

Research Plan 2005-2007



CENTRE
FOR ABORIGINAL ECONOMIC
POLICY RESEARCH

CAEPR RESEARCH PLAN 2005–2007

The Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research (CAEPR) will be in its 15th year in 2005. Over the past 13 years, CAEPR has developed annual research plans. More recently, especially with enhanced reliance on National Competitive funding, the Centre has changed its planning horizons to a rolling triennial basis. The current CAEPR Research Plan 2005–2007 was developed at a meeting in November 2004, with input provided by a number of key stakeholders and all CAEPR staff. The Plan is built around three broad inter-related themes:

- Indigenous Economic and Social Circumstances: Determinants, Diversity, and Difference
- Development Options for Sustainable Indigenous Futures
- Education, Governance and Capacity Development: Tools for Strategic Engagement

The division of the Plan into three themes is primarily undertaken for operational reasons; there is no suggestion that any of the themes stands alone—a feature of CAEPR's interdisciplinary approach is to holistically integrate all its research. Projects are listed according to primary thematic orientation, but almost all have links to other themes.

Some of CAEPR's research effort is driven by a submission 'Enabling sustainable communities, environments and socioeconomic development for Indigenous Australia' developed as its input to the Commonwealth of Australia's national research priority setting in 2002. The CAEPR submission highlighted the need for research to address the acute and persistent social and economic disadvantage of many Indigenous Australians and provide policy options to encourage development and reductions in the costs of disadvantage for Indigenous Australians and the nation.

The CAEPR Research Plan 2005–2007 is neither unidirectional in time nor space: each theme encompasses national, regional and community perspectives; general and particular issues; and historic, strategic and prognostic perspectives. In the Plan, research of direct relevance to Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC) priorities is marked *, while research directly linked to FACS priorities is marked #. Research accountable to other stakeholders is marked ^. New projects that will begin in 2005 (as distinct to those that carry-over from the 2004–2006 triennium) are highlighted. The Plan aims to broadly reflect the relative funding contributions of a wide range of supporters, while recognizing that research outputs of relevance to each stakeholder far exceed their relative resource inputs.

THEME 1: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES: DETERMINANTS, DIVERSITY, AND DIFFERENCE

Convenor: John Taylor assisted by Maggie Brady and Boyd Hunter

Statistical profiling and analysis of the social and economic circumstances of Indigenous people at national, regional and local scales using census, survey and administrative data sources forms a key component of CAEPR's research effort. Continuation of this work will be wide ranging with an emphasis on better understanding the dynamics of regional population change, social and behavioural determinants of health status, and the links between education and labour market outcomes.

PROJECT 1.1 (2005): CHANGES IN INDIGENOUS SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS BETWEEN NATSIS AND THE NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SOCIAL SURVEY (NATSISS) 2002 *^

A joint CAEPR/ABS workshop analysing the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) 2002 will be organised by Matthew Gray and Boyd Hunter for mid 2005 as a major CAEPR flagship project in 2005. The workshop will involve CAEPR staff (Altman, Arthur, Biddle, Brady, Gray, Holcombe, Hunter, Kinfu, Morphy, Sanders, Schwab, and Taylor) and invited experts and will eventually be published as an edited volume. Boyd Hunter will report the results of the NATSISS analysis at the Australian Social Policy Conference in July 2005, and the Australian Conference of Economists and Business Symposia in September 2005.

PROJECT 1.2: DESERT AND SAVANNA DEMOGRAPHY *#

John Taylor and Yohannes Kinfu will establish measures of population change among Indigenous peoples in various ecological zones including arid and semi arid areas, and the tropical savanna, in research for the Desert Knowledge/Tropical Savanna CRCs. In conjunction with other members of the project team based at the University of Queensland, key outcomes will be a series of discussion papers and a workshop. John Taylor will be writing up results from the DKCRC project on 'Population estimation and mobility in Alice Springs Town Camps', with Ilan Warchivker and John Wakerman of Flinders University, and Tangentyere Council; and results from field survey work by Paul Memmott of the University of Queensland for the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute project on 'Indigenous Mobility in Remote and Rural Australia'.

PROJECT 1.3: PATHWAYS TO IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT FOR INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Nick Biddle will continue ARC Linkage research 2003-2006 that provides an economic analysis of social, environmental and institutional factors associated with educational participation of Indigenous and other Australian youth.

PROJECT 1.4 (2005): BASELINE PROFILES FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE[^]

This research by John Taylor is funded by Pilbara Iron and has the support of the Yamatji Marlpa Barna Baba Maaja Aboriginal Corporation. It will develop a socioeconomic profile of the Pilbara region in 1981, 2001, and 2004 for Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations together with a set of regional population and workforce projections. Qualitative research will also be undertaken by Ben Scambary to identify the aspirations of Indigenous people in relation to their participation in the Pilbara economy with a view to identifying culturally-defined social indicators.

PROJECT 1.5: LEARNING TO DRINK THEN AND NOW[^]

Maggie Brady will prepare a draft manuscript on her ARC Discovery grant 2003–2006 on the social and historical determinants of Indigenous alcohol and tobacco use. This work examines the diversity of historical experiences with, and responses to, these substances by Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders.

PROJECT 1.6: ICCP CAPACITY BUILDING FOR DATA MANAGEMENT^{# *}

John Taylor will continue collaboration with the Thamarrurr Regional Council in the development of socioeconomic data for the Thamarrurr Region, including assistance with data maintenance and dissemination.

PROJECT 1.7 (2005): MORTALITY RESEARCH

Yohannes Kinfu will develop a new method of mortality estimation from data on distribution of death, with an application to Australian Indigenous mortality data. The research is related to his continuing expertise in cause-specific mortality in Africa and Asia.

PROJECT 1.8 (2005): THE SOCIAL CONTEXT OF INDIGENOUS POVERTY^{* #}

This preliminary research, with Boyd Hunter taking the lead role, and with extensive collaborations with Matthew Gray (CAEPR), David de Vaus (La Trobe University), and Tim Rowse (RSSH, ANU), builds on the literature on poverty measurement, and develops an integrated analysis of the social context of Indigenous poverty. Several 'equivalence scales' will be estimated to demonstrate whether the processes underlying Indigenous and other Australian poverty are different. The historical nature of Indigenous disadvantage will be modelled using the concepts elaborated in the social exclusion and social capital literature, and the models tested using recent surveys, censuses, and possible in-depth interviews of Indigenous people. It is aimed to develop this into an ARC proposal 'An Integrated Analysis of the Social Context of Indigenous Poverty'.

PROJECT 1.9 (2005): COMPARING INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS HEALTH STATUS *^

Matthew Gray and Boyd Hunter will undertake a critical analysis of the validity of age standardisation when comparing the health outcomes of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. This work derives from the work done in CAEPR Monograph 21. This project would examine Indigenous use of health services across different regions of Australia using the 2001 Indigenous National Health Survey and 2001 National Health Survey. Attempts will be made to do some analysis of change over time using the 1995 National Health Survey.

PROJECT 1.10 (2005): HOUSING TENURE AND INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS *#

Will Sanders will explore issues relating to housing tenure and Indigenous Australians using the 2001 Census. This work will focus on the different housing tenure patterns of discrete Indigenous communities in sparsely settled Australia and more interspersed Indigenous communities in more densely settled Australia. This analysis will inform research for the CAEPR NATSISS workshop (Project 1.1).

PROJECT 1.11: PRELIMINARY TESTING OF HEALTH SURVEY DATA

Yohannes Kinfu will analyse the determinants of ill health, and construct a composite measure of healthy life expectancy for Indigenous Australians by combining Indigenous Health Survey data with results from the 2002 NATSISS and vital registrations.

PROJECT 1.12: INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN THE CONTEMPORARY AUSTRALIAN LABOUR MARKET *^

Following the release of the ABS Monograph, 'Indigenous People in the Contemporary Australian Labour Market' in 2004, Boyd Hunter will give a series of seminars in New Zealand (University of Waikato, Auckland, Massey, and Wellington) to disseminate the results and develop collaborative research links with international universities. Boyd has been awarded a Visiting Fellowship with New Zealand Treasury on 'Urban Indigenous populations in the NZ, US and Australia: Case studies of policy invisibility?'. This visit is part of an Outside Studies Program to be undertaken December 2004—February 2005. It is anticipated that future collaborations may evolve as part of this visit with John Gibson from Waikato and Canterbury Universities in New Zealand.

PROJECT 1.13 (2005): AN ANALYSIS OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EFFECTS OF THE CDEP SCHEME IN NSW ^{*#}

Boyd Hunter has been developing a data base of the incidence of local court appearances for Indigenous people living in NSW Statistical Local Areas. When combined with CDEP administrative data and census data, it will be possible to test whether new CDEP schemes affect the incidence of local court appearances, and hence affect community development. Nicholas Biddle will use the data to examine the interactions between local court appearance and educational outcomes. Boyd Hunter and Matthew Gray will look at the interactions between changes in CDEP participation and census data for local areas.

PROJECT 1.14: THE INDIGENOUS ENUMERATION STRATEGY FOR THE 2001 AND 2006 CENSUS ^{*^}

Frances Morphy and Will Sanders continue to work with ABS as members of the 2006 Census Indigenous Enumeration Strategy Working Group. John Taylor will join them in discussions with the ABS regarding a potential ARC linkage project proposal to repeat the 2001 Census observation study during the 2006 Census. John Taylor will be presenting papers on Indigenous enumeration and mobility at a meeting of the International Association of Official Statistics in New Zealand.

PROJECT 1.15: ATLAS OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIA

The *Atlas of Indigenous Australia* is an initiative instigated and managed and edited by Bill Arthur and Frances Morphy. This encyclopedic atlas is an introduction to a spatial analysis of Indigenous history and contemporary life and will bring together Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers from across Australia. The Atlas will be published by Macquarie/MacMillan both in hard copy and electronic versions in 2005, with a significant proportion of contributions by CAEPR staff.

THEME 2: DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

Convener: Jon Altman, assisted by Matthew Gray, David Martin and Robert Levitus

Most policy assumes the centrality and urgency of economic development in addressing Indigenous disadvantage. Research under this theme will continue to explore options for attaining sustainable economic development for Indigenous people, including the viability and benefits of commercial enterprise, expanded participation in the customary economy, appropriate forms of state support, and options for Indigenous people to engage with new and innovative opportunities. However, economic development may entail dilemmas for Indigenous people about consequent changes in their distinctive social and cultural values. Research under this theme will engage with expanded conceptions of development, consider the diverse attitudes that Indigenous people may adopt towards conventional developmental models, and examine a range of creative mechanisms being adopted by Indigenous groups and communities to develop sustainable futures.

PROJECT 2.1: INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS AND MINERS: PARTNERING SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT? *^

This ARC Linkage project with Rio Tinto and the Committee for the Economic Development of Australia (CEDA) as Industry Partners will continue to 2006. The CAEPR team consists of Jon Altman, David Martin, Sarah Holcombe and Robert Levitus and Australian Post-Graduate Award (Industry) students (APAs) Benedict Scamary and Katherine Trebeck. Trips will be made to the Pilbara and the Gulf of Carpentaria to hold workshops to discuss project results. This concluding phase will include a workshop with Industry Partners and compilation of an edited volume with contributions from team members.

PROJECT 2.2: REVISITING RECONCILIATION

Jon Altman is on the steering committee advising Reconciliation Australia on the program for a workshop to be convened in May 2005 to prepare for a major 2007 Reconciliation Convention. Several CAEPR staff members will prepare backgrounder discussion papers for this workshop early in 2005.

PROJECT 2.3 (2005): DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS IN REMOTE CONTEXTS *^

Jon Altman is developing a major project that will seek to examine economic development options in a number of remote community contexts in savanna Australia. The proposal awaits the outcome of a supplementary bid by the Tropical Savannas CRC that will focus on economic development for savanna communities (ARC Interview 6/12/04). If funding is secured, this project will mesh with a number of case studies being undertaken by Tropical Savannas CRC and CAEPR staff, and the Arnhem Land Fire Abatement project which would examine business governance and institutional aspects of this proposal affecting 60,000 sq kms of Arnhem Land.

PROJECT 2.4: TIMBER HARVEST MANAGEMENT FOR THE ABORIGINAL ARTS INDUSTRY

This multidisciplinary ARC Linkage project between Jon Altman and Tony Griffiths and Jennifer Koenig (APAI, ARC Key Centre for Tropical Wildlife Management (KCTWM), Charles Darwin University) and Maningrida Arts and Culture examines socioeconomic, cultural and economic determinants of sustainability. The project will be completed in 2005, and Jon Altman will co-author articles with Tony Griffiths (co-CI) and Jenny Koenig.

PROJECT 2.5: MANAGING ENDANGERED BANTENG IN A JOINTLY-MANAGED NATIONAL PARK

This 2004–2007 ARC Linkage project involves Jon Altman in collaborative work with a number of bio-physical scientists at the ARC KCTWM and Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission.

PROJECT 2.6: DCDSCA—POLICY RESEARCH ADVICE

Diane Smith is contracted through CAEPR to provide policy research advice to the Northern Territory Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs (DCDSCA). In 2005 this will include research advice on the policy and practical challenges of Northern Territory Regional Authorities and related government policy; community governance; and Northern Territory Government policy in the context of new Federal Government policies relevant to Indigenous governance issues.

PROJECT 2.7: PHILANTHROPY, NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS AND INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT *^

Jerry Schwab and Janet Hunt will continue research into, and prepare a paper on, the role of philanthropic foundations and Non-Government Organisations in Indigenous community development.

PROJECT 2.8: THE EASTERN KUNINJKU CUSTOMARY ECONOMY IN THE 21ST CENTURY *#^

This ongoing project, will see continued work in central Arnhem Land, possibly in context of the CAEPR governance project. This collaboration between Jon Altman and the Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation focuses on the economic impact of the customary sector and its sustainability, but will expand in 2005 to also look at commercial enterprises.

PROJECT 2.9: MEASURING CHANGES IN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING *#^

This project will continue work by Jon Altman on the hybrid economy and will seek to gauge the potential match between Indigenous development aspirations and the means available to measure the extent to which they are met. This work will be linked to emerging issues on the definition of work associated with new policy pushes to introduce 'no work no pay' at remote and very remote Indigenous communities.

Following statistical work tracking Indigenous wellbeing according to social indicators at the national level 1971–2001 in 2004, a team from CAEPR including Jon Altman, Boyd Hunter, Matt Gray and Nick Biddle will explore options to undertake such tracking over time at the sub-national and section-of-state level 1981–2001.

PROJECT 2.10: ABORIGINES, CULTURE AND ECONOMY ASSA WORKSHOP

CAEPR staff contributed to this Academy of the Social Sciences workshop convened by Diane Austin-Broos and Gaynor MacDonald in December, 2004. Jon Altman, Boyd Hunter, Robert Levitus, David Martin, Will Sanders, Jerry Schwab, Diane Smith and John Taylor will be preparing their papers for publication in the workshop volume.

PROJECT 2.11: BOOK ON WELFARE, ALCOHOL AND GOVERNANCE IN A REMOTE COMMUNITY

David Martin will continue to rework his doctoral thesis for publication as a book. This research provides a detailed ethnographically-based account of the challenges posed over the past two decades by the welfare economy, alcohol, new forms of community governance and other factors to the sustainability of a remote Aboriginal community.

PROJECT 2.12: ABORIGINAL OUTCOMES FROM LAND CLAIMS, TRANSFERS AND PURCHASES IN CENTRAL CAPE YORK PENINSULA

Benjamin Smith will complete his ARC research on Aboriginal outcomes from land claims, transfers and purchases in Central Cape York Peninsula in February. The project will conclude with a one-day workshop on 'Effect of Native Title', a series of journal articles and book chapters, and work on a book manuscript.

PROJECT 2.13 (2005): MOBILE PHONE UPTAKE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Jerry Schwab and Ben Smith will undertake research investigating the issues surrounding the level of uptake of mobile phones in a remote community and implications for telecommunications servicing of this community. The project is sponsored by the ASSA, the Australian Mobile Telephone Association and a government department, and will include both fieldwork and desktop components.

PROJECT 2.14: REFINING THE CDEP SCHEME FOR COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT *#^

Jon Altman, Matthew Gray, and Robert Levitus will finalise a research report on the potential role for CDEP scheme as an instrument for economic development, sponsored by the Chifley Research Foundation. Elements of this work will be developed by Jon Altman and Matthew Gray for the Transitional Labour Market conference in Melbourne in February.

PROJECT 2.15: COMMERCIAL AND CUSTOMARY FISHERIES AS A DEVELOPMENT DRIVER *^

Bill Arthur will analyse government and industry programs (including CDEP) that relate to the Torres Strait fishery, and evaluate the extent to which these meet the aims of Torres Strait Treaty and Torres Strait Fisheries Act, in relation to production and management. This research is sponsored by the National Oceans Office. Bill will continue committee work as member of TS Scientific Advisory Committee, with special responsibility for socioeconomic issues pertaining to fisheries.

PROJECT 2.16 (2005): CUSTOMARY USE OF WILD RESOURCES^

Jon Altman and Matthew Gray will undertake new research for the New South Wales Department of Environment and Conservation analysing the economic value of wild resources from the New South Wales South Coast for Aboriginal communities in the Merimbula Lake area. This work will contribute to the New South Wales Government's ongoing Comprehensive Coastal Assessment process.

PROJECT 2.17 (2005): MAKING A LIVING FROM FISHING? *^

Bill Arthur will undertake research on aspects of tradition and legislation in relation to fishing activity in Torres Strait, subject to funding availability. The National Oceans Office is seeking cross-government funding to update a 1990 development study of Torres Strait. Very little is known about Indigenous involvement in commercial fishing. In this project proposal, Bill Arthur will take two approaches. Using baseline data from 1989-90, the size and shape of the Torres Strait commercial fishery will be detailed and explained. The interaction between this, the customary sector and between Indigenous property and access rights will be discussed.

PROJECT 2.18: DEVELOPMENT DILEMMAS FOR INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Robert Levitus will again coordinate this unit within the Masters of Applied Anthropology and Participatory Development, the Masters of Anthropology and the Graduate Diploma in Anthropology. It will also be offered under the public policy masters program. CAEPR staff will do all teaching.

PROJECT 2.19: MONOGRAPH: ABORIGINAL DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-DETERMINATION

Robert Levitus will revisit and expand the text already prepared for this monograph both from the literature and using the outcomes of other research activities this year.

PROJECT 2.20 (2005): INDIGENOUS FAMILY INCOME MANAGEMENT

PROJECT EVALUATION#

Jon Altman, Matt Gray, David Martin, Will Sanders and Ben Smith have tendered to undertake an evaluation of the Family Income Management Scheme (FIMS) in Cape York as a consultancy for FACS. Undertaking will be contingent on winning the bid.

PROJECT 2.21 (2005): ABORIGINAL CHILD RAISING PATTERNS *^

Matthew Gray will investigate whether it is possible to use the 2001 Indigenous National Health Survey to provide data on Aboriginal child raising patterns, such as birth parents as carers versus other carers.

PROJECT 2.22: LEARNING FROM THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL INDIGENOUS FORESTRY STRATEGY *^

This ARC Linkage project commenced in 2004 and will inform and monitor the evolving National Indigenous Forestry Strategy and canvass options for policy-realistic and culturally-acceptable ways that forestry can ameliorate Indigenous socioeconomic disadvantage. Researchers contributing are Professor Peter Kanowski and Dr Richard Baker, School of Resources, Environment and Society, ANU and Professor Jon Altman as Chief Investigators, and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) as Industry Partners. Jon Altman will be co-supervising APAI doctoral student Sue Feary.

PROJECT 2.23: INDIGENOUS BUSINESS AS A DEVELOPMENT DRIVER *^

The Indigenous Business Review was completed late in 2003 but has not been released. Dennis Foley (Koori Centre, University of Sydney) will join CAEPR as a Visiting Indigenous Fellow in the first half of 2005 to collaborate with Boyd Hunter, and present an analysis of Indigenous entrepreneurs. Jon Altman will write up collaborative research with M.C. Dillon, DCDSCA, on public funding models for development on Indigenous land.

PROJECT 2.24: MONITORING THE IMPACT OF E-COMMERCE

Jon Altman and John Hughes have been collaborating with Maningrida Arts and Culture to assess the commercial impact of the new e-commerce Maningrida.com site, launched in May 2003. This research may continue in June 2005.

PROJECT 2.25 (2005): COMPARATIVE SOCIAL INCLUSION POLICY

David Martin will conduct preliminary comparative research on the policy frameworks brought to bear on the Romany people, which vary widely across Europe, and what this has to offer our own policy analysis with regard to social inclusion policies.

PROJECT 2.26: FACTORS AFFECTING POPULATIONS OF TURTLE AND DUGONG

Jon Altman will continue work as a member of the Technical Reference Group for the Dugong and Marine Turtle Management Project, NAILSMA.

THEME 3. EDUCATION, GOVERNANCE AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT: TOOLS FOR STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT

Convener: Jerry Schwab, assisted by Will Sanders and Diane Smith

Theme 3 investigates and facilitates the development of tools for strategic engagement among and between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. The research aims to support Indigenous self-determination through improved processes and outcomes. One strand of the theme highlights the importance of education and capacity development for individual, family and community well being. This research focuses on the effective delivery of education, the development of education policy, the role of human capital and community contexts for literacy and life long learning. Indigenous public policy discussions highlight the need for robust governance and related capacity as a precursor for Indigenous futures. This strand of the theme explores the organisation, processes and institutional conditions for collective action in Indigenous communities, including the nature of representation, autonomy, accountability and leadership. Capacity development, as expressed in both strands of this theme, is conceived of as a multi-level engagement between and among Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

PROJECT 3.1: INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE *^

This 2004–2006 ARC Linkage Project with the subtitle 'Understanding, Building and Sustaining Effective Governance in Rural, Remote and Urban Indigenous Australia' is undertaken with Industry Partner, Reconciliation Australia (RA). Project chief investigators are Jon Altman, Will Sanders, Diane Smith and Mick Dodson. A number of other researchers including Janet Hunt, Sarah Holcombe, Frances Morphy, Ben Smith, John Taylor, and APAI doctoral student Katherine Thorburn from CAEPR, as well as researchers from Charles Darwin University, the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, and the University of Western Australia.

PROJECT 3.2: THE POTENTIAL FOR REGIONAL GOVERNANCE IN SPARSELY SETTLED DESERT AREAS *#

This project will involve a field-based case study investigation by Will Sanders and Sarah Holcombe in Central Australia, probably with the Anmatjere region, as part of the CAEPR-RA Governance project and CAEPR's contribution to the Desert Knowledge CRC. Governance arrangements focused on single remote communities and the potential for moves towards larger scale multiple locality regional community governance arrangements will be examined.

PROJECT 3.3: INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN GOVERNANCE: CULTURE MATCH AND COMMUNITY PRACTICE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Diane Smith will undertake collaborative research with international researchers Neil Sterritt, Stephen Cornell and Manly Begay under the CAEPR-RA Governance Project. It will focus on the policy, institutional, cultural and practical challenges faced by Indigenous people in building and sustaining effective community and regional governance in Australia. It will examine best-practice, and factors influencing the development of new forms of governance which seek to incorporate 'culture match' with contemporary structures.

PROJECT 3.4: GOVERNANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: A BEST-PRACTICE CASE STUDY

Diane Smith will continue her case study of the Yarnteen Corporation in Newcastle in collaboration with Leah Armstrong. This examination of an urban Indigenous corporation explores best-practice governance and identifies linkages between governance and sustained economic development, and is part of the CAEPR-RA Indigenous governance project.

PROJECT 3.5: GOVERNANCE AND DECENTRALISATION IN CENTRAL CAPE YORK PENINSULA#

Benjamin Smith is examining the role played by a local Aboriginal corporation in supporting and frustrating the decentralisation aspirations of local Aboriginal families in central Cape York Peninsula, as part of the CAEPR-RA Indigenous governance project. Its main aim is to develop an analysis of the match between particular aspirations of local Aboriginal groups and the formal structures and processes through which these aspirations are supported. A substantial fieldwork component will take place in 2005, and a grant proposal developed for work on the Coen Justice Group will be submitted to the Australian Institute of Criminology.

PROJECT 3.6: JUNIOR RANGERS: INDIGENOUS SCHOOL TO WORK TRANSITIONS IN REMOTE AUSTRALIA#

Jerry Schwab will undertake research into school to work transition options for Indigenous youth in remote areas. Initially, the work will involve an exploratory study of an Aboriginal Junior Ranger program that provides education and training for land management and the sustainable use of natural resources. Preliminary research will be conducted in the Northern Territory. The out-years scope of this project will be determined by the result of an ARC Linkage proposal submitted in November 2004.

PROJECT 3.7: THE NATURE OF INDIGENOUS ADULT LITERACY IN REMOTE AUSTRALIA

This ongoing research, started by Jerry Schwab and Inge Kral in 2003, addresses the nature of adult literacy in remote Australia. Jerry Schwab will be extending the analysis of his field data and focusing on the implications of his findings for educators and policy makers.

PROJECT 3.8: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN LITERACY—IMPLICATIONS FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT AND GOVERNANCE IN A REMOTE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY#

Inge Kral will be writing up her PhD following completion of fieldwork in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands in Western Australia, observing everyday literacy practices and analysing a skills audit of 600 CDEP recipients to determine education, training and employment history and school to work aspirations.

PROJECT 3.9: TORRES STRAIT GOVERNANCE AND THE 2004 TORRES STRAIT ELECTIONS *^

Will Sanders monitor governance developments in Torres Strait as part of the CAEPR-RA Indigenous governance project.

PROJECT 3.10: THE GROG BOOK 2ND EDITION

This consultancy for a new edition of the highly successful Grog Book will involve research visits to Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, and Darwin. It is planned to launch the new edition in May 2005.

PROJECT 3.11: RESOURCING COMMUNITIES TO MANAGE SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Maggie Brady has been nominated as an evaluator in a project proposal from the Far West Area Health Service (Broken Hill, NSW) to the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation. The project, which is awaiting a decision from its funding application with AERF, would assess resourcing to communities to manage substance misuse.

PROJECT 3.12: PRINCIPLES FOR EFFECTIVE INDIGENOUS ORGANISATIONAL GOVERNANCE

David Martin will continued his research interest in social inclusion and community governance in Australia, focusing on the need for a 'social technology' to enable a 'strategic engagement' of Aboriginal people with the wider society which allows both for the distinctiveness of Aboriginal world views and for heightened opportunities to reduce disadvantage.

Professor Jon Altman
 Director, CAEPR
 1 December 2004