

REPORT OF THE WINHEC RESEARCH WORKING PARTY

23 NOVEMBER 2005

Present

Veronica Arbon

Pip Bruce-Ferguson

Danica Waiti

Editor, WINHEC Journal

Discussion

The WINHEC Research working Party achieved the work it set its self last year namely the acceptance of the Research Statement and the appointment of an Editor. The Journal was published on line and in hard copy (for sale).

The publication of the Journal online was an effective way of letting people access articles, no matter where in the world they were located. Much positive feedback has been received with regards to the inaugural edition and interest through sales and feedback is plentiful.

Notably the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education moved discussion around the idea of bothways and how this might have insight to or applicability within research in the Institute. In doing this the Institute while drawing on the years of work undertaken by our people to shift the research agenda and present internal policy documents. This agenda was furthered by drawing on the Cultural Standards as guideposts to undertaking research under the auspices of the Institute See www.batchelor@edu.au

Work to do

There was agreement that WINHEC look at other ways of promoting research that is not in a written (text) form. Whilst the journal is one tool for WINHEC to publish indigenous works, there are other valuable stories that should be shared e.g. poems, sculpture etc.

We need to find ways of letting people know what is happening in terms of research in the different member organisations and countries. We now know that a space exists on the WINHEC website that can be utilised in advertising and promoting news, ideas, innovative practice for the benefit of WINHEC members. For example in Australia, two Indigenous PhD students have won the right for the elders who have supported them in their work to receive honorary degrees in recognition of their mentorship and co-supervision. Achievements such as these need to be shared with others to encourage a positive shift in institutional practice.

Recommendations

1. That a 2006 edition of the WINHEC Journal be published with the theme of Indigenous values;
2. That we use the web facility to promote research and scholarship by:
 - i. Publishing a list of assessors and interest areas for Phd's,

- ii. Listing completed and in progress dissertations,
- iii. Providing an e-forum for WINHEC members and public access,
- iv. Post the WINHEC statement (endorsed last year) on Research to the web.