

## EDUCATION AND INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

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***Adult Education Needs of Aboriginal Communities and Training Needs of Aboriginal Community Educators in NSW***

***Training Needs Analysis***

***Aboriginal Community Development Research and Training Program***

***Building Bridges between Black and White Organisations***

***Survey and analysis of literature to assist National Review of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy***

***Aboriginal Family Support Worker Training Project***

***Writing and design of distance learning module - Education & Indigenous Australians***

## **Research**

### ***Adult Education Needs of Aboriginal Communities and Training Needs of Aboriginal Community Educators in NSW***

This three year participatory action research project from 1987 to 1989 issued a series of reports. The final research report (*Strategies for Self Determination*) was launched in October, 1990 at a conference which was attended by over 200 people, including the Federal Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. The final report received extensive media coverage. It was the subject of a SBS television program, numerous radio interviews and an editorial in the Sydney Morning Herald.

*Funding* : Australia Research Council \$75,000

*Researchers*: Griff Foley and Rick Flowers

### ***Training Needs Analysis***

In March, 1989 a training needs analysis was conducted of 7 community organisations located in Walgett, Collarenebri, Pilliga and Lightning Ridge. Organisations in these towns had formed a regional training committee. The needs analysis was conducted by means of review of program descriptions, semi-structured interviews with staff and committee members, and a half day workshop. A report is available.

*Funding*: NW Regional Aboriginal Training Network \$1,500

*Researcher*: Rick Flowers

***Aboriginal Community Development Research and Training Program***  
(conducted for the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group)

The project was innovative because it provided an opportunity for local Aboriginal people to work and be trained as community educators or community development agents in their own communities. In many Aboriginal communities such roles are still performed by non-Aboriginal outsiders. The project obtained a second year's funding in 1991 and was taken over by local community committees. The university's role was to provide an intensive training program to the Aboriginal community educators. This involved field supervision, delivering in-service training workshops and co-ordinating their work in the Diploma in Adult Education.

*Funding:* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission \$231,000

*Researcher:* Rick Flowers

***Building Bridges between Black and White Organisations***

In March, 1991 the Division was engaged by the NSW Local Community Services Association to conduct a project which would make recommendations about ways to strengthen links between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community organisations. For this project visits were made to organisations in Narrabri and Wee Waa (NW NSW), facilitating a series of meetings, a workshop and conducting interviews.

*Funding:* NSW Local Community Services Association \$3,500

*Researcher:* Rick Flowers

***Survey and analysis of literature to assist National Review of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy***

In October, 1993 UTS was engaged to undertake an extensive literature review and critical analysis of recent and current publications relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education.

*Funding:* Commonwealth Government, DEET \$29,900

*Researchers:* Rick Flowers, Paul Hughes, Mary Ann Bin-Sallik, Noel Blomeley

## **Materials and Curriculum Development**

### ***Aboriginal Family Support Worker Training Project***

Illustrated stories about family support work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families including discussion based exercises was published in 1993.

*Funding:* NSW Department of Community Services \$31,000

*Project team:* Louise Mulronev (NSW Family Support Services Assoc.) Norma Ingram, Tony Morris, Rick Flowers

### ***Writing and design of distance learning module - Education & Indigenous Australians***

This was developed for Southern Cross University's undergraduate teacher education program.

*Project team:* Bilyana Blomeley and Rick Flowers

## **Facilitation and Teaching**

### ***Community Organisation Training Program***

A two day workshop in Aug. 1989 for members of the Far South Coast Aboriginal Children's Service. An outcome of this workshop was a renaming of the organisation and production of a submission which led to their first receipt of funds for a position.

*Client:* TAFE Outreach

*Staff:* Rick Flowers

### ***TAFE Staff Development Workshop : Curriculum Development and Aboriginal Issues***

A one day workshop in July 1992 for TAFE General Studies teachers on the question of, is there an Aboriginal curriculum?

*Client:* Nowra TAFE College

*Staff:* Rick Flowers