



## 20 YEARS ON: U.N. CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

The CEIEC recently received funds to establish a Vice Chancellor's Interdisciplinary Steering Committee on Children's Rights, Participation and Citizenship at The University of Melbourne.

University's ARC Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics, its Graduate School of Education, its School of Social Work, together with representatives of the following Faculties: Clinical Physiotherapy, Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences, Behavioral Science, Law, Arts and Architecture, Building and Planning. These University members will be joined by government and community representatives.

Throughout 2009, the Steering Committee will hold a variety of events as part of the University's celebration of the 20th anniversary of the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Steering Committee will be assisted by an International Interdisciplinary Advisory Group (IIAG), the members of which will include David Archard (Professor of Philosophy and Public Policy at Lancaster University, UK) and Martin Woodhead (Professor of Childhood Studies at the Open University, UK).

The Steering Committee will develop resources that support young children's right to participate in decisions and policy-making. Specifically, it will develop a national agenda for children's rights; create/widen partnerships for children's rights; and promote children's rights through civil engagement and publication.

For more information, contact Prof. Glenda MacNaughton: [gmmacn@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:gmmacn@unimelb.edu.au)

The Steering Committee's membership will come from the

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### STOP PRESS!

The CEIEC's Prasanna Srinivasan has won a Helen MacPherson Smith scholarship 'for outstanding women who are entering postgraduate study', as she is 'the highest-ranked female recipient of an Australian Postgraduate Award' in the University of Melbourne. A big CEIEC 'Fabbo!' to Prasanna!!

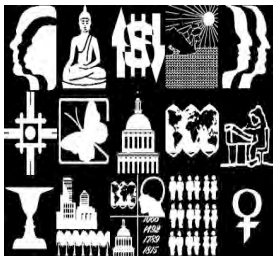


(L to R) Prasanna Srinivasan, Karina Davis, Jane Page, Glenda MacNaughton, Kate Alexander, Merlyne Cruz, Kylie Smith, Margaret Coady.

### Seasonal greetings from CEIEC!

Every best wish for now and the New Year from the CEIEC team - caught for once (left) in the same place at the same time at the Conference.





## CEIEC RECEIVES RESEARCH PLANNING AWARD

The CEIEC recently received a University of Melbourne International Research Planning Workshop Award. The award will support an international research workshop - *Children Living with Ethnic Diversity and Ethnic Conflict* - to be held in Melbourne early in 2009.

The workshop will assist the CEIEC to extend its work in the Joint Learning Initiative on Cultural and Ethnic Diversity (JLICED), an international research network that it co-founded in early 2008 (see [Centre News 7.1](#)). JLICED will support early childhood programs that aim to reduce racial and ethnic divisions and to support socially inclusive communities.

The JLICED works through 6 Learning Groups, each co-chaired by two leading international early childhood researchers. CEIEC Director Prof. Glenda MacNaughton co-chairs the *Children, Race and Ethnicity* Learning Group with Ms. Sri Marpinjun, Executive Director of Indonesia's LSPPA (Institute for Women's and Children's Studies and Development).

The Award will fund 2 co-chairs of other JLICED Learning Groups to attend the first meeting of the *Children, Race and Ethnicity* Learning Group. Their attendance will enable participants to identify specific areas for collaboration and to develop a funding-strategy for the Australian component of Phase 2 of the JLICED. The 2 co-chairs will also present their work at a public seminar in Melbourne.

Interested in the workshop or the public seminar? Contact:

[www.jliced.org](http://www.jliced.org)

Dr Karina Davis:

[daviskm@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:daviskm@unimelb.edu.au)

## International Journal of Equity and Innovation in Early Childhood (IJEIEC)

Volume 6 Issue 2.

Published on 23 December

### CONTENTS

Louise Derman-Sparks, 'Keep on, Keeping on: Progress, Challenges and Possibilities for Anti-Bias Education.'

Zsuzsa Millei, 'Problematizing the Concepts of 'Citizenship' and 'Participation' in Early Years Discourses: Are they so empowering?'

Wajuppa Tossa, 'Educating Young Children through Folktales and Storytelling.'

Jane Page, 'Four and Five Year Old Children's Perspectives on Being Sad: The intersection between young children's emotions and their experiences of citizenship.'

### Practitioner perspective

Kylie Smith, Greta Swan, Sam Parsons & Sharon Saitta, 'Critical Reflections from the Hammock at Swanston Street Children's Centre.'

### Book reviews

Jane Lane (2008). *Young Children and Racial Justice*. London: National Children's Bureau.

David Johnson (Ed.) (2008). *The Changing Landscape of Education in Africa: quality, equity and democracy*. Oxford: Symposium Books.

Interested in subscribing to IJEIEC? Thinking of submitting an article or review?

[www.edfac.unimelb.edu.au/ceiec/resources/journal.html](http://www.edfac.unimelb.edu.au/ceiec/resources/journal.html)



## WANTED: A BUS FOR THE BAYULU!

**Women from the Bayulu community recently applied for funds for a bus, as part of the *Children, Carer and Country* project, which CEIEC assists.**

Anne Yaloot, April Jones, Lisa Smith, Rebecca Smith, Marcia Cook, Patricia Dick and the CEIEC's Vicki Hynam tell the story.

This article is an extract from the current *Child, Carer and Country* Newsletter.

Bayulu community is about 20kms south-east of Fitzroy Crossing in the Kimberley, Western Australia. Its 200-250 people come from four language groups: Walmajarri, Bunuba, Wankatjunka and Gooniyandi.

In November, the authors came to the CEIEC conference to tell their story: *'The whole experience of getting the story onto a Powerpoint, traveling to Melbourne for the first time and then presenting the story to an academic audience was exciting and uplifting.'*

**AT RIGHT**  
The authors outside the CEIEC conference.

We need a vehicle to take women out with children to learn cultural ways out bush; to cope with medical emergencies and specialist appointments; to go to school sports and events; to shop for cheaper food in town; to go to funerals, church and other cultural events; and to go to bush meetings with other women and go to Karrayili Adult Education Centre and TAFE for study.

We asked Karrayili Adult Education Centre to help us write an application to Lotterywest for a vehicle grant; and we wrote to Bayulu Council for information about our Community. We had no way to communicate, no phone, no vehicle. We are isolated and rely on Karrayili & TAFE for transport.

At the same time, we enrolled in a Certificate of General Education for Adults and in TAFE Certificate III in Children's Services, which we later switched to a Certificate II in Community Services, because we wanted to learn how community organizations are run, what they do, how they help people. We kept learning about children's services.



We kept building the relationships with the organizations we wanted help from. We went to see them. We had to find out how our Community was run, how it was funded and who could help with our application. We had to talk to the Chairperson and Council, but in our Community the Council members kept changing.

The learning at TAFE and Karrayili made us feel good and we were inspired by getting out and being with other strong women. We have faith in ourselves because we can make the changes we want. We made a plan of how to raise enough money to replace the vehicle in 4 years and to help with running costs. We have raised \$2,200.00 by selling second-hand clothes.

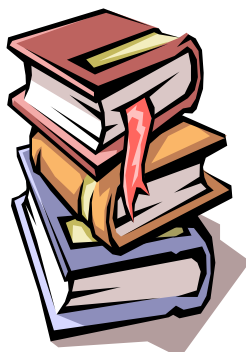
We saw how children were enjoying play and activities we did with them during TAFE and playgroup. The children learned skills very quickly. They were playing good together - no teasing! We helped children learn about health, hygiene and how to look after themselves for rest and sleep. We taught children bush medicine for sickness.

First there were only 4 of us. We asked other women to come with us to Karrayili. Then more women came to learn. We had 11 people join in at different times to help. But it took a long time and some women lost interest. They gave up hope. At times it just came back to us 3 older women to keep going. We encouraged each other.

After 18 months we finally finished our application for a vehicle and sent it to Lotterywest. We expect an answer by March 2009. We are keeping strong with language and culture. The Kimberley Language resource Centre helps with this.



## NEW CEIEC PUBLICATIONS



Stumped for Christmas gift ideas? What about a nice CEIEC book?!

For more information on these books and on other books by CEIEC authors, go to the CEIEC website and click on 'Resources'.

### THREE NEW BOOKS FROM CEIEC AUTHORS

On the first (Thursday) evening of the 2008 CEIEC conference, keynote speaker Prof. Martin Woodhead formally launched three books associated with the Centre:

MacNaughton, G. & Williams, G. (2009). *Techniques for Teaching Young Children: Choices for Theory and Practice*. (3rd Ed.) Frenchs Forest: Pearson Education Australia.

This is the third edition of this book, a testimony to its international sales and popularity. (Previous edition - 2004.)

MacNaughton, G., Hughes, P., & Smith, K. (Eds.) (2008). *Young children as active citizens: Principles, policies and pedagogies*. Newcastle upon Tyne, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

MacNaughton, G., & Hughes, P. (2008). *Doing Action Research in Early Childhood: A step by step guide*. Maidenhead: Open University Press/McGraw-Hill Education.

*Centre News* has previewed each of these books previously (see editions 7.3, 7.1).

### MORE FOR YOUR BOOKSHELF!

Two books by CEIEC 'friends' were launched at the 2008 CEIEC conference:

Karen Martin. *Please Knock Before You Enter: Aboriginal regulation of outsiders and the implications for researchers*. Teneriffe, Qld.: Post Pressed.

This book grew out of Karen's doctoral thesis, which examined how a Rainforest Aboriginal Community has regulated outsiders to their Country. It poses an Indigenist research paradigm founded on cultural respect and safety and embedded in Aboriginal ontology, epistemology and axiology.

Jane Lane. *Young Children and Racial Justice*. London: National Children's Bureau.

Jane has a long, well-respected history of working for racial equality in the UK. Here, she argues that anti-racist education with young children should highlight 'race'; and she suggests how to make positive changes in the lives of young children and their families and, indeed, in the world more broadly.

### DOING EARLY CHILDHOOD RESEARCH

A second edition of this book (edited by CEIEC Director Glenda MacNaughton, together with Sharne Rolfe and Iram Siraj-Blatchford) is due for publication in 2009. The new edition will reflect the major changes in early childhood research that have occurred since Allen & Unwin published the original in 2001.

#### A special note to *Centre News* readers in China!

*Doing Early Childhood Research* was published in China earlier this year. Ask for it at your local bookshop. The editors have yet to see a copy (let alone read it!), but Allen & Unwin has assured them that it's on a boat headed this way!





# CONFERENCE CALL

## Honouring the Child, Honouring Equity 8: Young citizen(s), New citizenship(s).

The CEIEC held its 8th annual international early childhood education conference between 13 - 15 November 2008 at the University of Melbourne.

with the Victorian government, visited key children's centres and met CEIEC researchers and postgraduate students.

*For your  
Diary*

**19 - 21  
November  
2009**

CEIEC's ninth annual conference at The University of Melbourne.

The conference title isn't finalised, but it will continue 'Honouring the Child, Honouring Equity'.

The conference program included four keynote speeches and forty sessions, presented by 66 presenters from 6 countries. More than 125 people attended the conference, coming from New Zealand, Thailand, the USA, Pakistan, Canada and the UK, as well as from across Australia.

The conference was sponsored by Select Education, The Creswick Foundation and the City of Yarra; and several organizations ran stalls, including Yarn Strong Sista, Education experience, Play to Learn, The Book Garden and the National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN).

Around the conference, the keynote speakers held discussions

At the risk of blowing our own collective trumpet, here are some of the many comments from participants at the 2008 conference:

'Excellent range of topics and interesting, captivating presenters.'

Really good quality presentations that made me think and re-think'

'I've attended nearly every CEIEC conference ... this conference was the most enjoyable one!'

'Great diversity and choice - too bad you can't get to everything though!'

'It's one conference in the year I would not like to miss.'

'Thank you for organizing a most inspirational conference.'

### Information on the 2009 CEIEC conference:

[www.edfac.unimelb.edu.au/ceiec/conferences/conf09/index.html](http://www.edfac.unimelb.edu.au/ceiec/conferences/conf09/index.html)

### Keynote speakers at the 2008 CEIEC Conference



Assoc. Prof. Karen Martin, Southern Cross University



Prof. Louise Derman-Sparks, Pacific Oaks College



Prof. Martin Woodhead, The Open University, UK.



Assoc. Prof. Wajuppa Tossa, Mahasarakham University, Thailand

