



AIATSIS
 Australian Institute of Aboriginal
 and Torres Strait Islander Studies

AIATSIS INDIGENOUS RESEARCHERS FUND



"I have often had to do things on the run, or at a pace determined by the political expediencies, or funding deadlines, or in reaction to crises. Learning things in an institution that allows the time and space to integrate this learning is such a blessing, especially to be funded to do so!"

Kerry Arabena
 Torres Strait Islander AIATSIS Visiting Research Fellow.



"The research environment at AIATSIS is much more relaxed and friendly compared with my experiences at University. As AIATSIS is a much smaller institution, dealing with less students it was able to provide greater support, a work space (and place) to further research, writing and thinking, and the Visiting Research Fellows were always available to provide valuable advice when needed."

Donna Oxenham
 Former Indigenous Visiting Research Scholar at AIATSIS.

What is the AIATSIS Indigenous Researchers' Fund?

AIATSIS is proud to announce a new initiative to support Indigenous researchers.

The AIATSIS Indigenous Researchers' Fund will provide \$1 million over three years to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Fellows and Scholars to visit AIATSIS and undertake research in Canberra in their fields of interest and, where appropriate, work with relevant government departments to discuss policy and practice.

Areas of Research

Applications are encouraged from excellent candidates in any field of Indigenous studies or policy.

Funds are available for a number of short term Visiting Fellowships and Scholarships over the next three years.

AIATSIS has existing strengths in the following areas:

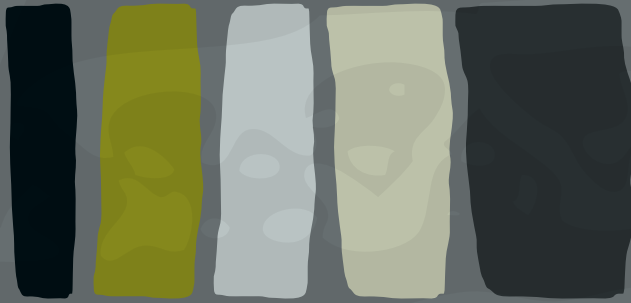
Indigenous social and cultural wellbeing

- Indigenous health and wellbeing
- education and cultural transmission
- Indigenous language and cultural expression

Indigenous country and governance

- Indigenous governance and government
- Indigenous country management
- native title and traditional ownership

But we welcome applications in any area of research.



Who should apply?

AIATSIS is interested in Indigenous people who wish to contribute to knowledge about Indigenous societies and inform public policy or who are considering moving into a research career.

The ideal applicant for this program would have a good balance between relevant work experience and proven research ability or potential. Academic qualifications can be an important indicator of capability to undertake research projects, but they are not the sole determinant of suitability.

The program is open to Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people only.

Why support Indigenous researchers?

Australia needs more Indigenous researchers to influence public policy in order to provide the best possible outcomes for Indigenous Australians.

Guided by a predominantly Indigenous Council and Executive, AIATSIS provides a respectful and welcoming cultural context for Indigenous people to engage in public policy debate and conduct in-depth study relating to Indigenous affairs.

AIATSIS is uniquely placed between community research, academic research and policy and aims to build on this position through the Indigenous Researchers Fund.



"We need to transfer Indigenous knowledge from the community-based researchers and thinkers - where people know what works and what doesn't - to the area of public policy development and implementation. Indigenous involvement in research and decision making is a key indicator of success in Indigenous policy."

Professor Mick Dodson
AIATSIS Chairperson.



"If you want serious Indigenous research, you have to pay for it. It's good that AIATSIS has realised this through the Indigenous Researchers' Fund. I had to wait until my kids had grown up before I could afford to do the research and study I am doing now."

Everything I do is from an Indigenous perspective. In my current research, I have a 37 page bibliography and out of that probably only two are Indigenous authors. Unless there are more Indigenous people writing and publishing, there's not a lot for other scholars to hang their theory on."

You've got to get more Indigenous people doing post-graduate studies."

Valerie Cooms

Murri researcher and PhD student at Queensland University of Technology.



Conditions

Short term Visiting Fellowships and Scholarships may include travel and accommodation in Canberra. Short term Visiting Fellowship applicants may also apply for a stipend or salary. Stipend or salary will depend on experience and the employment status of the applicant. Short term fellowships and scholarships will include a period of residency in Canberra.



How to apply

For further information contact:

AIATSIS Research program

phone: 02 6246 1145

email: research@aiatsis.gov.au or visit our web site:

http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/news/job_vacancies.

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