

Aboriginal Researchers Network

Workshop Report
22 January 2025



Acknowledgements

Thank you to the following individuals and organisations for their contributions to the planning, preparation, delivery and support of the Aboriginal Researcher Network workshop held on 22 January 2025 at the Centre for Remote Health in Alice Springs as well as in the preparation of this workshop report:

- Heather D'Antoine - Coordinator NEXGEN Hub OCHRe Network, University of Queensland.
- Walbira Murray - Cultural Safety Engagement & Research Officer, AMSANT.
- Chris Perry - Senior Health Policy Officer, AMSANT.
- Dr Michaela Spencer - Senior Research Fellow, Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University.
- Emma Stubbs - Researcher Officer, Public Health Division, Research, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress.
- Stuart McGifford - Chief Operating Officer CAAHSN.
- John Huigen - Chief Executive Officer, CAAHSN.
- Zania Liddle - Community Research Co-ordinator, CAAHSN.
- Emma Chee - Communications Coordinator CAAHSN.
- Centre for Remote Health.
- GAP's Kitchen Pty Ltd (catering).

CAAHSN thanks its Partners and Members



ANYINGINYI
HEALTH
ABORIGINAL
CORPORATION



Background and Introduction

The Central Australia Academic Health Science Network (CAAHSN) hosted the Aboriginal Researcher

Network (ARN) workshop on Wednesday 22 January 2025 at the Centre for Remote Health in Alice Springs. This workshop is the third in a series hosted by CAAHSN. The previous workshops were held in October 2021 and October 2020. Prior to 2020, there were a series of planning meetings and consultations held with Aboriginal people involved in research and with the CAAHSN Management Committee and Governing Council.

This is a report of the half day workshop held on Wednesday 22 January 2025. It involved 16 Aboriginal people who work as researchers and/or clinicians in the Central Australian region, guests and guest presenters and two people who attended for lunch only.

The day commenced with lunch. Getting together over lunch provided a relaxed and informal atmosphere to reconnect and carry out introductions where needed.

The facilitators for the day included: Zania Liddle CAAHSN (co-facilitator); Emma Stubbs CAAC (cofacilitator); Heather D'Antoine NEXGEN Hub OCHRe Network, University of Queensland (cofacilitator); and Emma Chee CAAHSN (minutes, administration and technology).





Summary of Main Topics

The topics which made up the workshop program were selected based on priorities identified and recommendations from ARN workshops, particularly the ARN of October 2021, as well as from discussions with individuals and stakeholders in the lead up to the workshop. The overall focus of the workshop was to highlight training and development and professional learning options for ARN members and to bring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) peoples (for the purpose of this report, hereafter Aboriginal, except where a presenter has used ATSI or other terms) working in health and health-related research together, to share thoughts, ideas and insights on their training, development and professional learning experiences and needs and furthermore, potentially to identify the training and development and professional learning needs of Aboriginal researchers as identified by the group.

There was consideration given to the role and purpose of the ARN and its potential and capacity for the following: a forum to share ideas, knowledge and experiences; support the professional development as well as leadership development of Aboriginal researchers; assist the monitoring of tools to ensure cultural safety in research across CAAHSN research activities, e.g. CAAC's "Doing It Right"; as well as to discuss, consider, evaluate and make recommendations to the CEO of CAAHSN on culturally safe research practices, tools and/or frameworks.

Much of what researchers and their supervisors highlighted in conversations leading up to the workshop was also brought to light by presenters in the workshop sessions. The response by ARN members showed that there is an appetite for a network that supports Aboriginal peoples working in health and health-related research. This is in line with CAAHSN's RART 3 Aboriginal leadership initiative to support regular meetings/gatherings of Aboriginal researchers.

Session Summaries

Session 1:

Acknowledgement of Country: carried out by Zania Liddle custodian Mparntwe/Alice Springs.

Housekeeping included: apologies received, emergency procedures, and talent consent forms.





Session 2:

Background to the Aboriginal Researcher Network and CAAHSN: Stuart McGifford, Chief Operating Officer and Company Secretary **CAAHSN, presented on CAAHSN funding and the development of the ARN (See Appendix 3).** Stuart discussed: what initiatives for Aboriginal leadership are proposed/in place; the priorities identified in the ARN of 2020 and ARN 2021. He highlighted the objectives of the ARN and what things the ARN could do, i.e., a forum to share ideas, knowledge and experiences; support the professional development as well as leadership development of Aboriginal researchers; assist the monitoring of CAAC's "Doing It Right" tool[1] across CAAHSN research activities; and discuss, consider, evaluate and make recommendations to the CEO of CAAHSN on culturally safe research practices, tools and/or frameworks. Stuart also highlighted the Impact Project outcomes for formal training opportunities for Aboriginal researchers. He also spoke about the CAAHSN Annual Showcase which will be a part of the upcoming Living Well Summit to be held 9-12 September 2025, a joint event that will incorporate the CAAHSN Annual Showcase and the Knowledge Intersections Symposium. CAAHSN, and Desert Knowledge Australia will run the event which will include DKRI, Batchelor Institute and Charles Darwin University.

Questions raised in this session included if the Barkly was part of CAAHSN's responsibilities and the origin/background to the name Researcherentye Wappayalawanka. CAAHSN covers the Barkly region including Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation as well as locations to the far west such as Ngaanyatjarra Health Service and NPY Women's Council whose work includes the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) lands to the south. The official explanation of the "Researcherentye Wappayalawangka" is: Research here in Central Australia and the word Wappayalawangka is explained as the first one or two letters of each of the 14 Aboriginal language groups in the regions CAAHSN covers in Central Australia and the Barkly. The artwork by artist Marlene Rubuntja is permitted for use by CAAHSN as the company logo[1]. The story of how this developed is located on the CAAHSN website and the pages from the website are attached as **Appendix 4**. However, ARN members suggested the words Researcherentye Wappayalawanka could be explained as "research belonging to [Central Australia] and talking [about research] white-fella way". This feedback was received and noted.

On the ARN, Zania Liddle said the ARN is not a new idea. There is a history going back at least to 2020. PowerPoint slide summaries from the 2020 Report and the 2021 Report were presented. It was suggested that ideas from the 2020 and 2021 reports to support and encourage Aboriginal people working in research, are sure to be highlighted again in today's workshop and have been raised in conversations in the planning and preparation of this workshop. The more common themes included: continuation of the ARN meetings/gatherings; research terminology; discussing best practice; capacity building; communications and consumer driven research; to name a few.

[[1] Central Australian Aboriginal Congress 2022, Doing it Right: A guide for research in Central Australia.
<caac.org.au>

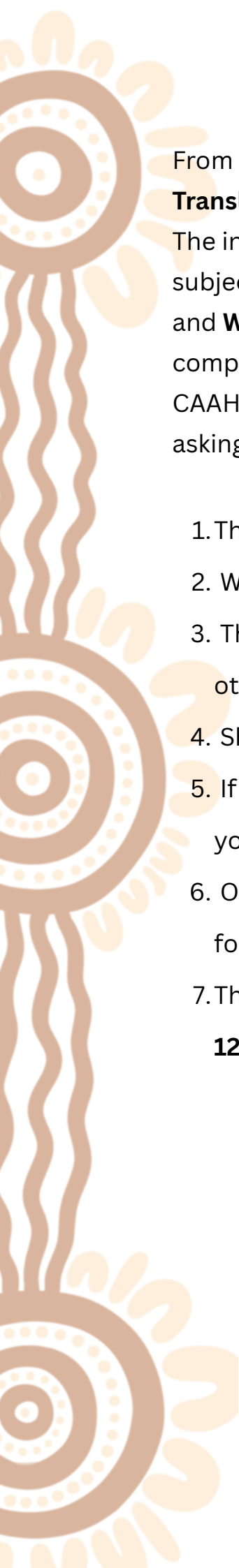


Session 3:

Professional Development Goals – What Aboriginal people working in research

want to know more about: To identify what priorities ARN members have identified for themselves in relation to their own learning, training, and professional development, ARN members were asked what they wanted to know more about to be better researchers. Supported by a PowerPoint slide highlighting the question **What Aboriginal people working in research want to know more about**, ARN members discussed their ideas in small groups (6-8 people). Ideas were recorded on sticky notes and displayed on butcher's paper. During the workshop, workshop facilitators categorised the responses according to key areas relating to research. The results are as follows:

Pathways	Skills	Translation	Knowing about research	Governance	Culture
Pathways for young people to enter the research employment space, e.g., review of JDs (job descriptions), supervised learning, pathways.	Basic research skills	Interpreting the research – linking activity to what people know	I want to know how many Aboriginal people are employed in the research space – not contracted but [in] permanent [positions]?	Ethics approval is daunting because of the processes involved - vs- cultural protocols.	How do we support community[ies] to leverage their local and cultural knowledge?
More entry level position: -work in education system -work experience	Literature search	Full glass -vs- half glass knowledge	What research is happening in Central Australia?	Research governance ?	Cultural competence
Knowing where to go for relevant training	How to develop and research budget	Lots of hope to nothing being done!	Research jargon [terminology]?	Decolonising of the research space	Building knowledge when working in Central Australia
Ensuring a suite of resources and people sharing stories to help train Aboriginal people and get them more excited about the space.	Systematic Literature Review	No \$\$\$\$ Action Research finding	Common Data Base?	Institutionalised	Information about someone or group . . .
Finding way to help people learn about all the facets of research?		Where does it all end up?		Academic	Reference group – roles and responsibilities
		The finding to be actioned?		High level research not just including PhD students, etc.	The journey of research in the Aboriginal space: - ensure culturally sensitive, etc. -flexibility, support, time
		Budget beyond research to implement.		Non-ATSI people should have to achieve microcredentials to work appropriately and ethically in community and/or ACCO's.	Due dates/time
		Research helps: - common data base - literature review			Bodies allowing time for consultation before research starts and debriefing [begins], etc. Sometimes things take longer in this space.
					[Use of] evidence to support our position [of cultural authority], e.g. [navigating] income management
					Protecting out ICIP (Indigenous Cultural & Intellectual Property)



From the discussions three areas were highlighted: **Pathways, Research Translation and Culture.**

The information obtained from this activity was intended to be the subject of discussions in **Session 7 Summary of Workshop** discussions and **What's next**. However, we ran out of time and were unable to complete the activity. To complete Session 7, following the workshop, CAAHSN generated a survey and emailed the link to ARN members asking them to respond to the following questions:

1. The purpose and continuing role of the ARN.
2. What form the ARN will take into 2025 and beyond.
3. The regularity of the meetings/gatherings: e.g., 2 x yearly; 4 x yearly; other.
4. Should the meetings/gatherings be: ½ day; full day; full days; other.
5. If you want a CAAHSN staff member to contact you with regard to your feedback.
6. Other relevant information you wish to share that will inform the form and continuation of the ARN meetings/gatherings.
7. The results of the survey are contained in **Session 7 notes (see page 12).**

Session 4:

Micro-credentialing: Indigenous community-based researcher qualifications. Some examples from Charles Darwin University – presenter Dr Michaela Spencer, Senior Research Fellow, Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University.

The Micro-credentialing initiative is a GroundUp research approach involving a CDU research team and local communities from where participant researchers come from. It is a means to recognise the skills and competencies of researchers based on collaborations of local knowledge and academic knowledge through supporting professionalisation of researcher and offering community-based qualifications.

Michaela provided details on the three ways Indigenous researcher skills that are recognised in the **GroundUp** approach: listing a profile on the [Indigenous Researcher Initiative](#) website; Communitybased researcher credentials; and Diploma of Indigenous research. The Indigenous Researcher Initiative supports Indigenous researchers and evaluators seeking to collaborate with government, NGOs, universities or private organisations while working in their own communities. A number of individual researchers were highlighted in the presentation. Some from Central Australia. The Community-based researcher credentials recognise skills in bilingual and inter-cultural research and research facilitation and provide opportunities for Indigenous people working in their home communities to learn about research work to achieve qualifications. Again, individual researchers were highlighted including researchers from Central Australia. And thirdly, through enrolling in the CDU Diploma of Indigenous Research. All these qualifications support opportunities for researchers to move into further study or work as research consultants.

For Michaela's contact details and the PowerPoint slides used in this presentation, see Appendix 5.

Indigenous community-based researcher qualifications

Some examples from CDU

GroundUp

Michaela Spencer
Senior Research Fellow, Northern Institute, CDU
michaela.spencer@cdu.edu.au



Session 5:

Walking Together: Insights on Remote Research and Support – presenters Walbira Murray (Cultural Safety Engagement and Research Officer) and Chris Perry (Senior Health Policy Officer) AMSANT

This session focused on key considerations for Aboriginal people who may be stepping into research roles for the first time, particularly in remote settings.

Walbira and Chris explored the challenges faced by 'lone' researchers in Central Australia, including the stress of maintaining research integrity while ensuring respectful and sound relationships within the community. The discussion generated significant interest in research ethics processes specific to Central Australia and the Barkly region. Walbira and Chris highlighted that while ethics committees set a benchmark for research standards, the ultimate responsibility for ethical and culturally appropriate research lies with the researchers and their institutions. In addition to formal national ethics processes, Aboriginal organisations in Central Australia and the Barkly region often have their own ethical frameworks that must be considered before agreeing to research collaborations. Unlike other regions, Alice Springs lacks a dedicated support body for navigating ethics approvals.

For Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs), research approval does not solely rest with Human Research Ethics Committees (HRECs). ACCHOs ultimately decide whether a research project proceeds within their organisation, as they often have their own research processes that can approve or reject involvement in studies.

Key takeaways from the session included:

- **Funding and Aboriginal involvement:** How can funding from organisations such as CAAHSN better account for Aboriginal people's participation and support in research?
- **Stronger relationships, better data:** A richer quality of data is possible when strong relationships with Aboriginal people are prioritised.



Session 6:

The OCHRe Network and career development options for Aboriginal people working in research – presenter Heather D’Antoine, Hub Coordinator, NEXGEN Hub, OCHRe Network

Heather presented briefly on OCHRe (Our Collaborations in Health Research) the national network of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples working in health research (See Appendix 6) and highlighted its lead investigators –Professor Gail Garvey, Professor Alex Brown and Professor Sandra Eades and Paul Stewart, CEO of Lowitja Institute. OCHRe is a means of channelling ideas for researchers and its KPIs include scholarships to HDR students; research experience scholarships for Undergraduate and Masters coursework; scholarships to school leavers in VET courses; VET Certificate courses for community based researchers; Post-doctoral fellowships for project or travel; training and development sessions, Annual convocation and membership growth of 10% annually. Heather highlighted the 4 hubs of OCHRe and what each hub encompasses – NEXGEN Hub; UNITE Hub; Maali Hub: and OWL Hub.

In her role with OCHRe, Heather has agreed to follow-up with scoping out training and development and professional learning opportunities that may be suitable for Aboriginal people in Central Australia and the Barkly for CAAHSN to circulate to ARN members.





Session 7:

Summary of Workshop discussions and What's next: The purpose and continuing role of the ARN, how often; invitees; other information and comments. Due to time constraints, as aforementioned, we were unable to spend any time on this activity. In lieu of this activity, ARN members were sent a link to complete a survey.

There were 11 responses to the survey up to COB 11 February 2025. All respondents said that they want a continuation of the ARN meetings/gatherings. Respondents identified the purpose of the meetings/gatherings to include: coming together to network and share ideas and knowledge [of research] in a safe and informative space for researchers as well as a mechanism to support the development and knowledge sharing of Aboriginal people working in research in Central Australia. Furthermore, it should be for Aboriginal researchers to discuss issues and challenges as well as what is working well in research. In addition, respondents identified that the ARN should be for Aboriginal people working in research to support each other, e.g., mentoring early career researchers as well as to build a competent, dynamic pool of Aboriginal people working in research.

On the question of who the ARN meetings/gatherings should be for, some respondents said that the sessions should involve Aboriginal people only whereas others said that the meetings/gatherings should involve Aboriginal people working in research as well as their allies. Another suggestion was that it should involve Aboriginal researchers and others involved and interested in projects involving Aboriginal researchers. Others said that the sessions should involve Aboriginal researchers and their managers, and another said that it should involve Aboriginal researchers and other relevant presenters. There was one suggestion that some workshop sessions should be devoted for Aboriginal researchers only.

Other comments from respondents included: the opportunity to meet is valued and appreciated and a good feeling following the opportunity to connect and share with other Aboriginal researchers; the potential benefits for research outcomes from this connection was also highlighted. Other comments included the need for more time to yarn amongst the group and the expectation that the training and development and professional learning needs of Aboriginal researchers should be identified by the group. Some respondents would like to have further conversation regarding the ARN. To accommodate this, a member of the CAAHSN team will follow-up with an invite to ARN members to make a time to meet.

Based on the feedback received, CAAHSN is proposing to hold the next meeting/gathering of the ARN on 21 May 2025. In addition, there is time set aside in the Living Well Summit in September 2025 for an Aboriginal only day. This could be another opportunity to meet the commitment by CAAHSN to host 3-4 meetings/gatherings of the ARN members in 2025. CAAHSN would welcome feedback from the ARN on this proposal. Furthermore, considering the feedback following the January ARN workshop it is likely to be helpful to include members of the ARN in a working committee for future ARN meetings/gatherings.

CAAHSN reaffirms that it is committed to encouraging and supporting Aboriginal people working in health and health-related research in central Australia and extends an invitation to anyone who would like to discuss how to best encourage and support Aboriginal researchers to contact us to make a time to meet and discuss their ideas.



Session 8:

Final Words and Close:

Final words were delivered by John Huigen CEO CAAHSN. John congratulated the ARN members and the workshop facilitators for coming together and hoped that the discussions were useful and helpful. He highlighted the importance of working on something together and affirmed the commitment of CAAHSN to support collaborating efforts of groups of people to come together through research for improved health outcomes for Aboriginal people.

Heather D'Antoine delivered the thanks to all involved in the preparation, planning and delivery of the first ARN workshop for 2025, wishing everyone involved all the best.

Summary and next steps:

The response by ARN members to the workshop topics and activities, including the survey results, showed that there is general interest for the idea of a network that supports Aboriginal people working in health and health-related research.

The results from the survey showed clearly that Aboriginal researchers want ARN meetings/gatherings to continue. As aforementioned, this affirms CAAHSN's RART 3 Aboriginal leadership initiative for regular network meetings. ARN members have determined that they want meetings/gatherings of the ARN around four times yearly which is commensurate with current CAAHSN staffing and funding. CAAHSN is committed to reporting on the workshop within a short timeframe and expects to have this workshop report to ARN members and stakeholders by early March 2025. If required, CAAHSN is committed to holding a briefing session(s) on the January workshop for any invitees who were unable to attend, at a time to be determined by the member(s).

The next steps from the event include:

Action	Progress
Circulate a survey and include results in this report.	This has been actioned, and results are reported herein.
Scheduling the next Aboriginal Researchers Network Meeting/Gathering.	CAAHSN is proposing that it be May 21 2025.
Publication and circulation of this report.	Electronic version circulated March 2025. Hard copy version to be mailed out soon after.
Circulation of options and opportunities for Aboriginal researchers for learning, training and professional development.	Scoping of University website information with links and, in some cases, names of course coordinators as provided by Heather D'Antoine, circulated with the electronic version of this workshop report.
Consideration of including micro-credential approach in Impact Framework Project training options.	Matter will require further planning and support.

ABORIGINAL RESEARCHERS NETWORK

Central Australia Academic Health Science Network



Wednesday, 22 January 2025

Time	Session	Facilitator(s)/Presenter(s)
12-12.30pm	Lunch & Introductions	Zania Liddle, Emma Chee, Stuart McGifford, (CAAHSN)
12.30pm-12.45pm	Acknowledgement of Country Background: -about CAAHSN -What the 2020 & 2021 ARN Reports said	Zania & Stuart McGifford (CAAHSN)
12.45pm-1.15pm	Professional Development Goals – how can I learn more skills and opportunities in research: what Aboriginal people working in research want to know more about.	Zania, Emma Stubbs (CAAC)
1.15pm-1.45pm	Professional Development Goals – Micro-credentialling: Indigenous community-based researcher qualifications – some examples from CDU. An introduction to pathways for upskilling and professional development for Indigenous researchers drawing on their own knowledge traditions in being part of research projects.	Dr Michaela Spencer, Senior Research Fellow, Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University
1.45pm-1.55pm	Break	
1.55pm-2.15pm	Professional Development Goals: “Walking Together: Insights on Remote Research and Support”.	Walbira Murray Cultural Safety Engagement & Research Officer & Chris Perry, Senior Health Policy Officer (AMSANT)
2.15pm-2.45pm	The Ochre Network and career development options for Aboriginal people working in research	Heather D’Antoine – Board Chair CAAHSN
2.50pm-3pm	Conclusion and What’s next? – summary of today’s discussions –ARN and links to CAAHSN Action Plan (John Huigen)	Zania, Emma, Stubbs, John Huigen, CEO (CAAHSN)



Centre for Remote Health
Cnr Simpson & Skinner Streets



Appendix 2 ARN Members and Guests list ARN Members

- Gloria Baliva (Menzies School of Health Research)
- Sherrelle Khan (Menzies School of Health Research)
- Shiree Mack (Menzies School of Health Research)
- Lorraine Liddle (Menzies School of Health Research)
- Kureisha Wilson (Menzies School of Health Research)
- Kenny Lechleitner (Alice Springs Hospital)
- Donna Lemon (Alice Springs Hospital)
- Patrick Torres (Alice Springs Hospital)
- Jennifer Armstrong (Alice Springs Hospital)
- Christine Spencer (Alice Springs Hospital)
- Natasha McCormack (Purple House)
- Peter Riley (Purple House)
- Kelli Tranter (Purple House)
- Emma Stubbs (CAAC)
- Walbira Murray (AMSANT)
- Zania Liddle (CAAHSN)

Guests

- Christine Ponter (Alice Springs Hospital)
- Rachel Walpole (CAAC)
- Penny Stewart (Alice Springs Hospital)
- Heather D'Antoine (University of Queensland)
- Michaela Spencer (Charles Darwin University)
- Chris Perry (AMSANT)
- Stuart McGifford (CAAHSN)
- John Huigen (CAAHSN)
- Emma Chee (CAAHSN)

Appendix 3 CAAHSN funding and the development of the Aboriginal Researcher Network

CAAHSN funding and the development of the Aboriginal Researcher Network.

Stuart McGifford, Chief Operating Officer and
CAAHSN Company Secretary

Central Australia Academic Health Science Network

Aboriginal Leadership Initiatives

- Through the RART 2.1 and 2.2 funding CAAHSN received around \$200K for 'Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Research Initiatives' and Certificate II which was undersubscribed and eventually reallocated.
- It was recognised that there need to be an aboriginal group to guide these initiatives.
- In RART 3 CAAHSN received funding to establish support regular meetings of this group.
- There has been a long break since the initial discussions and plans, so in part today, is about confirming the Aboriginal Researcher Network is still needed and helpful.

Central Australia Academic Health Science Network

2021 Priorities

The following priority themes from 2021 meeting:

- Aboriginal leadership and governance
- Building Aboriginal researchers' capacity and capabilities
- Doing research the right way - Aboriginal ways of doing research, valuing local knowledge and skills
- Research that addresses community priorities.

Central Australia Academic Health Science Network

2020 Priorities

The following priority themes from 2020 meeting:

- Aboriginal ways of doing research
- Community researchers are important
- How they are described in grant applications
- Perspectives of community researchers.

Central Australia Academic Health Science Network

Draft ARN Objectives

The Aboriginal Researcher Network exists to:

- Provide a forum for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people (henceforth Aboriginal people) involved in health and related research to share ideas, knowledge and experiences;
- Support the professional development of Aboriginal people involved in health and related research;
- Promote and support the leadership development of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people involved in health and related research;
- Assist in monitoring the implementation of Doing it Right across CAAHSN research activities; and
- Discuss, consider, evaluate, and/or make recommendations to the CEO of other culturally appropriate research practices, tools, or frameworks;

Central Australia Academic Health Science Network

RART 3 Impact Project Outcomes

Aboriginal Researcher Capacity (Trained):

- 20x Graduates in Certificate II Community Health Research
- 10x Certificate IV in Health Research
- 10x Diploma in Project Management
- 4x Masters/ PhD underway (1 year stipend)

Organisational Personnel Research Capacity (Trained):

- 45x partner researchers with cultural competency training
- 20x service organisations research trained to increase capacity for research engagement.

Central Australia Academic Health Science Network

#interweave2025

LIVING WELL SUMMIT
9-12 September 2025

Knowledge Intersections Symposium
X
CAAHSN Annual Showcase

Co-hosted by

Researcherene Wappayalawangka
Central Australia Academic Health Science Network

dkri
Darwin Knowledge Research Institute

Batchelor Institute

CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA

Appendix 4 Explanation of Researcher Wappayalawangka-Central Australia Academic Health Science Network (CAAHSN) name and logo[1]

Our Name

Researcher Wappayalawangka-Central Australia Academic Health Science Network (CA AHSN) is dedicated to improving the health of people in central Australia, with a focus on Aboriginal health. It is focused on community-driven research and research translation in close collaboration with research, educational and service delivery organisations.

Our name, Researcher Wappayalawangka, reflects our place in central Australia—one that goes beyond arbitrary state and territory boundaries.

Researcher is an Arrernte rendering of a borrowed word describing a gathering of researchers. Wappayalawangka is made up of the first one or two letters of the fourteen First Nation languages represented in central Australia.




Our Logo

Our logo was designed by renowned Arrernte artist, Marlene Rubuntja, who lives at Yarrenyty Arltère Town Camp (Larapinta Valley Town Camp). The work, taken from a print by Marlene is entitled “Landscape”. The logo has been licensed to CA AHSN for non-commercial use. Marlene was born in Alice Springs in 1961. Her mother’s country is Hermannsburg (Ntaria), west of Alice Springs. Marlene grew up at Amoonguna community, east of Alice Springs where she went to school. Marlene is the daughter of Wenten Rubuntja the well known painter and activist. It was her father who fought for the rights of people to settle Town Camps in Alice Springs. In the 1970s her family, the Rubuntjas, along with the Ebatarinjas and the Lynches were the original families to settle Yarrenyty Arltère Town Camp. Marlene has been here ever since and she is proud to call this place home. She is sister to the important watercolour artist Mervyn Rubuntja. Marlene learnt to sew at Yirara College, Alice Springs, however she only began making soft sculptures at Yarrenyty Arltère in 2009. She says she draws inspiration for her soft sculptures from what she sees around her in her daily life at Yarrenyty Arltère Town Camp; “some things are good for people and other things make people really mad”. She also draws inspiration from her husband’s country at Wave Hill. Marlene is interested in telling proudly the stories of her people; her art is helping her to do this. Marlene is a proud spokeswoman for the art centre and is happy to tell people how important it is in her life in helping her stay strong and healthy. Marlene has also written the script for both the soft sculpture animations made at the art centre in conjunction with the YALC multi media room. In 2016 Marlene officially opened Desert Mob Exhibition in Alice Springs and in 2017 she was one of three judges for the Portrait of a Senior Territorian Art Award. In 2016 Marlene won the inaugural Vincent Lingiari Art Award.

[1] Central Australia Academic Health Science Network 2021, Our Name and Logo. <caahsn.org.au>

4<<http://www.yarrenytyarlteterrartists.com.au/marlene>



WAPPAYALAWANGKA RESEARCHERENYE – Explanation [1] Wappayalawangka Researcheremye

Warumungu
Arrernte (Eastern)
Pintupi
Pitjantjatjarra
Arrernte (Central)
YAnkuntjarra
Luritja
Arrernte (Western)
Warlpiri
Anmatjere
NGaanyatjarra
Kaytete
Alyawarre

Researcheremye; -emye an Arrernte suffix often meaning “place of”;

Cf: Wardliparingga Aboriginal Research Unit within SAHMRI

[1] CAAHSN 2019, Wappayalawangka Name Origin, unpublished document.

Appendix 5 – PowerPoint Slides - Micro-credentialing: Indigenous community-based researcher qualifications some examples from Charles Darwin University – presenter Dr Michaela Spencer, Senior Research Fellow, Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University.

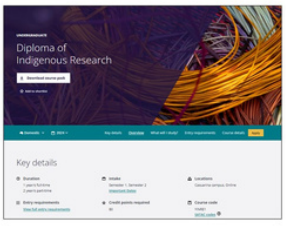
The collage consists of seven PowerPoint slides:

- Slide 1: Indigenous community-based researcher qualifications**
Some examples from CDU
Michaela Spencer
Senior Research Fellow, Northern Institute, CDU
michaela.spencer@cdu.edu.au
Logos: GroundUp, Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University.
- Slide 2: The Ground Up research team at CDU**
• Begins with the sovereignty of traditional owners
• Happens in collaborations on the ground between local and university researchers under Elder authority
• Recognises local researchers to a lot of work that is invisible to the university or other organisations
• We've needed to develop ways of recognising how Indigenous researchers are continually demonstrating their skills in these collaborations
Image: A group of Indigenous people sitting on the ground in a circle, engaged in a discussion.
- Slide 3: Three ways of recognising Indigenous researcher skills...**
1. Indigenous Researchers Initiative website
2. Community-based researcher credentials
3. Diploma of Indigenous research
- Slide 4: Indigenous Researchers Initiative**
Supporting Indigenous Researchers & Research Services
This initiative supports Indigenous researchers and evaluators seeking to collaborate with government, NGOs, universities or private organisations to provide research services in their home communities.
<https://iri.cdu.edu.au>
- Slide 5: Researchers**
A screenshot of the IRI website showing a grid of researcher profiles. Profiles include: Alexey Kertanov, Alexander Papatilak, Anita Goley, Belinda Wayne, Blush Munyanyun, Charlotte Papatilak, Denise Foster, Dorothy Yungurra, and Rosemary Gundjarrabuy.
- Slide 6: Indigenous Community-Based Research Credentials**
Rosemary Gundjarrabuy (middle), Hazel Gondarra (left), Simeon Dhamarrandi (right)
Logos: Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University, Indigenous Community-Based Researcher, Indigenous Researcher Collaborator.
- Slide 7: Indigenous Community-Based Researcher**
A screenshot of the IRI website showing the 'Indigenous Community-Based Researcher' section. It includes a search bar, a list of researchers, and a section for 'Criteria for Assessment'.

Report of Aboriginal Researcher Network (ARN) Workshop 22nd January 2025

[illegible]

Diploma of Indigenous Research



Computery Core units totalling 30 credit points as detailed below:

- IND110 Indigenous Research: Guiding Principles
- IND111 Indigenous Research: Principles to Practice
- IND112 Introductory Indigenous Research Project (negotiable)
- IND120 Contextual Knowledge
- IND121 Cultural Capabilities

Key details:

- Duration: 1 Semester 1 (2024/25)
- Enrolment: 10
- Location: On-campus (Karrara)
- Cost: \$1,500 (incl. materials)

Pathways...

Earning more research credentials




Riley Farquharson, Kalkaringi




Pathways...

A research credential to...
Diploma of Indigenous Research



Pathways...

A research credential to...
becoming a research consultant





Time for questions....

For further information visit
<https://iri.cdu.edu.au/>



Appendix 6 - The Ochre Network and career development options for Aboriginal people working in research – presenter Heather D’Antoine, Coordinator NEXGEN Hub OCHRe Network, University of Queensland67[1].

[1] OCHRe Network 2024- Micro-Credentials



OCHRe
Our Collaborations in Health Research

OCHRe is a national network of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health researchers.

OCHRe will develop the next generation of researchers, who will be connected and supported to thrive in research and the academic world, while delivering research outcomes that have a long-lasting impact on the health and wellbeing of our communities.

OCHRe comprises 4 Hubs

- NEXGEN Hub** - Nurturing the next generation of Indigenous researchers through a vibrant network
- UNITE Hub** - Unlocking National Indigenous Translational research Excellence
- Maali Hub** - Noongar name for Black Swan
- OWL Hub** - Our Wisdom Leading

NEXGEN

- Traineeships
- Community based researchers
- Micro-credentialling

UNITE

- Teaching & learning
- Translational research fellowship
- Immersion programs
- Travel bursaries

Maali

- HDR scholarships
- Fellowships to transition PhD completers
- International collaborations

OWL

- Indigenous knowledges framework
- Community based researchers
- Safe institutions framework

Our Vision

OCHRe's collective vision is the establishment of a culturally secure and inclusive network of Indigenous researchers across Australia and sovereign Indigenous Nations, that builds unique skills at the interface of culture, science, and health research and translates to improvements in the health and wellbeing of Indigenous peoples.

Lead Investigators

Professor Gail Garvey
Professor Alex Brown
Professor Sandra Eades
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Contact Us

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Key Outcomes

Culturally Appropriate Governance	Bring to life a culturally appropriate governance framework with accompanying protocols to oversee the network development, implementation, success and sustainability.
Health and Wellbeing Impact Framework	Establish an impact framework to evaluate OCHRe's success in translating research into policy, practice and improvement Indigenous health outcomes.
Growth and Sustainability	Build the capacity and capability of Indigenous researchers as an important investment to the growth and sustainability of OCHRe. Leverage resources and commitment within research and research enabling organisations across the nation.
Research Capability program that strives for excellence in two worlds	Deliver a research capability program that celebrates, nurtures and enhances the capabilities of Indigenous peoples at the interface of science and Indigenous knowledge systems. Particular focus will be on research methods, topics, themes or programs of research most critical to the expressed priorities of Indigenous people, communities and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations.
Pathways and Mentorship for Indigenous Researchers	Create sustainable and tailored pathways, alongside culturally safe mentors and supervisors for Indigenous researchers throughout their research careers.
Excellence in Community Engagement	Lead the collation of national priorities, processes and protocols and further development of excellence in community engagement and research.
Connectedness	Connect Indigenous researchers, to each other as well as to communities, organisations and institutions nationally and internationally through a range of mechanisms that link capabilities, interests and research partnership.
Culturally Safe Research Ecosystem	Creation of an enabling and culturally safe research ecosystem that supports Indigenous researchers to thrive and lead within research institutions, universities and community organisations.
The Next Generation of Indigenous Leaders	Develop a critical mass of Indigenous researchers at all levels and enhance the visibility and success of these researchers in the leadership of and leadership within research, knowledge translation and policy.

OCHRe KPIs

- » # Scholarships to HDR students
- » # Research experience scholarships to undergraduate and masters by coursework
- » # Scholarships to school leavers enrolled in VET Certificate courses
- » # Community Based Researchers (CBR) to complete VET Certificate courses
- » # Post-doctoral fellowships for project or travel
- » # Training & Development sessions including Master classes, Webinars, short courses and writing retreats
- » Annual Convocation
- » Membership growth by 10% annually

Governance Structure & Responsibilities

Cultural Community Council

Executive Group

Central Hub

Develop and oversee community priorities, engagement and accountability

- Comprised of Elders and Community Leaders
- Independent Chair
- Meets quarterly

Ensure priorities, strategies and deliverables are met. Address fiduciary responsibilities. Leverage additional and ongoing funding

- Comprised of investigators from each of the Hubs
- Meets monthly

Executive operations and administrative support

Communication functions

Coordination of annual Convocation

Growth of Network membership

Secretariat Support to Council & EG

NEXGEN

UNITE

Maali

OWL