

### Staff Movements

The NTRU would like to welcome Diana McCarthy to the Unit. Diana comes to AIATSIS after extensive experience as a consultant anthropologist on native title and land claims in Western Australia and New South Wales. From late January, Glen Fairfoot is now working as a part-time Research Assistant. Serica Mackay ceased working in the Unit and AIATSIS in early February as the Research Officer to take up a Research position in the House of Representatives.

We are sad to report that Sophia Close is finishing up with IFaMP on Tuesday, 8 March. Sophia has been a mainstay of the Project and she will be greatly missed. We wish to thank her for her hard work, and to wish her the very best in her adventures abroad! As Sophia leaves, we welcome Jessi Clements. Jessi has come over from Fremantle, Western Australia, where she was working on non-native title funding, policy and project work for the South West Aboriginal Land & Sea Council (SWALSC).

### Research Activities

Dr Lisa Strelein met with project partners Professor Larissa Behrendt, George Williams and Sean Brennan to finalise the draft of the final work from the Treaty ARC in January. The resulting book will be launched at the Sydney Writers Festival in May.

Dr Bradfield completed a research report for the OIPC titled, 'Comprehensive Settlement of Native Title: the case of the South West'. Stuart also completed a research report titled 'Native Title and the Whole of Government Approach'.

### NTRU Website

Several new resources have been added to the ntru website over the past month. These include:

- Three new research resource pages: *Fejo v Northern Territory*; expert evidence in native title cases; and international law and native title;
- Native Title Determinations Summary table, providing a quick overview of native title determinations with links to relevant on-line resources such as determinations information on the National Native Title Tribunal and Agreements, Treaties and Negotiated Settlements Project websites, and case law on the Australasian Legal Information Institute website document.
- The Native Title Resource Guide is now up and running, if you would like information about your organisation to be added or amended, or if you would like us to host information about your organisation through this website please contact us at [ntru@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:ntru@aiatsis.gov.au);
- For information about the Claims Research Management Workshop for NTRBs, please see p. 4 (upcoming events) for more info. Information on our website is updated regularly. The ILUA summary document and Native Title in the News will be updated fortnightly.

If you have any suggestions for other information that you would like to see on our website, please contact us by emailing [ntru@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:ntru@aiatsis.gov.au)

### Indigenous Facilitation and Mediation Project (IFaMP) Update

#### Indigenous and General Native Title Mediation Practitioners Workshop

On the 17 and 18 of February the IFaMP held a workshop with Indigenous native title mediation practitioners to discuss best practice approaches to the facilitation of decision-making and conflict management in native title. The major recommendations arising out of the workshops involve IFaMP seeking funding opportunities for two additional workshops for Indigenous practitioners to focus specifically on:

1. Developing the concept of a national network of accredited and specialised regionally based Indigenous facilitators and mediators, embracing a whole of government approach for the purposes of developing a funding proposal; and
2. Identifying specific processes in best practice Indigenous mediation.

A General Native Title Mediation Practitioner Workshop will be held on 15 and 16 March 2005 to also discuss best practice issues, including the manner in which the legislative framework effects mediation practice in native title.

A report on both workshops will be made available on the website.

#### NTRB Information

A series of short briefing papers and posters are being prepared by IFaMP for Native Title Representative Bodies (NTRBs). A poster concerning meeting procedures, together with an informative handbook detailing meeting facilitation procedures has already been sent out to the NTRBs to be utilised as practical resources. Other documents being prepared include:

1. Briefing paper and larger discussion paper setting out native title mediation complaints processes;
2. Poster that sets out the differences in dispute management processes, including mediation, facilitation, arbitration, conciliation and negotiation;
3. Generic policy concerning decision making and dispute management processes for NTRBs to utilise and tailor to their respective needs; and
4. Booklet that sets out training products and providers in the areas of decision making and dispute management.

#### Check the IFaMP Web Site

<http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ifamp/index.html>

The following additions can be now be accessed on the IFaMP website:

Bauman, T. and S. Close. 2004. *IFaMP Evaluation Workshop – 18 October 2004: Summary of Proceedings and Outcomes*. Indigenous Facilitation and Mediation Project, Native Title Research Unit, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra.  
[http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ifamp/research/research\\_frameset.html](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ifamp/research/research_frameset.html)

Bauman, T. and S. Brockwell. 2004. *Community Mediation Centres - Native Title Representative Bodies Forum 26-27 October 2004: Summary of Proceedings and Outcomes*. Indigenous Facilitation and Mediation Project, Native Title Research Unit, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra.  
[http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ifamp/research/research\\_frameset.html](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ifamp/research/research_frameset.html)

Williams, R. 2004. *Native Title Mediation Practice: The Commonalities, The Challenges, The Contradictions (DRAFT Report)*. Indigenous Facilitation and Mediation Project, Native Title Research Unit, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra.  
[http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ifamp/research/research\\_frameset.html](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ifamp/research/research_frameset.html)

Bauman, T. and R. Williams. 2004. *Directions, Priorities and Challenges - Final Report: NTRB Workshops -Outcomes and Findings*. Indigenous Facilitation and Mediation Project, Native Title Research Unit, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra.  
[http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ifamp/research/research\\_frameset.html](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ifamp/research/research_frameset.html)

IAF. 2002. *Basic Facilitation Skills*. A manual prepared by The Human Leadership and Development Division of the American Society for Quality, The Association for Quality and Participation and The International Association of Facilitators.

[http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ifamp/practice/practice\\_frameset.html](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ifamp/practice/practice_frameset.html)