit from the advice of the Publishing Advisory Committee (PAC). The PAC recommends to the Principal and ASP which of the submitted titles ASP should publish.

Committee members offer academic, community, language and writing and editorial expertise, which complements the knowledge of ASP and the AIATSIS executive.

The committee met once during the year and recommended one manuscript for publication, following some reworking, as well as providing comments on a further nine proposals and partially completed manuscripts, some of which have since been contracted and include the 2011 Stanner winner and runner-up.

Monty Hale signs a copy of his book at the launch in Warralong. (Photograph courtesy Anne Scrimgeour)



CELEBRATION OF A QUIET ACHIEVER AND INTELLECTUAL

On 3 May 2012, AIATSIS launched *Kurlumarniny: We come from the desert*, written by Ngulipartu elder, Monty Hale (Minyjun) at Warralong Station in the Pilbara region, Western Australia. It was held in conjunction with the opening of new classrooms at Strelley School, the oldest independent Aboriginal community school in the country. It was a fitting reminder of Monty's achievements: he also helped run the school for many years.

Monty is very proud of the bilingual publication (Nyangumarta and English) which details Nyangumarta culture and his extraordinary life. It includes his life on Mt Edgar Station, witnessing Australia's engagement in World War II and the famous Pilbara station-workers' strike in 1946 as well as his community work.

Aboriginal Studies Press's Editorial and Production Officer, Lisa Fuller, who attended the launch said, 'You could see just how much this book meant to Monty, Barbara (his daughter), all of the collaborators and the community. The highlight for me was hearing Monty speak in Nyangumarta.'

After the launch, Ms Fuller travelled to Broome for a three-week staff exchange with Magabala Books, an arrangement that both publishing houses hope

to continue. 'The staff at Magabala were brilliant: they were very patient with me. Coming from ASP's academic and non-fiction texts to fiction and children's books was a big leap but it was fascinating work,' she enthused.

While the editorial work was familiar, the content was entirely new and it presented a different set of challenges: for example, their marketing was a whole new world for her. She said, 'I was excited to see how Magabala use social media to directly communicate with their readers and I hope ASP can do the same someday. Aside from the differences, the work had an oddly familiar feel — both publishers do amazing things with a small number of very passionate staff. I'll forever be grateful for the opportunity.'

ASP looks forward to hosting a Magabala Books staff member in 2013.



The Publishing Advisory Committee comprises:

- Mr Russell Taylor — Principal and Chair
- Dr Luke Taylor — Deputy Principal
- Ms Rhonda Black — Director, Aboriginal Studies Press

Council representatives

- Professor John Maynard
- Mr Dana Ober

External members

- Dr Julie Gough
- Mr Steve Kinnane
- Ms Jeanie Bell

Sales, marketing and distribution

ASP continued to use print-on-demand to provide new titles and backlist titles to the North American distributor, thus saving freight costs and is working with the UK/European distributor to do the same.

There was ongoing success with bulk sales of a children's title (*The Little Platypus and the Fire Spirit*) to the Books in Homes program and *Anna the Goanna* was selected in the recommended reading list for primary schools by the Queensland Department of Education.

There was continuing strong growth of sales and the use of *The Little Red Yellow Black Book* as the book of choice for cross-cultural training programs. Sales were strong in the latter part of the year which meant ASP needed to reprint the book in June to fulfil orders prior to the new edition in October 2012. New clients include state and local government departments, banking, the health-care sector and the adoption of the book by the Victorian Magistrates Courts as a bench reference for each of the state's magistrates.

ASP titles were provided for resale to organisations, both as part of their retail outlets and specific seminars and forums. Bulk sales of different titles were made to a range of corporates which included NGOs, state and federal government departments, Aboriginal corporations, sports clubs and language centres.

ASP held bookstalls at the Australian Linguistic Society conference, National Native Title conference in Townsville, AIATSIS conference, NSW Teachers Federation Indigenous Teachers conference and provided flyers for inclusion in conference satchels.

Launches were held in Perth, Melbourne, Townsville, Canberra, Warralong community (Pilbara), Brisbane and London, and ASP continued to create a marketing and publicity plan for each new title, as well as promoting its whole list. Its new trade catalogue was released in February 2011 with the tertiary catalogue following in August 2011.

ASP established an inaugural Indigenous Lecture Series in partnership with Manning Clark House in Canberra, with six authors scheduled to speak in 2012.

There has been a strong response to inspection copy flyers for new titles, the 2012 trade catalogue, and e-newsletters. In addition, ASP strategically placed advertisements in print and online forums.

Authors were encouraged to write for a variety of online journals, a valuable source of promotion given the current difficulty of achieving coverage in the print media, while a regular column was begun in *Education*, the journal of the NSW Teachers Federation.

ASP titles were submitted to relevant awards, with Professor Russell McGregor's book, *Indifferent Inclusion*, shortlisted for the 2012 Prime Ministers' Literary Award for Australian History.

Copies of *Joan Martin* and *Country of the Heart* were provided to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade display at the 2012 Warsaw Book Fair, following the previous promotion of *Australia*.

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS

The Research Program disseminates the outcomes of research through external peer-reviewed publications, conference and seminar presentations, professional workshops and forums, in-house publications, information services and web resources (see Chapter 1 and Appendix 1 for more information).

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

AIATSIS National Indigenous Studies Conference 2011

The 2011 biennial National Indigenous Studies Conference was held on 19–22 of September at the Australian National University in Canberra. The overall theme of 'Young and Old: Connecting Generations' attracted over 430 delegates from across Australia and internationally, with representation from numerous organisations, institutions and government departments. Over 190 presenters contributed more than 120 papers, panels, workshops and roundtable discussion sessions. Major themes included: education; health; information technology; wellbeing and resilience; connecting generations – cultural transmission; language; employment, development and enterprise; housing and homelessness; and the inaugural National Indigenous Interpreting Meeting. The conference keynote address was delivered by Ms Pat Anderson, Chair of the Lowitja Institute.

This multidisciplinary, multisector conference provided opportunity for information sharing, networking, debate and discussion enabling the delegates to share research, knowledge and expertise about key issues for the younger and older generations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people today.

Native Title Conference

The 13th National Native Title Conference: Echoes of Mabo: Honour and Determination was held at the Townsville Entertainment & Convention Centre on 4–6 June 2012. The Wulgurukaba and Bindal Peoples, traditional owners of the wider Townsville region, hosted the conference. It was co-convened with North Queensland Land Council (NQLC) with Jennifer Jones, Conference Manager and Shiane Lovell, Conference Assistant coordinating the conference. Almost 700 delegates and just over 150 speakers attended the conference.

This year's Mabo Lecture was delivered by Professor Neil Sterritt, a member of the Fireweed Clan of the Gitksan Nation in northern British Columbia. Professor Sterritt addressed the legacies of Mabo in parallel to the landmark Canadian decision of *Delgamuukw*. The lecture considered the opportunities and lessons of these decisions and strategies for the future. Other keynote speakers included: Ms June Oscar who is of Bunuba descent and is an AIATSIS Council member; and Mr Brian Wyatt, National Native Title Council and Federal Court Judge, the Hon Justice Paul Finn.

At the conference, both the Attorney-General for Australia, the Hon Nicola Roxon and the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs the Hon Jenny Macklin MP gave keynote presentations. Announcements were made regarding native title reform from both Ministers. These included the Attorney-General announcing legislative change to reform Indigenous Land Use Agreements to make them more flexible and less technical and an announcement on income tax and capital gains tax not applying to payments from native title agreements.

The Attorney-General also announced that the Australian Government will work with stakeholders to allow parties to agree to put aside issues of historical extinguishment in parks and reserves, and the rights to negotiate agreements and to be negotiated in 'good faith'.

The Hon Jenny Macklin MP announced a review of the roles and functions of native title representative bodies and service providers. The Minister also announced measures for investing in the capacity of native title representative bodies and service providers, through training,

professional development, placements and scholarship programs through the Aurora Project and the Native Title Research Unit at AIATSIS.

The Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research, the Hon Chris Evans, attended and addressed the welcome ceremony on the first day of the conference as well. Minister Dreyfus, the Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency convened the Carbon Farming Indigenous roundtable following the conference.

Conference sessions covered a broad range of topics. This year's program included Indigenous talking circles for women, men and youth. Other topics included; local and national priorities for native title holding bodies; joint management and natural resource management including topical issues such as turtle and dugong hunting; carbon adaptation and abatement; development of carbon projects on Indigenous land; reflections on the last 20 years; native title in 20 years; research; and professional ethics governance.

The conference logo was based on artwork by Alick Tipoti, a Torres Strait Islander from Thursday Island. The conference cultural program included a welcome to country by Wulgurukaba elder Arthur Johnson and Bindal elder, Angie Akee and performances by Wulgurukaba and Bindal dancers. The Mabo Lecture was opened by the Torres Strait Islander dancers, the Komet Dance group. Gail Mabo addressed the delegates on behalf of the Mabo family. Mrs Bonita Mabo was presented with a copy of a self-portrait sketched by her late husband, Eddie Koiki Mabo as a gift from AIATSIS.

The Wulgurukaba and Bindal dancers also performed at the dinner. The official handover for next year's conference was made by Dr Strelein to the Central Land Council.

Sponsorship of \$212,500 supported the participation of Indigenous delegates. The Attorney-General's Department and FaHCSIA were the principal conference sponsors with HESS Corporation as major sponsor. Other sponsors included Events Queensland, Indigenous Land Corporation, Indigenous Business Australia, National Native Title Tribunal, Minerals Council of Australia, Peabody Energy and Department of Sustainability,

Environment, Water, Population and Climate. Supporters were the *Koori Mail*, Australian Electoral Commission, CSIRO and Plan B Trustee.

Presentations from the conference are available on the AIATSIS website.

AIATSIS seminar series

Two successful seminar series were convened during 2011-12, as well as numerous workshops.

The 2011 second semester series 'Housing and Homelessness' was convened by Claire Stacey from the Native Title Research Unit, supported by the AIATSIS Working Group on Housing and Homelessness. Thirteen speakers examined a broad range of issues surrounding housing and homelessness for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The 2012 first semester series was a non-thematic series which showcased research being undertaken by AIATSIS Research Fellows and with AIATSIS partners. The series also provided an opportunity for visiting international academics to present in their fields of expertise.

A special seminar on language revitalisation was held on 13 June 2012. Dr Jakelin Troy discussed findings from her time in Israel as a Yachad Scholar earlier this year, and Professor Ghil'ad Zuckermann presented a seminar on 'revival linguistics'.

Attendance at the seminars has been steadily increasing and feedback indicates that attendees are enjoying the diversity in the presentations. All Monday seminars are broadcast live and are later available on the AIATSIS website (www.aiatsis.gov.au/research/seminars.html).

Symposia and workshops

Around 70 people attended a very successful special extended seminar at AIATSIS on 26 March, with Professor Leanne Hinton (University of California, Berkeley) speaking about her language revitalisation work in the United States. Professor Hinton's work is of particular interest to linguists and Indigenous people in Australia because it involves working with people whose languages are no longer spoken on a daily basis. Through her Breath





NATIONAL NATIVE TITLE CONFERENCE 2012

The 13th National Native Title Conference: Echoes of Mabo: Honour and Determination was held at the Townsville Entertainment & Convention Centre from 4-6 June 2012. Co-convened with North Queensland Land Council (NQLC), it was hosted by the traditional owners of the wider Townsville region, the Wulgurukaba and Bindal peoples.

(Photographs by Kerstin Styche)

THE LIMITS OF CHANGE: MABO AND NATIVE TITLE 20 YEARS ON

On 3 June 1992, the High Court of Australia handed down the Mabo decision, recognising the continuing rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the original inhabitants of the land under their own law and customs.

In 2012, on the 20th anniversary of Mabo, AIATSIS published *The Limits of Change: Mabo and Native Title 20 Years On* — an unprecedented collection of commentary and reflections on the defining case for Indigenous land justice in Australian history.

Edited by Toni Bauman and Lydia Glick, the book is a narrative testified by those who were close to the Mabo case, the negotiations leading up to the Native Title Act, or for whom the past two decades have helped shape native title outcomes.

The Limits of Change includes perspectives from native title claimants and holders, community, political and corporate leaders, lawyers and judges, academics, consultants and government bureaucrats.

The authors dispel myths that continue to surround Mabo, drawing into question assumptions about the impact of the High Court's ruling and unresolved questions of justice for Indigenous Australians.

The voices represented in this diverse collection include some of the leading practitioners behind the decisions and consequences of the most important case in the struggle for land justice for Australia's first peoples.

Their unique perspectives do not always reach the same conclusions and are expressed in a range of styles, from formal research papers to memoir-style reflections and interviews.



Perspectives presented are from native title claimants and holders, community, political and corporate leaders, lawyers and judges, academics, consultants and government bureaucrats.

These include: Simon Balderstone AM, the Hon. Michael Black AC QC, Dr Bob Brown, Associate Professor Ramy Bulan, John Catlin, Darryl Cronin, Patrick Dodson, Dr Mary Edmunds, Rick Farley, Bruce Harvey, Dr John Hewson AM, the Hon Paul Keating, Bryan Keon-Cohen AM QC, Cheryl Kernot, Professor Marcia Langton AM, Dr David Martin, Greg McIntyre SC, Professor Kent McNeil, Monica Morgan, Graeme Neate, Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue AC CBE DSG, Professor Henry Reynolds, James Rice, Alo Tapim, Patricia (Pat) Turner AM, Professor Robert A. Williams, Jr, Emeritus Professor Hal Wootten AC QC and Peter Yu.

of Life Program, discussed on the Advocates for Indigenous Californian Language Survival website (www.aicls.org), Indigenous community members in the United States of America are reviving their languages, using mainly written documentation, and are now raising their children as native speakers in their heritage languages. A panel of language revitalisation experts and practitioners provided a highly stimulating discussion on the implications of Professor Hinton's programs for Australian languages. AIATSIS also co-sponsored a very popular evening public lecture delivered by Professor Hinton at the Australian National University on 28 March.

Following on from this event, a language revitalisation workshop was held in late June at AIATSIS. Attendees were an even mix of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people interested in revitalising their heritage languages, particularly from Canberra and surrounding areas, and linguists with expertise in language revitalisation.

Dr Troy and Dr Marmion continue their work as co-conveners of the Language and Indigenous Issues strand of the conference 'Langfest', held at ANU in December 2011.

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Australian Aboriginal Studies Journal

AIATSIS flagship journal, *Australian Aboriginal Studies* (AAS) is a multidisciplinary peer reviewed journal. Our editorial board consists of internationally renowned experts in the field of Australian Indigenous studies and is supported by an Editorial Advisory Board of academics from AIATSIS and other Australian universities.

AAS 2011/2 is a non-thematic edition containing papers on a range of subjects including analysis of discourse and representation in sport writing; the relationship between journalism and policy making; water values and resource development in the Pilbara; the development of an Indigenous Land Use Agreement at Bidydanga in the Kimberley; examination of a nineteenth century map of Gunditjmara eel traps; and the history of the New South Wales Aboriginal Lands Trust.

AAS 2012/1 is also a non-thematic edition. Papers cover a broad range of topics including discussions on aspects of education, language, history, anthropology, employment and poverty.



Professor Leanne Hinton (University of California, Berkeley) presented a special extended seminar at AIATSIS on 26 March speaking about her language revitalisation work in the United States.

The diverse range of subject matter in both editions of the journal reflects the breadth of research that is relevant to Indigenous Australians today.

Native title publications

The Native Title Research Unit (NTRU) produces a range of publications, including peer reviewed discussion and issues papers, as well as edited volumes designed to target emerging themes, extend debate and disseminate native title research. NTRU publications have been coordinated and edited by Publications Officer, Lydia Glick, and managed by Toni Bauman. They worked with both internal and external authors to finalise the publication of three issues papers, one discussion paper, and two edited volumes.

Of particular interest in the reporting period was the publication of a book on the 20th anniversary of the High Courts decision in *Mabo v Queensland (1992)* which overturned the myth of *terra nullius*. Titled, *The Limits of Change: Mabo and native title 20 years on*, the book was co-edited by Toni Bauman and Lydia Glick and published by AIATSIS Research Publications. Launched by Professor Mick Dodson in the Mabo Lecture plenary session at the National Native Title Conference in Townsville in June 2012, the book contains 34 papers from a

diverse range of contributors who have been involved in native title since that time.

The book received strong coverage for which Toni Bauman was interviewed in *The Age* and *Canberra Times* newspapers on Saturday 2 June 2012 and in the *Koori Mail* on 30 May 2012.

Native title news and information services

Current news and information is compiled by NTRU Project Officer, Gabrielle Lauder, and Executive Assistant, Jaylee Martin and published monthly in *What's New* and *Native Title in the News*. Both of these publications are distributed electronically to 708 subscribers (up from 568 for 2010-11) and published on the AIATSIS website. Gabrielle also drafts the *Native Title Newsletter*, which was published six times in the 2011–2012 financial year. Each edition includes feature articles and a listing of recent Library acquisitions of native title related materials, as well as incorporating *Native Title in the News* and elements of *What's New*. The newsletter is delivered electronically and in hard copy to 1000 subscribers (up from 879 subscribers in 2010–11), and is available free from the AIATSIS website. In 2011–12 the NTRU conducted a user survey and review – responses have been taken on board and they will see a new look in 2012–13.

The NTRU publishes a number of native title resources on the AIATSIS website, including:

- national summaries of Indigenous Land Use Agreements, native title determinations and registered native title bodies corporate (RNTBCs)
- the *Native Title Resource Guide* which provides an overview of the native title system
- research resources relating to native title case and specific NTRU research projects.
- national, state and territory toolkits for RNTBCs and RNTBC profiles.

LIBRARY AND AUDIOVISUAL ARCHIVE

The Library is open to the general public for study and reference. Unfortunately, due to increasing budget pressures and to use existing staffing resources for collection management, the Library reduced its opening hours by 40 per cent and increased the turnaround time for extended enquiries to 25 working days. These core services can only be reinstated with increases to ongoing appropriations.

Mura®, the Institute's online catalogue, includes detailed documentation on all catalogued AIATSIS collections materials. The AIATSIS thesauri can be used to browse the collections in depth.

The Audiovisual Archive is open to anyone who wishes to access and research audiovisual materials, however, appointments are necessary. Onsite access and copying of materials depends on copyright provisions and the conditions determined by depositors and donors in consultation with collection management staff.

AUDIOVISUAL ARCHIVE SERVICES

The Audiovisual Archive (AVA) serves a wide range of clients, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals and communities, academic researchers, publishers, broadcasters, government agencies, other collecting organisations and the general public.

During the reporting period, 230 clients visited Audiovisual Access to review materials held in the collection.

The majority of AVA clients are remote users and are assisted via email, mail and telephone. During 2011–12, staff accepted 441 requests, a decrease of 175 from the previous financial year. There are also 217 requests to be completed, carried over from the previous financial year.

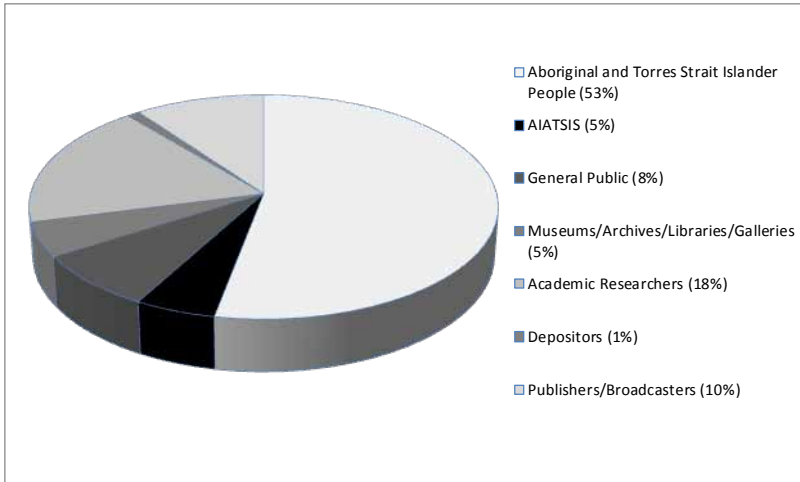


Figure 6: Breakdown of client groups using AVA 2011-12

Funding for AIATSIS' Digitisation Program was not extended into 2011-12. As a result, the AIATSIS Council approached the Department of Finance and Deregulation who approved the use of AIATSIS financial reserves to maintain existing levels of digitisation activity to 30 June 2012. Due to the precarious budget environment, it was necessary to implement some strategies to work within these circumstances. Access to the Audiovisual Collection was limited to materials

which were already in digital format and requests which had no short strict deadlines. For this reason many client requests were not accepted.

Approximately 53 per cent of the requests accepted were from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, compared with 64 per cent during the previous year and 54 per cent in 2009-10. (See Figure 6)

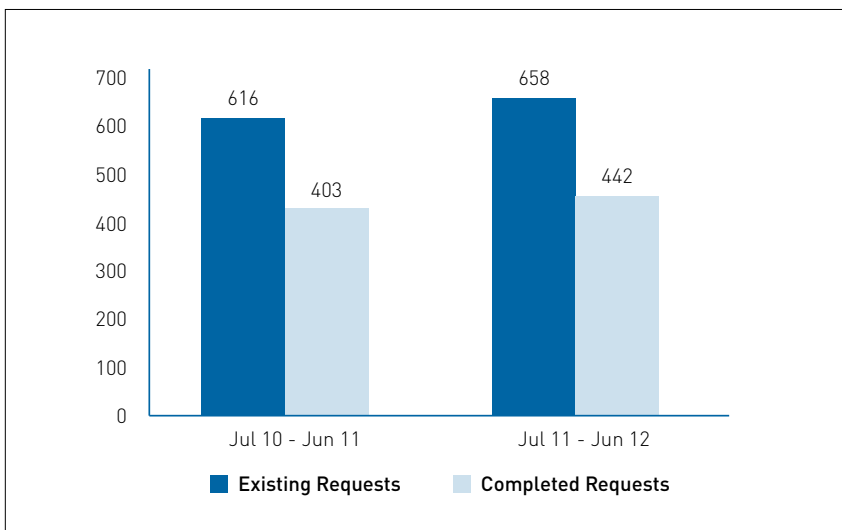


Figure 7: Comparison of Audiovisual Archive client requests 2010-11 and 2011-12

LIBRARY SERVICES

Library reference staff provides information services and access to the collections to visitors as well as to remote clients. For clients in remote areas, the Library offers accessible content on the AIATSIS website, including the Mura® catalogue, online collections, fact sheets and bibliographies. Remote clients can also access information services by telephone, mail, fax and email.

Demand for most of the Library’s reference and document supply services have declined. This has largely been a result of the reduction in the Stanner Reading Room’s opening hours. However, extended enquiries from external clients have continued previous trends and again rose steadily in 2011–12 placing additional pressure on staff to deal with this increase in demand. Table 1 shows the use of the Library over the past three years.

During 2011–12, reference staff produced 36 new or updated bibliographies of the Library’s holdings on individual Indigenous languages. The bibliographies are well used, with more than 320 available on the AIATSIS website. They complement other AIATSIS language resources such as the language thesaurus, AUSTRALANG and the Collectors of Words online exhibition. These services complement the activities of the AIATSIS Australian Centre for Australian Languages.

Family History Unit

The Institute’s Library is responsible for the Family History Unit, which is funded by the Department of Health and Aging as part of the National Link-Up Program. The Unit works to support the recommendations of the *Bringing them Home* report. The Unit solely assists Link-Up caseworkers around Australia to trace family and reunite Indigenous people who were removed from their families. It provides research support through workshops on tracing families, an enquiry service and case reviews for the Link-Up organisations.

The Unit has put in an intensive effort to implement the changes agreed to from the strategic review of the Unit undertaken in 2010–11, transitioning its role and focus to solely support the National Link-Up Network. The Unit’s new funding agreement is based on the strategic plan for 2011–12.

The Unit employed a small team to answer a substantial backlog of enquiries remaining from many years of services to the public. The staff were very productive and cleared the backlog by the end of 2011–12.

There is still a strong and persistent demand for family history research services from community. The Library can now provide only a limited reference service for family history enquiries with this service restricted to its own collections.

Table 1: Requests for library services, 2009–12.

| Statistics | 2009—10 | 2010—11 | 2011—12 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| Extended reference requests | 652 | 687 | 720 |
| Ready reference (phone calls/in-person) | 2,942 | 2,732 | 2,395 |
| Number of visitors | 868 | 790 | 776 |
| Number of group tours | 26 | 28 | 20 |
| Inter library loan and document supply | 462 | 609 | 435 |



The Family History Unit now delivers an accredited family history research course to Link-Up caseworkers. In partnership with the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) all successful participants are now granted a formal CIT qualification.

Training

A major achievement for 2011–12 was the accredited family history research course delivered to Link-Up caseworkers. The Unit's staff continued to work with the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) and its Yuraana Centre throughout 2011–12 to redevelop course and accreditation materials. All successful participants were granted a formal CIT qualification.

The Unit delivered one family history research workshop at AIATSIS to Link-Up caseworkers in April 2012. The workshop was the first to be held at the CIT's training facilities. The Unit has now trained more than 225 caseworkers since 1999.

CIT Solutions were engaged to undertake a review of the assessment procedures and outcomes of the first accredited workshop. They spent considerable time reviewing participants' work and providing feedback and suggestions especially on the assessment process and the practicalities of training delivery and form design.

The Unit's staff subsequently reviewed the structure of the training course in a workshop and, as a result, the Unit developed a revised longer program which provides participants with more time to complete assessment activities. The Unit is confident that the new program will work well for both participants and trainers.

Research support

In the reporting period, Unit staff, **Nicole Wighton** and **Rebecca Stubbs** visited South Australian Link-Up and Darwin Link-Up (Northern Territory Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation). They helped review case files and offered advice on research strategies as well as general advice on file management.

The Unit continues to maintain a comprehensive Indigenous family history website. This includes features including a family history research kit and links to valuable web resources such as record indexes and guides to records. The Unit's website has a focus on self-help for clients in their family history research. The site is used

extensively by Link-Up caseworkers, the public, libraries and archives, with over one million visits since 2003.

The Unit attended the National Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) Conference held in Adelaide in June 2012 held by the Department of Health and Ageing. It was the first time that all the parts of the SEWB sector met together – the National Link-Up Network, *Bringing them Home* counsellors and registered training organisations. It was a valuable experience for the Unit's staff to engage with a broader group of people assisting the Stolen Generations.

The Unit also delivered a presentation on the its new strategic direction to the National Link-Up Forum part of the conference. This is part of the Unit's efforts to encourage increased usage by the Link-Up organisations of their research support services. A survey has also been distributed to Link-Up caseworkers to support this presentation.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Biographical Index

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Biographical Index (ABI) has been maintained by the Family History Unit since the 1970s. It is a unique index that is now focused solely on Stolen Generations people recorded in published materials. The ABI is an invaluable family history resource for Link-Up organisations and communities.

Indexing continued in 2011–12 with 1397 records created or modified. To ensure all ABI records contain a sensitivity message, 73,387 records were modified. A complete file of ABI records was sent to the National Library of Australia for integration into their Trove service. When loaded, this will increase the profile of ABI records.

Indexed material for 2011–12 included:

- *Jinangga: on my tracks* by Monty Walgar
- Bill Simon's autobiography *Back on the block: Bill Simon's story*
- *Tunapi Two: Aborigines in Tasmania past and present*, published by ALBE Resources Unit
- *The Man from Sunrise Side*, the autobiography of Ambrose Mungala

Chalarimeri who spent much of his early life at Kalumburu Mission in the East Kimberley

- *Refuge on the Roper: The origins of the Roper Mission Ngukurr* by Murray Wilfred Seiffert
- *Songman: The story of an Aboriginal elder of Uluru* by Bob Randall

Library Visits

Twenty groups visited the Library and included:

- Comparative law students from Alabama
- Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) language team
- Tranby College
- Interns/summer scholars, National Centre Indigenous Studies, ANU
- Canberra region elders
- Link-Up organisations
- Dare to Lead teachers
- ANKAA & Regional Arts NSW Aboriginal Arts workers
- Men's Group, Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service.

NATIVE TITLE RESEARCH AND ACCESS SERVICE

The Native Title Research and Access Officer position at AIATSIS provides expert advice to individuals and organisations requesting information about the native title resources held in the AIATSIS Library and the Audiovisual Archives. Services include making lists of relevant material held in the AIATSIS collections, providing copies of items to clients, arranging for client visits, and providing contacts for further research and for relevant Indigenous organizations. Native title representative bodies and service providers are contacted several times per year about the services on offer, also alerting staff to developments in collection management practice.

Native Title requests

Figure 8 shows the percentages of total transactions for five different types of requests for the last financial year. These are Indigenous individuals, Indigenous organisations, government, consultants and other (including internal requests and research requests). The ‘other’ category has risen sharply between the last two quarters, and percentages have fallen for Indigenous individuals and Indigenous organisations. It is expected that the percentages will rise for those two types of requests because the National Native Title Tribunal has stopped preparing background reports for claims. Those consisted mostly of material from AIATSIS, and organisations will now need to approach AIATSIS directly for research material for claims rather than the Tribunal.

Federal Court project in conjunction with Lyn Nasir and Ian Irving from the Federal Court. A report from the workshop was published in *Native Title in the News*. The Federal Court has incorporated a listing submitted by Ms Koch of subject terms for its native title database.

Grace provided information to the British Library on access issues involving the digitised versions of the 1898 Haddon Expedition to the Torres Strait. She attended the conference of the International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives (IASA) in Frankfurt, Germany where she gave a report on archiving trends and developments in digitisation. Ms Koch travel was largely self-funded. On 13 July, she attended the handing down of the determination for the Neutral Junction Native Title claim for which she was co-author of the connection report.

Preserving and managing native title collections

Native Title Research and Access Officer Grace Koch liaised with Native Title Representative Bodies (NTRBs) to promote discussion and awareness of collection management issues in the native title context. With Professor Nicolas Peterson, ANU, Ms Koch convened a workshop to seek strategies for transmitting topographical and genealogical information held at NTRBs. She also presented an overview of the AIATSIS—

COMMUNITY ACCESS AND RETURN OF MATERIALS TO INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Access to the audiovisual collections for Indigenous clients is enhanced through the Return of Materials to Indigenous Clients (ROMTIC) program. ROMTIC provides for up to twenty items from the collections to be returned to clients free of charge. During the reporting period 2,739 items to the value of \$97,428 were copied and returned to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients.

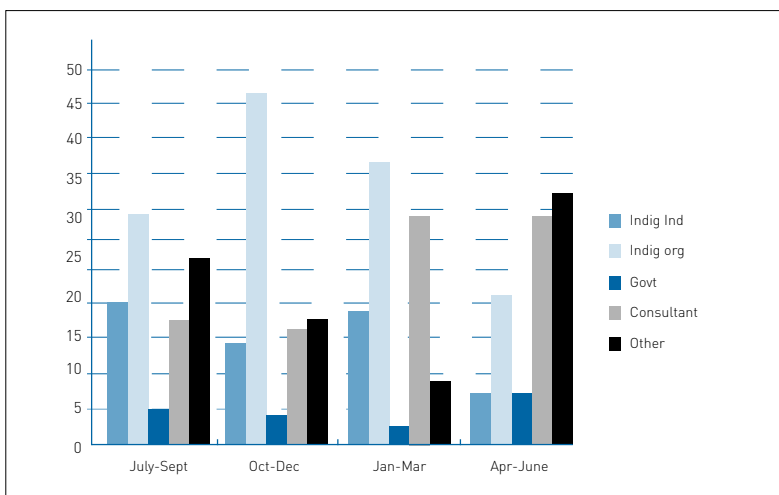


Figure 8: Percentage of Transactions shown for native title requests

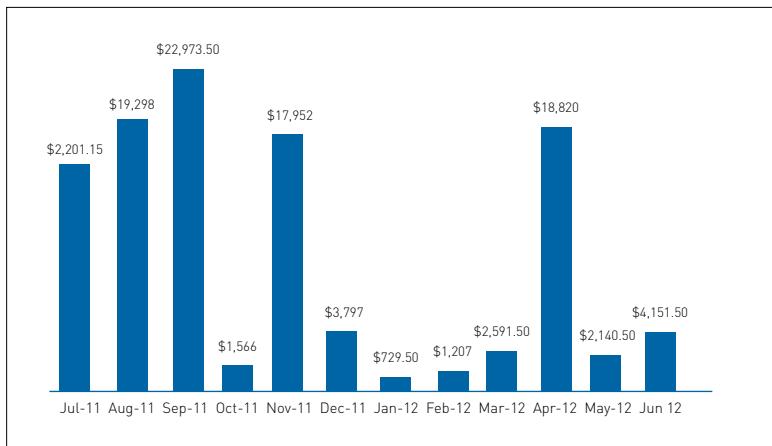


Figure 9: Value of materials returned to Indigenous Clients, 2011-2012.

Community Alliances, Community Access and Return of Materials to Indigenous Community activities for 2011–12 included:

Clint Bracknell from Western Australia visited the Access Unit to research songs from the Noongar, Wudjari and Koreng language groups. He listened to a range of audio material including items from the Hercus and Theiberger collections and purchased 20 items as a part of his work with the community. He also brought his own equipment and obtained approval to undertake his own digital copies of material that to date has not been archivally digitised.

Kim Rush, a Githabul/Geniyan woman from Queensland requested audio files containing language and images featuring her family members. Kim requested a total of 40 files, receiving 20 free of charge under the ROMTIC program and purchasing the remaining 20 files. She was very happy to receive the material and plans to listen to the recordings to help her learn her language and teach her family.

Violet Dargan requested sound recordings of her grandparents created by Barry Blake in Cloncurry, North West Queensland in 1967. Violet’s grandfather, Pilot Jack, gave excellent Ringa Ringa language information to Barry Blake. Upon receiving the materials, she shared the information with her family who have subsequently requested copies of the material. The family has expressed their emotion and

happiness at the opportunity to hear their grandfather’s voice for the first time.

Mary-Anne Jebb visited the Institute earlier in the year and selected a range of images from the Audrey Bruton collection. The images, from the Carnarvon mission, will be used in a permanent exhibition at the Carnarvon Culture Centre Gallery, which will open in late 2012. The community expressed their gratitude at receiving the images as it had been many years since the community had seen them. The material was provided under the ROMTIC program.

Catherine Titasey produced a book of the memoirs of her mother-in-law Ina Titasey (nee Mills) from Thursday Island, Torres Strait. She requested a photographic image from the WH MacFarlane collection of the Mills family of Naghir Island to use in the book. It is the only known photo of Ina as a young girl. Catherine was delighted to discover the image and be able to include it in the book.

Cheryl Waye contacted the Audiovisual Archive hoping to locate an image of her mother and father on their wedding day. The image held a great significance to Cheryl as her parents were the first to get married in a church by Europeans in Nepabunna. Unfortunately AIATSIS does not hold that particular image, however, on researching, staff found images of various family members she did not know existed. Cheryl sent an email to AIATSIS, saying how appreciative

she was to receive the images and that she will cherish the one of her mother and grandfather especially.

Emily Ings facilitated a visit by five people from the Central Desert, Western Australia who were also visiting Canberra for an information technology workshop. The visit was very successful with a number of photographs and audio recordings being found featuring their communities and families. A number of photos of the women in the group were also found showing them when they were small children. The visitors found the time spent in the Access Unit very worthwhile and were happy to take printed proof sheets back to community for their family and others to see.

Trudy Bell from Swan Hill, Victoria visited looking for photos of her family to include in the story she is writing on their behalf *My Mother's Story: Her journey*. Staff prepared several collections in advance for her visit and she was very excited to see photographs of family members she had never seen before and to receive the material under the ROMTIC program. Ms Bell also took a list of other items in the collection so that other family members could request material.

Roberta Toby requested material recorded in Mapoon featuring her family members as a part of a larger community project to create information panels and booklets about the history of the Mission and Indigenous people in that area. She received 13 audio files under the ROMTIC program and will be using them for her own family history as well as project research.

Under the ROMTIC program, Bennett Toby was provided with 14 audio items recorded by Paul Black in the Mapoon area. The songs and stories will be used in community to help teach traditional knowledge and start a dance group for young people. The items also feature language elicitation that will be used to help strengthen knowledge of language in community.

Eric Hood requested audio material relating to his language Kullilli. Twenty items were provided from a number of collections under the ROMTIC program. Mr Hood was extremely grateful to be able to have his language to teach the younger generations in his family.



Visitors from Central Australia found a number of photographs and audio recordings featuring their communities and families. [Photograph by Kerstin Styche AIATSIS 2012]



Trudy Bell (centre) from Swan Hill, VIC with staff members Heath Garrett (right) and Alana Garwood-Houng (left). Trudy visited looking for photos of her family to include in the story she is writing on their behalf *My Mother's Story: Her Journey*. (Photograph by Kerstin Styche AIATSIS 2012.)

Dr Stephen Wild and Dr Melinda Hinkson are working closely with AIATSIS and the Yuendumu and Lajamanu communities in a project to return digital copies of the collection of drawings collected by Mervyn Meggitt in 1952–53. The project documents community members' responses to the drawings. Warlpiri artists have created a series of artworks in response to the original drawings which have been deposited with AIATSIS. The new artworks add another dimension and value to the original and unique Meggitt collection. Other outcomes of the project will be the production of a monograph and an exhibition at the National Museum of Australia in 2013. Under the ROMTIC program, 437 images were digitised and provided to the Warlpiri communities.

Magabala Books published *Raparapa: Stories from the Fitzroy Drovers* in 2007. It arranged to redo their artwork permissions so they could release the book in e-book format in March 2011. Permission was given to use 24 images from the AIATSIS *After 200 Years* collection featuring Fitzroy Crossing.

Matthew King is a cultural consultant working with the Wangkumara people. He ordered and purchased copies of the Gavin Breen tapes that accompany the *Lets Learn Wangkumara* book by

C. Robertson. The tapes will be used by Mr King, his colleagues and the Wangkumara community to help with learning language and developing language skills.

Richard Egan requested an image of William Cooper to be used in his upcoming publication of a book titled *Neither Amity nor Kindness*. The book is about government policy as it affected Aboriginal people of New South Wales 1788–1969 and will be made accessible to secondary schools, universities and libraries in the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales. William Cooper's family was more than happy to support this publication and look forward to seeing the final print.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Audiovisual Archive staff provided support and coordinated the recording of the AIATSIS seminar series, various special seminars and workshops, and the 2011 AIATSIS National Indigenous Studies Conference, 'Young and Old: connecting generations'. Recordings of these events are now held in the Archive's collections.

Events documented by the Audiovisual Archive:

- August 2011 – visit of Taiwanese Delegation
- September 2011 – seminar by Wade Davis



A screen grab from *Weya Wi Na (Where are we now)* - a video produced in 1988 as a program for broadcast on Aboriginal television in Central Australia. The video is part of a collection of 68 analogue VHS video tapes digitised and returned to the Ngukurr community.

WEYA WI NA COLLECTION DIGITISED AND RETURNED TO THE NGUKURR COMMUNITY

Ngukurr is an Aboriginal community built on hilly ground alongside the Roper River in South East Arnhem Land, Northern Territory. Ngukurr people are culturally strong with deep connections to their country and Dreamings. The landscape is prolific Top End growth, billabongs and wetlands.

In the early 1900s the area was called Roper River Mission. Most of the senior artists at Ngukurr attended the mission school and have many stories to tell of life in the old mission days.

Ngukurr: Weya Wi Na (Where are we now) is a video produced in 1988 as a program for broadcast on Aboriginal television in Central Australia. It was directed by Ronald Thompson, Andrew Joshua, Kevin Rodgers, Raymond Geoffrey and Brian Burkett, and produced by Ngukurr School Council, Ngukurr Adult Education Committee and Yugul Manggi Media.

The video constructs a history of the community as it developed after white settlers, missionaries and teachers arrived in the North. It also documents

community discussions about developing a language policy for the school that incorporates teaching English while keeping their own language strong. It includes their trip to Singapore as part of the research the community undertook while examining the possibilities of multilingual societies using English and other languages in schools.

Ngukurr: *Weya Wi Na* was recorded on 68 analogue VHS video tapes. Over several months, staff from the Audiovisual Archive carefully cleaned and prepared the tapes for digitisation. Some of the tapes showed signs of decomposition such as signal drop out.

Using specialised signal correction software, staff were able to recover content from all 68 tapes and convert the content to digital Betacam, Windows Media Files and QuickTime files. The collection was returned to the Ngukurr community as high resolution QuickTime files on a hard drive. The Audiovisual Archive will keep the content safely preserved on digital Betacam and as Windows Media Files for the future.

- March 2012 – International Women’s Day event
- April 2012 – visit of students from Charles Sturt University
- April 2012 – visit of clients from Central Desert area, WA
- April 2012 – visit of clients from Arnhem Land, NT
- May 2012 – Sorry Day Bridge Walk
- June 2012 – AIATSIS National Native Title Conference in Townsville
- June 2012 – seminar by Professor Ghil’ad Zuckermann
- June 2012 – launch of Hannah McGlade’s book: ‘Our Greatest Challenge’
- June 2012 – Language Revitalisation workshop

ONSITE EXHIBITIONS

The Library Digitisation staff developed an exhibition of historic NAIDOC posters in the AIATSIS front foyer for NAIDOC week July 2011.

A display case exhibition was put up in the Library on the 40th anniversary of establishing the Tent Embassy on 26 January 1972, which included one of the original wooden painted Tent Embassy signs from the Audiovisual Archive’s artefacts collection.

As part of the launch of the complete set of the *Australian Inland Mission* magazines on the AIATSIS website, a collection of front pages were exhibited in the AIATSIS Library and exhibition foyer in March/May 2012. The Library provided the *Koori Mail* with the 1972 NAIDOC poster image of the Tent Embassy for the 25 January 2012 issue and other digitisation-on-demand materials from the Audiovisual Archive and the Library’s collections.

ONLINE COLLECTIONS

As part of the AIATSIS Digitisation Program, the Library created a major new online collection available on the AIATSIS website. This collection contains the *Australian Inland Mission* magazines, *Australian Evangel* and *Our Aim* which are of great value for research especially family history.

All 21 online exhibitions were redeveloped into a consistent design template that will ensure ongoing access to their content. In particular, the online exhibition *To Remove and Protect* has had additional content of annual reports of the state government agencies with responsibility for Indigenous affairs.

Online collections continue to be very successful, with a total of 310,895 hits on all digitisation web pages in 2011–12. The most popular of these was *Dawn* magazine with its thousands of photographs. It received 114,535 hits.

Online collections are regularly updated; anyone interested in contributing new information or correction existing material is invited to email their comments to library@aiatsis.gov.au.

DIGITISATION ACTIVITIES

Funding from the Australian Government for AIATSIS digitisation activity was not extended into 2011–12, and as a result the AIATSIS Council approached the Department of Finance and Deregulation who approved the use of AIATSIS financial reserves to maintain existing levels of digitisation activity to 30 June 2012. Despite this uncertainty, the staff of the Library’s Digitisation Unit continued to be productive and undertake major tasks to ensure business continuity.

Digitisation of print collections

The Library Digitisation Unit scanned and preserved 22,410 pages for preservation and access in 2011–12. This included the following records of:

- MS 10 – Hamilton Aborigines Uplift Society
- MS 21 – Papers of P J Gresser, Bathurst
- MS 802 – Christine Kilham Gunavidgi language notes Maningrida 1963, 174 pages
- MS 845 – Professor WEH. Stanner, Fitzmaurice River notebooks
- PMS 2098 – Investigation and report on Aboriginal welfare throughout Australia, Yallourn Junior Chamber of Commerce, 1965

- MS 2270 – Kalumburu, W.A. 1963—4 Peter Lucich, field notebooks
- MS 2303 – Notes on Brinja—Yuin people of Tuross, N.S.W. – by Harry Warner
- MS 2816 – Peter Lawrence Gillan: Field notebooks, diaries, tape transcripts and family trees, Torres Strait, 1980—1
- MS 3217 – Anne Dineen, field notebooks text transcriptions etc for Maung, Northern Territory
- MS 4747 – Gary Lee Fashion Sketch Book
- A digital copy of von Brandenstein's diaries (MS 1746) was also obtained thanks to the Native Title Research Unit.

DIGITISATION ON DEMAND

One thousand and seventy-three pages were digitised for digitisation-on-demand requests from clients.

Digital collections on the Mura® catalogue

The Library funded a staff member to catalogue digital material onto Mura®. The material includes books that are out of copyright, archived websites and publications from Australia's web archive, PANDORA, which is managed by the National Library of Australia and partner organisations. As a result, there are more records on Mura® that are linked to electronic format material which increased the number of records accessible to remote users.

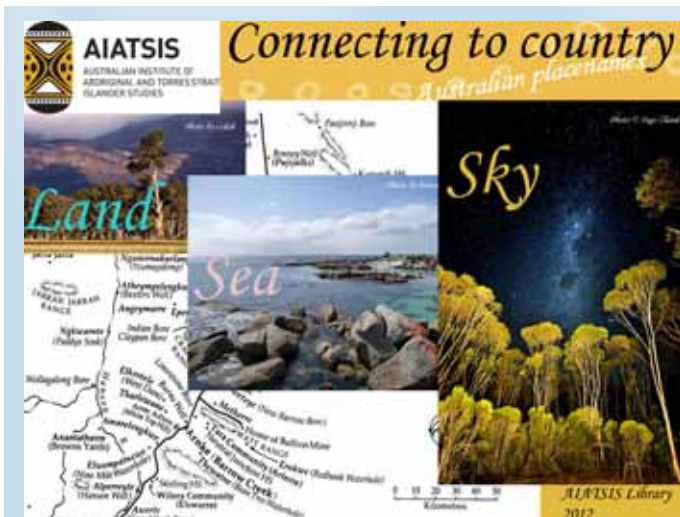
The Library continued its commitment to PANDORA which started in 2006. Staff are archiving a limited range of Indigenous websites and individual publications on PANDORA. All archived PANDORA websites are individually catalogued and are accessible on the Mura® catalogue.

Library staff have been digitally preserving out-of-copyright books and making them accessible from Mura®. To date, more than 568 titles have been added. This has enabled clients to remotely access some of the Institute's rare book collection through its catalogue and website.

Library digitisation business continuity planning

Library Digitisation staff carried out the following activities as part of business continuity plans developed to improve digital storage capacity and the ability to search our digitised collections. Projects included:

- substantial work to decommission the Digitool digital management archive and transfer seven terabytes of digitised files for the Library and the Audiovisual Archive to the new DCOSS digital storage system. It involved the Library's Systems Manager and staff to undertake detailed checking of the integrity and accuracy of the files
- links on the AIATSIS website, online collections, and Mura® catalogue that previously linked to the Digitool web server have all been identified and changed to direct to a new location on the AIATSIS web server
- completed the redesign of the Library's online collections into the standard template. This will make it a far easier task to maintain these web sites into the future
- an audit of digitised Library materials held on CD, DVD, portable hard drives and AIATSIS network drives has been conducted, with a view to the consolidation of materials to ensure their digital preservation. These have been migrated to the new DCOSS digital storage system
- reorganisation and renaming of the Library's digitised content on the AIATSIS group drives with approximately: 259,462 files and 516 GB of data
- an improved digital manuscript naming convention has been developed by Library staff. Library digitisation staff have commenced work on putting this file naming and folder structure convention into practice to ensure future preservation and access.



The *Connecting to Country* tutorial examines the history and structure of the AIATSIS place thesaurus. It is the second in a series of tutorials for information professionals.

CONNECTING TO COUNTRY: AUSTRALIAN PLACE NAMES THESAURUS TUTORIAL

The AIATSIS thesauri of place, language and subject are internationally recognised for use in libraries and archives and they set a standard of practice that other organisations are following.

The *Connecting to Country* tutorial examines the history and structure of the AIATSIS place thesaurus. It is the second in a series of tutorials for information professionals.

This tutorial is directed at indexers and cataloguers working with materials that have Indigenous content. It has been developed by information professionals who have the authority and competence to design and deliver online learning with set learning outcomes.

The tutorial is focused on: basic geographic and information literacy; knowledge of the ATSLIRN protocols (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Resource Network); and understanding the structure of the AIATSIS place thesaurus.

Lessons learned from developing the first tutorial reinforced the value of cross program and external consultation. Research Program staff participated at every stage of this project.

While developing the second tutorial, it became clear how important it is to observe ATSLIRN protocols, especially in our interaction and consultation with Indigenous people. Our tutorial supports and reinforces the critical importance of the ATSLIRN protocols and their underpinning of our daily work.

AIATSIS uses place names established by Geoscience Australia and other place name authorities. Early on in the project the Library established a relationship with the Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia. It advises dual naming as best practice 'to ensure that Aboriginal place names are recognised by Australia as being part of Australian heritage and need to be preserved'.

The tutorial is a valuable resource for regional Australia and it is available on the web at: www.aiatsis.gov.au/collections/connectingtocountry.html.

PROMOTION AND CONFERENCES

The Connecting to Country, Australian place names tutorial was launched in June 2012 (see Box p. 80). It will complement the Talkin names tutorial, adding a further resource useful for indexers and cataloguers of in other collecting agencies with Indigenous collections. **Judith Cannon** and **Jenny Wood** developed the tutorial to assist libraries/archives on best practice for establishing headings for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander place names. The tutorial includes self-paced modules and practice sessions for hands on experience.

The Library supports the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Resource Network (ATSILIRN) and hosts their website which promotes the ATSILIRN protocols on developing /describing collections and providing library/information services for Indigenous people. The ATSILIRN website was rebuilt, migrated off an old server and sent to the ATSILIRN Board for consideration as part of their communications strategy.

As part of AIATSIS' support for ATSILIRN, **Alana Garwood-Houng** made a presentation to staff of the ACT Public Library Service on how they can practically implement the ATSILIRN protocols in their provision of services to their clients.

The Library loaned to the National Museum of Australia several items for its 'Off the Walls' exhibition of art from ATSIC.

Alana Garwood-Houng presented a paper at the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Conference, Vancouver, Canada, April 12–14 2012 titled 'Implications of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore Panel', and participating in an 'envisioning circle' of individuals interested in the work of the IFLA Special Interest Group.

Family History Unit staff, **Rebecca Stubbs** and **PJ Williams** gave a presentation to a meeting of programs funded by the Healing Foundation. The presentation outlined the work the Unit does with Link-Up and the resources available on the AIATSIS website.

Several Library staff attended the ATSILIRN conference held in Melbourne on 7–8 July 2012.

The Library's Digitisation Manager, Gerald Preiss attended sessions of the inaugural conference for the Australasian Association for Digital Humanities at the ANU on 28–30 March 2012 to learn about developments in the field, in particular the ways in which digitisation of collections can be optimised so that digital humanities research options remain accessible.

WEBSITE

The AIATSIS website is the major way to promote the Institute and its work. The website offers webcasts, collections catalogue, guides and other online content to expand public awareness of the Institute's work and achievements.

STRATEGIC ALLIANCES

During 2011–12, the Library and the Audiovisual Archive fostered close working relationships with many important institutional partners. This section provides an indicative description of the major collaborations undertaken during the year.

National Library of Australia

The National Library of Australia (NLA) provides many valuable support services and resources to libraries and clients. For AIATSIS, this includes Trove, Libraries Australia and PANDORA.

Trove is a web-based discovery system that includes images, newspapers, archived websites, maps, print materials and audio and photographic materials. Trove also provides access to Libraries Australia.

Libraries Australia is an online resource that provides access to the national database of material held in Australian libraries. Users can search for any item and locate which library in Australia holds the item.

The AIATSIS Library is a formal partner in PANDORA, Australia's Web Archive, which is supported and hosted by the National Library of Australia.

Trove and Libraries Australia

In 2011–12, the AIATSIS Library increased its holdings on Libraries Australia. This helps raise awareness of the Institute's collections. In particular, this included 361 original cataloguing records. Additionally, the Library undertook work to enable its manuscripts finding aids to be searchable on Trove.

More Australian libraries are adding their holdings to records using terms from the AIATSIS thesaurus, ensuring more appropriate access to Indigenous collections.

The AIATSIS Library is an active participant in Libraries Australia Document Delivery, an Internet-based system for interlibrary lending and document delivery managed by the National Library. The Institute's Library borrows, lends and copies materials to and from other Australian libraries.

ATSIROM

The AIATSIS Library regularly adds collections records to the ATSIROM database maintained by the commercial service Informit, part of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. ATSIROM brings together an extensive collection of significant Australian databases containing selected bibliographic records from the country's leading sources and which relate to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

National Library of Australia, State Library of South Australia, British Library

Audio staff met with the entire Sound Preservation and Technical Services Team from National Library of Australia's Oral History and Folklore collection. The AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive Audio Unit is a pioneer in multiple digitisation work stations for increased productivity. Several collecting institutions are approaching AIATSIS to investigate the implementation of similar processes into their digital preservation areas. The Audiovisual Archive has also hosted visitors from the State Library of South Australia and the British Library who are interested in our 'multiple ingest' system.

Western Australian Film and Television Institute

Lara McLellan (Collection Manager, Moving Image) and **Richard Johnson** (Digital Assets Coordinator, Moving Image) visited the Western Australian Film and Television Institute (FTI) in Fremantle to gather information on procedures and processes undertaken by the FTI in creating and archiving material collected as part of the Indigenous Community Stories project. It also provided an opportunity for Ms McLellan to share information about how the AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive deals with the project material deposited with AIATSIS to date.

Cootamundra Girls' Home Centenary Committee

Alana Harris and **Marisa Harris** met with representatives from the Cootamundra Girls' Home Centenary Committee in June to discuss the Audiovisual Archive's involvement in the centenary celebrations in mid-August 2012. AIATSIS has loaned the committee several Zoom audio recorders and will be on hand at the event to provide support to a small team of oral history interviewers. The resulting recordings will be lodged at AIATSIS. Audiovisual Archive staff will set up a shop-front, to enable people to search our collections database and learn how to access material.

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Twenty-five photographic panels and accompanying captions for the Aboriginal and Islander Sport Hall of Fame collection were loaned to the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Canberra for exhibition during NAIDOC Week. The exhibition will be launched during NAIDOC Week from 4 July 2012 and run for two weeks.

National Film and Sound Archive

Jeni Wie, **Cameron Burns** and Marisa Harris visited the National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA) on 21 June 2012 to inspect their method of extracting files from CDs and DVDs in bulk. Ripping tracks from Red Book audio CDs is a particularly slow and onerous task so we are looking for a better way to do it. Staff have

undertaken follow-up research and are currently awaiting a quote on a RipStation, similar to that used by the NFSA, which will streamline this work and increase productivity.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Moving Image staff visited the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and met with their Collection Manager, Mary Jane Stanus, to negotiate the de-accessioning of a collection of video material deposited by the ABC in 1992. This collection has remained copyright to the ABC and is available through the ABC program sales. De-accessioning this collection will free up valuable resources in storage and digital duplication areas.

Through correspondence with the ABC's television archives, we have been able to clarify our responsibilities to preserve television content relating the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures; and are now able to de-accession off-air ABC grant material that is duplicated in the ABC archives. This has removed our obligation to digitise the 389 non-unique VHS tapes, and prioritise the digitisation of unique at-risk material in other collections.

Ronin Films and Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation

Staff also worked with the Ronin Films and the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation collections to identify non-unique material in the moving image collection, finding that 299 items were duplicated in other collections.

National Museum of Australia and Australian National University

David Jeffery met with David Kaus (NMA) and Marc Oxenham (ANU) in order to verify the origins of a bone object held in the artefact collection which was described as a 'yam scraper'. When the item was donated some years ago the donor thought that it may have been a human bone but it has now been confirmed that the object is in fact made from a kangaroo scapula and therefore does not warrant the application of special storage or handling conditions.

Australian National University Drill Hall Gallery

The Drill Hall Gallery is currently developing an exhibition in conjunction with AIATSIS of artworks from the AIATSIS collection. The exhibition, due to open in November is the second major exhibition of AIATSIS works of art by the Drill Hall Gallery. The first exhibition entitled Likan'mirri – Connections. The theme of the first exhibition is characterised by Likan'mirri, a Yolngu term with many connotations. It can be conceptualised as connections between the natural and supernatural worlds – the sacred and the mundane. AIATSIS is anticipating as much interest in the new exhibition as was received in the first one.

OTHER ALLIANCES

During 2011–12, the Library and Audiovisual Archive were involved with a number of leading institutional and professional bodies, including:

- Australian UNESCO Memory of the World Committee
- National Archives of Australia Canberra Consultative Forum
- ACT Territory Records Advisory Council
- ACT CANHUG Users Group (Catalogue Systems)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Data Archive with the University of Technology Sydney.

The Library maintained institutional memberships of:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Research Network
- Australian Library and Information Association
- Australian Society of Archivists
- Australian Government Library and Information Network
- Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers.

Audiovisual Archive staff maintained professional memberships of:

- Australian Society of Archivists
- SIG Indigenous Archives, a special interest group of the ASA (separately convened)
- International Federation of Libraries Associations and Institutions
- Association of Computer Machinery (US)
- Australian Institute of Conservation of Cultural Material (AICCM)
- SIG Graphic, a special interest group of the AICCM (separately convened).



In May 2012, four Aboriginal women from North Queensland visited AIATSIS and accessed the collection of extensive language recordings made by Australian linguist Bob Dixon. For the first time, Malanda elder, Yvonne Canendo (far right) heard her grandmother speak her native tongue, the Ngadjan language, recorded in the 1950–60s. The Ngadjan language has been virtually lost. [Pictured from left to right] Carol Chong, Marcia Jerry, Trisha Albert, Rita Metzenrath, AIATSIS and Yvonne Canendo.



A screen grab from film shot by respected anthropologist, Roger Sandall (1933–2012), who was a film-maker for the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies in 1966–76. Sandall made eleven ethnographic films which recorded the cultural and religious practices of several Indigenous communities in Central Australia.

ETHNOGRAPHIC FILM LEGACY

Respected anthropologist, Roger Sandall (1933–2012), was a film-maker for the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies in 1966–76. He made eleven ethnographic films which recorded the cultural and religious practices of several Indigenous communities in Central Australia. Consistent with the time, some of the films were screened at international film festivals and in Australia.

Sheep and cattle grazing had forced Indigenous communities away from their traditional lands and ceremonial sites onto state run settlements and living a sedentary life. However, community elders still maintained a connection to their culture and traditions.

Sandall was able to accompany Indigenous men to their country and create ethnographic film documentaries for these largely spontaneous events. He was able to provide transport and encouraged them to travel to their traditional lands and perform their ceremonies. He kept his camera running for as long as possible to record ceremonies which continued for many hours. Some of his films run up to 20 hours.

Sandall's films were made over 45 years ago in extreme heat and dusty conditions. Archive staff were amazed by the good condition of this film collection. AIATSIS has preserved these important historic and cultural records by creating new digital masters. Fortunately, staff were able to digitise every reel Sandall shot.

Due to the cultural restrictions associated with this collection, AIATSIS staff, who are trained in cultural awareness protocols, took precautions to ensure the films were not seen during the digitisation process. The original footage has been returned to the film vaults for long-term storage and the new digital masters will ensure that this unique cultural record will survive into the future.

Anthropological advisors for these films included Nicolas Peterson, Jeremy Long, Stephen Wild and Ken Hansen.

Roger Sandall made the following ethnographic films:

| | |
|--|------|
| Walbiri Ritual at Ngama | 1966 |
| Djungguan at Yirrkala | 1966 |
| The Mulga Seed Ceremony | 1967 |
| Emu Ritual at Ruguri | 1967 |
| Walbiri Ritual at Gunadjarai | 1969 |
| Gunabibi: an Aboriginal Fertility Cult | 1968 |
| Pintubi Revisit Yumari | 1970 |
| Pintubi Revisit Yaru-Yaru | 1972 |
| Camels and the Pitjantjara | 1969 |
| Coniston Muster | 1975 |
| Larwari and Walkara | 1976 |



Jacob Nayinggu at the Mikginj outstation. The unfinished film, shot by Kim McKenzie, has been stored in the AIATSIS film vaults since 1980 and was digitised for the remote Gunbalanya community in West Arnhem, Northern Territory.

ROAD TO MIKGINJ RETURNED TO GUNBALANYA COMMUNITY

The Audiovisual Archive responded to an urgent request from the remote Gunbalanya community in West Arnhem, Northern Territory, to digitise film reels from the unfinished AIAS film *Road to Mikginj*.

The film, shot by Kim McKenzie in 1980, recorded a conversation with Jacob Nayinggul at the Mikginj outstation. The film shows Jacob taking a driving tour of the Kakadu region sharing his thoughts and observations about the land and his ties to it. Jacob expresses his hope that the importance of this land is passed on to the young people of Gunbalanya (formally known as Oenpelli).

The film reels have been stored in the AIATSIS film vaults since 1980 and are in remarkably good condition for their age. Unlike many films shot during this period which have suffered significantly from colour fade and the decomposition effects of 'vinegar syndrome', only three of the 75 film reels of this collection showed signs of decomposition.

Experienced archive staff examined the original camera reels and sound track, checking splices for strength and perforation shrinkage. Each reel of image and sound was then synchronised by hand using traditional film making techniques on equipment that dates back to the 1970s. The process of selecting and preparing the film reels to be transferred was completed in just three weeks. All the film reels were then chemically cleaned and transferred to digital Betacam using the Shadow telecine.

Thirty years after these images and sounds were recorded we can finally see what the film maker set out to achieve and more importantly, what Jacob Nayinggul wanted to say to his family and future generations from his community about the land he cared for.