



Members of the Bayulu Women's Group with their supporters, including: A/P Karen Martin, CCC Project Coordinator Vicki Hynam, Emilia Biemmi Beurteaux lecturer at Karrayili, Carolyn Davey the Principal of Karrayili and Liz Thomas lecturer at Kimberley TAFE. The Chairperson of the women's group and leader in the development of the grant application is Anne Yaloot, pictured holding her 2 week old Grand daughter, in the front row. The photo captures the group at a recent celebration of the news of the success of the women's application for a troop carrier. Over 40 community members attended the celebration at Karrayili Adult Learning Centre.



Bayulu Goornbooyarndi Wirri women take charge for a better future

by Vicki Hynam

For the past 2 and a half years the women from Bayulu Goornbooyarndi Wirri Community have been working through an action research process to learn the skills necessary in developing an application for a grant to purchase a vehicle. The women were hoping a vehicle will give them independence to take part in cultural business and conduct a range of women's activities. "We want this vehicle so that we can help young mothers and women in Bayulu do things that are important to them," grant applicant Anne Yaloot said.

The Children, Carer & Country Learning Circle aims to help the women identify issues that they would like to change in their communities, particularly for young children. The Bayulu women's Lotterywest Vehicle Grant Application is one project that will support the changes the women want to

see for themselves and young children. "Developing the skills necessary in writing submissions is empowering for the women as well as transferable to other projects" explained Vicki Hynam from the Child, Carer & Country Action Learning Project.

The women established partnerships to support the learning required and support needed to purchase and manage a vehicle. At the CEIEC Conference in November 2008 the group presented their story to an international audience at the University of Melbourne. The feedback from delegates suggests the presentation was highly inspiring and emotive. In March 2009 the women were notified of their successful application. Following was a celebration at the Karrayili Aboriginal Adult Education Centre in Fitzroy Crossing, Western Australia.

Vicki, usually based in WA, recently visited the CEIEC offices in Melbourne for

one week from 9-13 March. During her time in Melbourne, Vicki shared her work from the CEIEC's Children, Carer & Country project with Master of Teaching (Early Childhood) students in two subjects: Professional Culture, Dynamics and Change and Complexity and Diversity.

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City of Melbourne
Children's Plan
2009



The City of Melbourne have selected the CEIEC to develop a Children's Plan. The Children's Plan will be developed with children for children. It will sit along side the City of Melbourne's State of the Children's Report and the City of Melbourne's Municipal Early Years Plan. The CEIEC will consult with children from birth to 12 years of age and ask them to share their ideas through words, drawing or taking photos of what it means to live, study and/or visit the City of Melbourne and what they need to feel safe, secure, grow and learn.

JLICED Learning Group Meeting – Front (L-R): Rohaty Mohd Majzub, Glenda MacNaughton. Back (L-R): Frances Aboud, Paul Connolly, Kate Alexander, Sumalee Kumchaiskul, Deevia Bhana, Sri Marpinjun, Patricia Ramsey, Audrey D'Souza Juma, Anke van Keulen and Anne Farrelly. (Photo Courtesy of Sumalee Kumchaiskul)



The Joint Learning Initiative on Children and Ethnic Diversity (JLICED): Learning group 3 meets at the University of Melbourne, Australia

The Joint Learning Initiative on Children and Ethnic Diversity (JLICED) is a global network of leading researchers, policy-makers and practitioners that aims to reduce ethnic divisions and conflicts and build socially inclusive and respectful communities through the promotion of effective early childhood programs. The work of the JLICED is driven through 6 Learning Groups. The CEIEC hosted the first meeting of Learning Group 3: Children, 'race' and ethnicity 19th – 20th Feb 2009.

Professor Field Rickards, Dean of the Melbourne Graduate School of Education, welcomed the Learning Group to the University of Melbourne. Professor Rickards emphasized that the JLICED was an important example of international research collaboration, building new knowledge through engagement between researchers, practitioners and policy makers and embedding research into the development of teaching and learning programs at the University. It exemplified the inter-relationship between research, teaching and knowledge transfer that was highly valued at the University of Melbourne.

The international Learning Group spent the two days of their meeting shaping their program of work over the next two years. They will begin their work by undertaking an extensive literature review of international

literature on how young children experience 'race' and ethnicity and the effects of respect for diversity early childhood programs on young children. Part of this work will involve developing a digest of qualitative methods for researching young children's understandings and experiences in early childhood programs that promote respect for diversity.

CEIEC Recent Events

Prior to the JLICED Learning Group meeting (see above) Professor Paul Connolly and Professor Frances Aboud presented a public seminar on their work in the JLICED. The seminar - 'Joint Learning Initiative on Children and Ethnic Diversity - an international seminar' was held on Wednesday 18th February 2009 from 5.15-6.15pm in the Jim Potter Room, Old Physics Building at the University of Melbourne. This event was sponsored by a University of Melbourne International Research Planning Workshop Award.

The CEIEC and the Education, Equity and Social Identities Strategic Research Program jointly sponsored a seminar with JLICED Learning Group member Associate Professor Deevia Bhana. The seminar entitled: How much do young children know about HIV and AIDS was held Tuesday 17th February from 4.30-6.00pm in the Frank Tate Meeting Room, Alice Hoy Building at the University of Melbourne.

For more information on these or other CEIEC Events please visit: www.edfac.unimelb.edu.au/ceiec/events.html

Learning Group 3: Children, 'Race' and Ethnicity Group membership

1. Glenda MacNaughton
Professor and Director, CEIEC, MGSE, University of Melbourne (Australia) (Co-Chair)
2. Sri Marpinjun
Executive Director, LSPPA (Indonesia) (Co-Chair)
3. Deevia Bhana
Professor of Education, Faculty of Education at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South African.
4. Patricia Ramsey
Professor of Child Psychology, Department of Psychology and Education, Mount Holyoke College, USA
5. Rohaty Mohd Majzub
Professor of Educational Psychology and Early Childhood, Faculty of Education, Universiti Kebangsaan, Malaysia
6. Sue Atkinson
Research Fellow, CEIEC, University of Melbourne, Australia.
7. Sumalee Kumchaiskul
Faculty of Education, Chiang Mai, Thailand
8. Audrey D'Cruz
Coordinator of early childhood programmes, Aga Khan University-Institute for Educational Development (AKU-IED), Pakistan
9. Anke van Keulen
Director, MUTANT Bureau, The Netherlands.
10. Sara Alvarado Salgado
Director of the Centre for Advanced Studies in Childhood and Youth (Joint venture: CINDE- Manizales University), Colombia.

The Learning Group was also joined by other members of the JLICED – Professor Paul Connolly (Queens University, Belfast – Director, JLICED), Professor Frances Aboud (McGill University, Toronto – Co-chair Survey and Evaluation Learning Group, Professor Jacqueline Hayden (Macquarie University, Sydney – Co-chair Social Inclusion – Generating Priorities Learning Group) and Dr. Karina Davis (CEIEC, University of Melbourne – member Program Development Learning Group). The next face-to-face meeting of the Learning Group will be in Chiang Mai, Thailand in August 2009.

Cultural Diversity, Conflict Resolution and Children's Voices – an ERIS Project Update

More information:
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(srip@unimelb.edu.au).

The ERIS project is a joint initiative with LaTrobe University and is funded by the Australian Research Council (See Centre News 7.1). ERIS is currently in its final lap and recently held its 5th workshop presentation on 18th of February. There will be a final session to follow in May. The session began with a Cultural Diversity presentation that included sharing children's voices and their understandings about differences. This was drawn from the analysis of data,

which was collected by using Persona Dolls (which are life like dolls with different personas and physical attributes used to tell life stories) in focus group interviews (in small groups of 5-7 children) of around 120 children across 10 schools. The session then continued with looking back at some justice 'watchpoints' namely, othering, hierarchies of privilege, silencing and masking (postcolonial terms that aim to challenge colonial attitudes and acts), thus

highlighting the dilemmas involved in our daily interaction with children, families and staff. This was followed by a session on Conflict Resolution, in which this model was connected to restorative practice and the justice watchpoints. The feedback from the participants regarding the workshop presentation was quite positive and they conveyed that they were able to make links with what was presented to their daily practices.

Graduate School Competitive Grants Scheme Success



CEIEC Staff Jane Page, Shari Stewart, Karina Davis and Merlyne Cruz have been successful in receiving funding from the Graduate School Competitive Grants Scheme (Melbourne Education Research Institute). Jane and

Shari received funding for their project Consulting children in hospital settings and Karina and Merlyne for their project Investigating respectful partnerships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous early childhood communities. Congratulations to all!

The Consulting children in hospital settings research project, conducted by Jane and Shari, forms part of a collaborative research partnership between the Centre for Equity and Innovation in Early Childhood (CEIEC), Melbourne Graduate School of Education, University of Melbourne and the MacKinnon Collaborative Practice Centre (MCPC), Royal Children's Hospital, who combine specialised knowledge and research experience on consulting young children and seek to build research evidence for building better healthcare for children and families.

The Consulting Children in Hospital Settings research project is formulated around 3 key questions:

1. What are children's experiences and perspectives of their hospital experiences?
2. What are parents'/guardians' experiences and perspectives of children's hospital experiences?
3. What are health care professionals' experiences and perspectives of children's hospital experiences?

This pilot project, the first phase of the broader research programme, aims to:

1. trial techniques and strategies for consulting young children in hospital settings and

2. build a track record of research between CEIEC and the MCPC.

This research will be undertaken in the Royal Children's Hospital, (RCH) Melbourne. It will consist of recorded semi-structured interviews with 20 inpatients 3-12 years of age, across a three-month period.

The Investigating respectful partnerships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous early childhood communities study, conducted by Karina and Merlyne, will re-examine existing research data from the Children, Carer and Country (CCC) research project and interview a small cohort of participants from the CCC project in Kimberley, Western Australia to identify the factors that created, sustained and/or inhibited partnership formation during the project. The project aims to develop protocols for analysis of partnerships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous early childhood communities and to build a set of conceptual tools to guide that analysis. The research venture is set against the background of renewed impetus to reconciliation under the Rudd government and their national agenda for a reconceptualized early childhood strategy in Indigenous communities as a key element of reconciliation.

Welcome to Rosemary Jones

A warm welcome to Rosemary Jones. Rosemary will be working on several CEIEC research projects over the coming months. Rosemary was previously a postgraduate student at the CEIEC. She was awarded her Master of Education in 1999. Her thesis was titled: Reflective practice in the early childhood practicum.

CEIEC Visiting Scholar

The CEIEC was very pleased to welcome back Prof. Jeanette Rhedding-Jones as a CEIEC Visiting Scholar between 27 January and 13 February 2009.

Jeanette has been Professor in Early Childhood Education at Oslo and Bergen University Colleges, Norway since 2000. Previously, she worked in



Australian teacher education for 20 years and was, until 1997, a Senior Lecturer in Education at Deakin University. While at the CEIEC, Jeanette spent

time in discussions with CEIEC staff Glenda Mac Naughton, Kylie Smith and Jane Page as well as spending time working on two upcoming books. Jeanette's website: <http://home.hio.no/~jeanette/>

CEIEC Staff and Student Achievements

Congratulations to CEIEC Postgraduate students Jane Page, Priscilla Seyfort, Melissa Love, Sue Atkinson and Leanne Hallowell. Jane, Priscilla and Sue have been awarded their PhD, while Melissa and Leanne have been awarded their Masters. Also, congratulations to CEIEC staff Dr Jane Page, Dr Karina Davis, Ms Rosemary Jones and Ms Merlyne Cruz on being appointed the role of Clinical Specialists for the Master of Teaching (Early Childhood) course. Clinical Specialists play an important role in the course by providing an academic link for students between their teaching placements in early childhood settings and their on-campus subjects. A big congratulations to all!

CEIEC's 9th Annual International Conference

Thursday 19 - Saturday 21 November 2009
The University of Melbourne

Theme:

Children's rights in early years research, policy and practice

The CEIEC invites participants in its 9th Annual International Conference to explore ways to improve the theory, policy and practice of enacting children's rights in children's services.

www.education.unimelb.edu.au/ceiec

2009 Keynote Speakers

- Associate Professor Hillevi Lenz Taguchi
Stockholm University (Sweden)
- Mercy M. Musomi
Executive Director of Child Girl Network (Kenya)
- Professor Patricia G Ramsey
Mount Holyoke College (USA)
- Professor Helen Penn
University of East London (UK)

The CEIEC will run its ninth annual conference between Thursday 19 and Saturday 21 November 2009 in Melbourne. The conference title is: Honoring the Child, Honoring Equity 9: Children's rights in early years research, policy and practice

Q: Who attends a CEIEC conference?

A: People with a role in children's lives. They include teachers, carers, researchers, policy-makers, students, resource workers, parents, advocates, activists, tertiary staff, government and non-government organizations. These people come from other states and other countries, making each conference a lively, cosmopolitan event.

Q: Who presents to a CEIEC conference?

A: Sessions reflect the diversity of participants' interests. Presenters come from diverse countries and cultures. Some are experienced, others are first-timers (we offer a friendly, informal mentoring scheme).

2008 Testimonials from Conference Delegates

"Thank you for organising a most inspirational conference. Keep up the great work"

"Really good quality presentations that made me think and re-think my positioning in a number of areas"

"All keynotes were absolutely inspirational and thought provoking on all fronts. They were all chosen very carefully which was most obvious - catering for varied interest."

For further information, to submit an abstract or to register email: education-ceiec-conference@unimelb.edu.au or visit: www.education.unimelb.edu.au/ceiec



International Journal of Equity and
Innovation in Early Childhood

Calling all potential reviewers!

The Editorial Board of the International Journal of Equity and Innovation in Early Childhood (IJEIEC) is looking for new people to review articles submitted for publication.

The CEIEC launched IJEIEC in 2004. It is a peer-reviewed journal with an international Editorial Board and is available by subscription online. It publishes articles by early childhood practitioners and researchers.

To be a reviewer for IJEIEC, please contact Kate Alexander klal@unimelb.edu.au