

Summary of Discovery Indigenous Researchers Development Proposals for Funding to Commence in 2007

New South Wales

The University of Sydney

DI0775822 Mr JN Gumbula; Dr AD Corn

Approved Project Title **Elder Assessments of Early Material Culture Collections from Arnhem Land and Contemporary Access Needs to Them among Their Source Communities**

2007 : \$135,000

2008 : \$110,000

Primary RFCD 4203 CULTURAL STUDIES

Administering Organisation The University of Sydney

Project Summary

There is enormous interest in Arnhem Land about the region's recorded history. In recent years, the return of digital materials from collections worldwide has become a significant and efficacious strategy for stimulating cultural maintenance there. The sense of history that these materials bring is proving invaluable in maintaining well-being and community in Arnhem Land amid the hardships of local life. Informed by custodians of the region's endangered languages and traditions, this project will produce findings of world heritage significance that will articulate the collections access needs of local people. It would be the first ARC project to be led by a Yolngu Elder.

DI0775833 Dr I Watson; A/Prof J Stubbs

Approved Project Title **Aboriginal Women Law and Colonialism: Safe Places for Women.**

2007 : \$20,000

2008 : \$20,000

Primary RFCD 3901 LAW

Administering Organisation The University of Sydney

Project Summary

There has been extensive media reporting on violent crimes against Aboriginal women and children in Aboriginal communities across Australia, which has created wide public debate. In particular the role of the courts when sentencing Aboriginal offenders of violent crimes has drawn attention to the interpretation of Aboriginal law and culture. The evaluation of Australian case law will be invaluable in expanding the Australian communities knowledge in this area of law and policy, in planning safer Aboriginal communities for Aboriginal women and children in the future.