



Staffing Update

We've had some exciting news at the Centre recently, with Manola Chong being appointed to the position of Manager, Centre Operations. Congratulations to Manola – very well deserved.

We've also recently said farewell to Townsville Academic Support Advisor, Anthony Nicholls who has been offered an opportunity in Cairns before moving to Sydney in the new year to commence his Master of Physiotherapy. This is fantastic news for Anthony, but a sad loss for the Centre. His presence will surely be missed in the Centre by staff and his students. We wish Anthony all the best and know he will achieve great things.



Anthony Nicholls

Design Sprint

Over a two day period, roughly 300 JCU students attended the JCU Design Sprint at Quayside Terminal Townsville. This event offers students the opportunity to apply design thinking and experimentation to solve real-world challenges with over 60 key industry partners.

We had five Indigenous students participate in this event, along with our very own IERC Undergraduate Coordinator Dr Dianna Hardy as the Design Sprint organiser. Well done to Dr Di for all your hard work coordinating such a successful event and congratulations to all our students for their persistence and determination in developing and pitching some brilliant ideas around disaster management.



300 IT students ready for their Design Sprint



Dr Dianna Hardy (left)



IT students hard at work

National Bandana Day

During his first semester of university, Creative Arts student Tate Jenkinson was given the news that no 17 year old expects – he had cancer. Two years on, Tate decided to use his creative skills to design a bandana with CanTeen for National Bandana Day, which was held on Friday 25 October.

Read more about [Tate's Story](#).

About the art work – “Effervescent Owl” “The design incorporates two key aspects of my personality. The paint splashes symbolise my creativity; while the owls represent my drive to learn after all I’ve been through.” – Tate

See Tate with CanTeen at Bunnings selling his artwork



Tate Jenkinson



QATSIF Graduations

The IERC was delighted to support this year's QATSIF QCE Scholarship Graduation on both the Townsville and Cairns JCU campuses.

Under the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) Scholarship Program, QATSIF provides two-year scholarship funding to support students commencing in Year 11. The intention of the funding is to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student retention in Years 11 and 12.

The Graduation ceremony saw 41 and 62 Year 12 students from Townsville and Cairns high schools respectively, graduate from the program. They were congratulated by their family members, school teachers and classmates, Traditional Owners, special guests, and JCU and IERC staff, and enjoyed a light lunch at the IERC afterwards.

On behalf of the IERC, Virginia McHugh (Townsville) and Leah Hammett (Cairns) welcomed students and visitors to the campuses and provided words of encouragement and wisdom. Current JCU (and past QATSIF graduates) Jasmine Blackman and Georgia-Rose Edwards also shared their inspirational journeys and experience from a first-hand perspective.

IERC staff congratulate all QATSIF QCE Scholarship Program graduates on achieving this milestone and we wish you all the brightest future as you continue to become outstanding young leaders within our communities.



Jasmine Blackman



Ignatius Park students



Aunty Bev Cummins, Eddie Savage, Aunty Dorothy Savage, Aunty Joan McKay



QATSIF Graduates

Student Stories

JCU Indigenous Speech Pathology student, Rhana Gelens was recently awarded a scholarship to attend the 2019 Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA) National Conference and participate in the Health Fusion Team Challenge (HFTC).

The HFTC is an extracurricular competition for university students from the health and medical professions. It provides students with an opportunity to demonstrate their expertise in teamwork and collaboration as they develop a health care management plan in response to a complex Indigenous case study.



Past students Matt (left) and Rhana (right) with Professor Sabina Knight (Director of CRRH, Mt Isa)



Staff Awards



Associate Professor Felecia Watkin-Lui

A huge congratulations to Associate Professor Felecia Watkin-Lui for taking out the Award for Excellence in Promoting Indigenous Participation in Graduate Research at the recent Higher Degree by Research (HDR) Advisor Awards.

The Advisor of the Year Awards aim to encourage and reward staff who have excelled in the supervision of HDR candidates at the Doctoral, Research Masters and/or Honours levels. Winners were selected for these awards by the Research Education Sub-Committee based on nominations from their students.

Congratulations Associate Professor Felecia on a well-deserved win!

Another congratulations goes to our Green Thumbs team for their efforts with the TropEco Green Impact Program. These efforts were recently rewarded at the annual TropEco Awards where the IERC's Green Thumbs took out three awards:

Honorable mention – Green Thumbs
Special Award (Team) – Green Thumbs
Accreditation Level (GOLD) – Green Thumbs

And last but not least, congratulations to Clair Ryder for taking out the TropEco STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARD.

Clair has mobilised staff and students to create a happier, healthier and more productive workplace through a wide-range on initiatives including:

- Team champion for the Green Thumbs Green Impact team
- Maintenance of the IERC vegetable garden
- Installation and maintenance of a native bee-hive and insect hotels
- Organising waste free initiatives such as KeepCups for staff, Plastic Free Week, and making jam from fruit that was destined for landfill
- Running sessions to make bees wax wraps
- Ongoing engagement and support for sustainability activities with students and staff at IERC and across the university.

Well done to Clair as she continues to increase the awareness and discussion of sustainability, the future, and the role each of us can play.



Clair and her proud parents



IERC staff showing their support



The IERC Green Thumbs

October News

All treats, no tricks at our Halloween Lunch

All the stress of exams was left at the door at the recent Townsville IERC

Halloween Lunch. The BBQ lunch was for students in order to say thank you for all your hard work, and good luck for upcoming exams! We shared a delicious feed of steaks, sausages and cakes and had the opportunity to relax, catch up and have a well-deserved break from the massive semester that has been.

Thanks to the IERC staff for putting on such an awesome lunch.



Summer Pre-Program 1 - 13 December 2019

The Summer Pre-Program is open to any Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who completed Year 12 QCE or HSC requirements in 2019 and are looking to gain entry into JCU.

Find out more about the [Summer Pre-Program](#)

Applications close Tuesday 12 November 2019.

APPLY NOW: willowsoft.app/application?uni=JCU