FOREWORD

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This edition of the *Australian Indigenous Law Review* includes both a thematic section and a general section, with the thematic section considering 'Indigenous Land Tenure Reform'. This is a topic of considerable importance both in Australia and more broadly, involving issues of Indigenous difference, ways of relating, economic development and the role of governments in Indigenous communities. The section begins with Howey's qualitative analysis of the way in which the term 'normalisation' has been used by governments with respect to land reform in the Northern Territory. One of her key findings is that the Australian and Northern Territory governments have used the term differently. Normalisation has become an almost unchallenged goal in several areas of Indigenous policy today, and Howey's analysis helps us unpack what the term means in the different contexts that it is used.

Terrill's article is also an exploration of language. He argues that there are flaws in the way that land reform has been debated in Australia, which have led to widespread confusion about the nature and impact of reforms. He asserts that often the wrong issues have been contested during public debates. Marks draws the connection between the government's reforms to land tenure in larger communities and its defunding of outstations. He argues that the two policies are not distinct, but are better characterised as 'two sides of the same coin', a single or at least interconnected policy whose aim is the wholesale transformation of Aboriginal societies. The thematic section concludes with Baxter's article on Indigenous land tenure reform in Canada. Baxter starts by describing some of the ways in which property theorists have used stories about Indigenous people to illustrate their arguments and concludes by describing the way First Nations people in Canada have been using their own stories to influence debate about land reform. Along the way, the article opens up questions about evolutionary theory and the role of cooperation and story-telling in property reform.

We are also pleased to include four articles in the general commentary section. Bauman et al describe the evolution and implementation of the Victorian Government's innovative Right People for Country Project, and the outcome of their pilot projects, which saw a more effective process of negotiation with regards to the question of 'whose country?' Through the lens of structural violence, Bielefeld considers historical and contemporary treatment of Indigenous people in the social security system. Buxton-Namisnyk draws upon international human rights law to argue for state accountability with regards to the issue of domestic violence against Indigenous women. She also makes an argument about domestic violence as a human rights violation, thereby urging for stronger remedial responses by states and communities. Finally, Chua and Foley introduce the concept of 'reform dynamics' as a means of explaining the failure of the ACT justice system to reduce recidivism and over-incarceration among Indigenous youth.