

**WORLD INDIGENOUS NATIONS
HIGHER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM**

**WINHEC Academic Working Group; and,
Research & Journal Working Group, 2009 Reports**



Research & Journal Working Group

Attendance *Veronica Arbon (Chair Research and Journal Working Party); Corwin Clairmont; Hohaja Collier; Christopher Heelan; Diane Hill; Marcia Krawll; Herman Michael; Mark Minchinton; Rector Steiner Pedersen; Lorelee Waterchief; Tien-Tai Wu; Boni Robertson and Gary Thomas (Acting Chairs Academic Working Group); Leslie Spencer; Linda Sue Warner; Peter Buckskin; Louise Lahache*

**Research and
Journal**

WINHEC Research and Journal Working Group met to consider the matters identified at its last meeting at La Trobe University, Australia. Central to this work was been the publication of the WINHEC Journal and the development of a set of Research Standards (Principles). I thank Dr Rachael Selby and Te Wananga o Aotearoa for their work in developing a very powerful series of papers within the WINHEC (2009) Journal *Indigenous Voices, Indigenous Symbols*. I also thank the WINHEC Working Group members in Australia for bringing two papers on Indigenous research to the discussions in our recent meeting.

The papers are titled *Indigenous Research, Principles, Protocols, Ethical Domains and Guidelines* with the second, a commissioned paper by Terri Janke, titled *Writing Up Indigenous Research: Authorship, Copyright and Indigenous Knowledge Systems*. These papers informed the development, tabling and subsequent discussions on the Research Standards (Principles) draft document clarifying and extending the Standards. The draft document provides an opportunity to address and improve basic standards in Indigenous research. It was therefore recommended the final document be endorsed in principle and be placed on the WINHEC Website, as soon as possible. The draft Research Standards will again be considered at the 2010 meeting with the final document posted on endorsement as a WINHEC Exemplar.

The Research and Journal Working Group meeting addressed the title and focus of the 2010 Journal. The title will be: ***Indigenous Voices: Indigenous Research***.

The Research and Journal Working Group meeting also confirmed the need to continue work on the establishment of a web-based searchable database of

potential Indigenous higher degree examiners and supervisors.

- Recommendations**
- (a) The Research Standards (Principles) document be endorsed in principle and uploaded to the WINHEC website as DRAFT until finalised;
 - (b) The WINHEC Journal of 2010 will focus on Indigenous Research and will have the title of **Indigenous Voices Indigenous Research**; and,
 - (c) The Research and Journal Working Party will continue the development of the web-based searchable Indigenous scholars' database.

Academic Working Group

Attendance

Boni Robertson Acting Chair Academic Working Party; Gary Thomas (Chair Support) Corwin Clairmont; Hohaja Collier; Christopher Heelan; Diane Hill; Marcia Krawll; Herman Michael; Mark Minchinton; Rector Steiner Pedersen; Lorelee Waterchief; Tien-Tai Wu; Leslie Spencer; Linda Sue Warner; Peter Buckskin; Louise Lahache

Apology was given for Associate Professor Berice Anning Chair of the WINHEC Academic Committee. The Working Party were advised that Boni Robertson had stepped down as the Academic Working Party Chair as the Executive Committee members were going to be assigned portfolios which would require a great deal of input and time. It was advised that Boni was going to be assigned the Academic, Research and Journal portfolios which would enable her to maintain her involvement in working with her colleagues to progress the Doctorate and the Journal and Research activities. Boni made special mention of the work that had been undertaken by her Australian WINHEC colleagues Berice Anning, Veronica Arbon and Gray Thomas and Turoa Royale in advancing the development of the WINHEC Doctorate. An overview was provided of the times that the Working Party met in Australia and appreciation was expressed for the support that members such as Dr Susan Hill, Laura Horton and others had made to the Doctorate to date. Boni advised that the task for the WINHEC Academic Working Group at this meeting was to consider key features of the draft Doctorate curriculum, particularly the Graduate Attributes and the Key Competencies and to discuss ways in which WINHEC could progress its development. The Acting Chair noted the development of several years work in progressing the document and thanked everyone involved in its development to date. The Acting Chair noted the substantial progress made by the WINHEC Australia over the past year. It was also noted a report and a copy of the draft Doctorate (coursework) and related information had been forwarded to WINHEC Chair prior to the meeting. It was also reported that a number of critical questions had been forwarded to the Executive for

consideration as they would be integral to the progression of the Doctorate as a viable resource for WINHEC.

. The Acting Chair advised that there would be a point where the draft document would need to be taken up by the Executive in consultation with the Accreditation and Finance Working Parties as there were matters pertinent to their respective areas of interest. The Working Party briefly discussed the issue of funding, the need for an MOU for Institutions that wanted to implement the Doctorate and other matters that pertained to the progression and implementation of the Doctorate. The WINHEC Accreditation Working Group then considered the Doctorate and associated documents such as graduate attributes and key competencies, taking into account this progress since the previous WINHEC meeting in Melbourne. The Working Group then focussed on the Graduate Attributes within the Award which led to a suggested change to remove or replace the words meta-cognitive. A careful re-reading/working was also noted as necessary to remove overlap of the Attributes. While the W/P concentrated on the G/A and K/C documents, Mark Michin and his colleagues worked hard to try and develop a more suitable wording for these documents before tabling with the Executive Committee.

Extensive discussions around the progression and marketing of the Doctorate took place. This discussion identified the need for the Executive to License the degree in order to create a viable economic commodity and to protect the intellectual property for WINHEC.

- Recommendations**
- (a) The WINHEC Working Party members from Australia up-date the Graduate Attributes as outlined;
 - (b) The WINHEC Executive Board accept the draft Doctorate in Principle; and,
 - (c) The WINHEC Executive Board take action to investigate Licensing options, as soon as possible.
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