



# Indigenous Graduate Students Association

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting 2014

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5:30pm -6:30pm on the Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at the Murrup Barak meeting room, Level 1, Old Physics Building, The University of Melbourne

**Meeting Chair:** Emily Poelina-Hunter

**Attendance:** Emily Poelina-Hunter, Graham Gee, Lyndon Ormond-Parker, Suzanne Spinner, Todd Frenando, Maddee Clark, Lauren Arabena

**Apologies:** Terry James, Robin Robinson, Ngaree Blow

## 1. Chairpersons Report

Indigenous Graduate Student Association coordinated a series of Research Seminars:

- March 2014 - Presenter: Emily Poelina-Hunter, The University of Melbourne
- May 2014 - Presenter: Associate Professor Barry Judd, RMIT University
- June 2014 - Presenter: Lilly Brown, The University of Melbourne
- July 2014 - Presenter: Dr Christine Asmar, The University of Melbourne
- August 2014 - Presenter: Robin Ann Robinson, The University of Melbourne
- October 2014 - Presenter: Emily Poelina-Hunter, The University of Melbourne

The chair person has been active in assisting with the development of the Indigenous Research Portal that is yet to be launched. The Indigenous Research Portal is being developed to showcase Indigenous research in the University and to build stronger networks and connections. The aims of the research portal are:

- Raise the profile of and external support for University's Indigenous research initiative
- Showcase the University's existing Indigenous research capabilities
- Ensure effective communication of opportunities in the realm of Indigenous research
- Foster new research opportunities, such as community-based research projects
- Build a clearer and more structured entry pathway
- Build a clearer and more structured career path with a wide range of possible pathways

The IGSA Chair has shared Involvement in having input to the Reconciliation Action Plan at the planning meetings with Ellen Day.

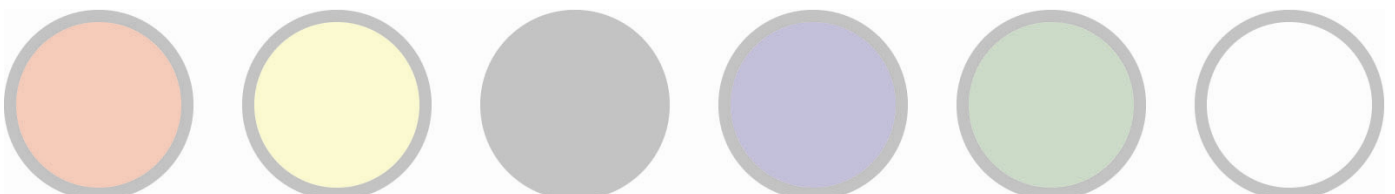
## Committee representations

The IGSA Chair has been the IGSA representative for many committees across the university. These committees include:

- Indigenous Scholarships Award
- Faculty of Arts Indigenous Employment Framework Working Group
- Faculty of Arts Indigenous Student Recruitment and Retention Working Group.

## Annual Research Symposium

The IGSA Annual Research Symposium will not be going ahead this year. Instead, there will be a graduate student group meeting with the 2014 Narrm Orator, Professor Linda Tuhiwai Smith.





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## 2. Financial Report

The balance of the IGSA bank account is \$1820.00. \$500 is being donated to the Joshua Hardy Fund that Trinity College has organised. This will leave \$1220.00 in the IGSA bank account for 2015.

## 3. IGSA Issues

- Dr Christine Asmar has resigned from The University of Melbourne
- Lauren Arabena's position will not be continuing into 2015 and she will be going overseas to Borneo on her personal/university business for the months leading up to the end of the year.
- Murrup Barak will no longer have any academic roles or functions – no teaching or research
- The Summer School (GC-IRPRO) and Winter School (GC-IRL) courses will be moved to CSHE
- Murrup Barak will continue its functions as a student recruitment and support centre
- Student Involvement – is the IGSA too research-based, and not reaching out enough to Indigenous students who are studying a Masters by course work, or to non-Indigenous students doing Indigenous topics?
- The cohort has been getting smaller since 2009 as there has been minimal infill

## 4. Other News

Professor Shaun Ewen may be planning a spin-off of the IGSA over at the Poche Centre in MDHS. This could be an opportunity for IGSA to locate support.

## 5. Notion of Hibernating

- The IGSA will still be officially standing
- There are 9 members overall on the steering committee
- The IGSA will re-affiliate with the GSA for funding opportunities – In the past, the IGSA has operated as an organic group

## 6. Election of the 2015 Office Bearers

Emily Poelina-Hunter steps down as the IGSA Chairperson.

Lyndon Ormond Parker nominated Todd Fernando as Interim Chair. Emily Poelina-Hunter seconded.

Ngaree will remain as the IGSA Treasurer.

Robin will remain as the IGSA Secretary.

Emily Poelina-Hunter will no longer be the IGSA Bank Account Signatory. This role will be handed over to Todd Fernando. The two signatories for the IGSA Bank Account will be Ngaree Blow and Todd Fernando.

### New 2015 Steering Committee:

Interim Chair: Todd Fernando

Secretary: Robin Robinson

Treasurer: Ngaree Blow

### IGSA General Committee Members:

Emily Poelina-Hunter

Graham Gee

Lyndon Ormond-Parker

Maddee Clark

Suzanne Spinner

Terry James

**Meeting Close – 6:30pm, 30<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

