

Biography of the Authors

Veronica Arbon veronica.arbon@adelaide.edu.au is a proud Arabana woman from west of Lake Eyre in South Australia who was born in Alice Springs and spent most of her early years in remote Australia, particularly in the Northern Territory around the Wilton/Roper River region before moving into Darwin. Dr Arbon has been employed within higher education for over 30 years as a tutor, lecturer, Senior Lecturer and Professor. Dr Arbon was the first Aboriginal Director of Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education during 1999-2005, one of the inaugural Chairs of Indigenous Knowledge Systems at Deakin University during 2008-2012 and, is presently the Associate Professor and Director of Wilto Yerlo at Adelaide University. Actively collaborating in research and studies which have focused on the quality of the Aboriginal content, processes and practices within academic systems and all its activities including research, Dr Arbon submitted her doctoral study in August 2006. This is now published as, *'Arlathirnda Ngurkarnda Ityirnda: Being-knowing-doing: De-Colonising Indigenous Tertiary Education'*. Dr Arbon is involved on a number of national and international committees and has acted as the editor of the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium Journal over the past three years.

Berice Anning Berice.anning@uws.edu.au Berice Anning is the Dean, Indigenous Education and Director, Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education, University of Western Sydney. Associate Professor Anning was initially employed as the Associate Director (Academic) developing and implementing an Indigenous Graduate Attribute across the University. Berice has worked in the specific educational areas of early childhood teaching/training and management, primary teaching, secondary teaching and tertiary education. At the higher education level, Berice Anning's has included the leadership and management of academic and research development at Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education, Charles Sturt University, New South Wales and the University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba. Associate Professor Anning has held professional roles which have included Chair of the National Indigenous Higher Education Network (NIHEN); member of the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC); Chair of the WINHEC Academic Programs Committee; member of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium (NATSHIEC); member of the Australian Vice Chancellor's Committee (AVCC) and inaugural member of the Federal Minister for Education's Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council (IHEAC).

Boni Robertson b.robertson@griffith.edu.au is a strong and proud Aboriginal woman from the Kabi Kabi Nation in Queensland Australia, who has spent the past thirty five years working in Indigenous Affairs and Indigenous Higher education at the State, National and International level. Boni is the Professor and Director of Indigenous Community Engagement, Policy and Partnerships at Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia. She has

extensive research and community advocacy experience, having established major initiatives and programs to enhance the emotional and social well being of Indigenous women, children and families. Professor Robertson has made a significant contribution to social policy at the state and national level improving the lives of Indigenous people through research. Professor Robertson is frequently sought out by members of Parliament, Government, the private sector and industry to provide advice on matters pertinent to Aboriginal Australians, cross-cultural engagement and community development and social policy and administration.

She has Chaired international and national committees pertinent to Indigenous Affairs, working extensively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders and other representatives addressing the needs of their respective community groups and agencies. Professor Robertson has successfully engaged in productive dialogue and debate with diverse stakeholders in order to develop Global initiatives to highlight the contributions of Indigenous women and Elders to research and other scholarly pursuits in higher education.

Gary Thomas gary.thomas@latrobe.edu.au is the Director, Equity and Student Support Services & Director, Indigenous Education at La Trobe University in Victoria. Gaining qualifications in Music, English literature and Education from the University of Queensland, Gary was a Secondary Teacher in Far North Queensland before joining the higher education sector. He has undertaken roles including academic, student advisor, manager and executive at three universities. Gary has been an auditor for the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) 2006 - 2012. He has a particular interest in the contributions diverse groups make to the construction of quality within complex organizations. Gary was invited to provide an Indigenous Australian perspective on Quality Assurance at *the Second Global Forum on International Quality Assurance, Accreditation and the Recognition of Qualifications*, Paris 2004 organized by UNESCO. Gary was Chair of the National Indigenous Higher Education Network (NIHEN); now the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium (NATSIHEC) from 2005 – 2008. He has participated in the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium since 2005 as a member of its Academic, Journal and Research Working Parties. Gary is currently a member of a number of advisory boards to institutions and programs in Indigenous Education.

Zelalem Nemera bultumzn@yahoo.com is one of the key founders of a nonprofit making nongovernmental organization, Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD). He has been managing the organization with a position of Executive Director since 2010. Besides, has been serving as part-time lecturer at different colleges and universities in Ethiopia. His research and pragmatic interests are human and democratic rights with special focus to the rights of women, children and Indigenous people. He contributed an article for the 2011 edition of WINHEC journal.

Tamene Keneni tkwg11@gmail.com graduated with a BA in Educational Psychology and an MA in Developmental Psychology from Addis Ababa University in July 2003 and 2008 respectively. He worked as a teacher educator at Mickey Leland College and as a lecturer at New Generation University College. He has been lecturing psychology at Debre Birhan University since 2008 and currently he's a PhD student at Addis Ababa University, Institute of Psychology. His research interests include developmental impacts of early childhood / childhood adverse family environments across the lifespan, resilience, vulnerability, positive lifespan development, Indigenous knowledge related to parenting and cross-culture research in psychology.

Candace Kaleimamoowahinekapu Galla candace.galla@ubc.ca (Native Hawaiian) was born in Hilo and raised in Pahala, Ka'ū on the island of Hawai'i. Her areas of interest include language revitalization, education, performative arts, multimedia technology, and applied linguistics as it pertains to Indigenous communities. She is an Assistant Professor of First Nations Languages & Education in the Department of Language & Literacy Education at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada.

Gunvor Guttorm gunvor.guttorm@samiskhs.no is Professor in *duodji* (Sámi arts and crafts, traditional art, applied art) at the Sámi University College in Guovdageaidnu/Kautokeino in Norway. She has taught both undergraduate and graduate courses in *duodji* at Sámi University College level, both practically and theoretically. She has written several articles about how the traditional knowledge of sami art and craft is transformed to the modern lifestyle.