



Queensland and the Torres Strait and includes a campus in Singapore. The University has two libraries located on its largest campuses in Townsville and Cairns. Both libraries are open to community use, giving thousands of regional Australians the opportunity to access the services of an academic library, including special collections that preserve the historical and cultural heritage of northern Queensland.

Eddie Koiki Mabo was an intelligent man with a passion for justice who literally changed the world in which he lived. By naming the library in his honour, James Cook University is not only saluting this man and his great work but acknowledging the important role of libraries: connecting people with ideas. It is very fitting that the library was named during both Reconciliation Week and Library and Information Week.

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UTS library appointed national trusted repository for Indigenous data

UTS Library was recently appointed by the Australian Social Science Data Archive as the national trusted repository for Indigenous data, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Data Archive (ATSIDA).

UTS was approached because of the conjunction of Indigenous research leadership in Jumbunna and expertise in digital repository management in the UTS Library. Crucial to the success of ATSIDA will be the leadership of Professor Martin Nakata and Professor Larissa Behrendt. Professor Nakata has made a significant contribution to the development of frameworks, guidelines and structures relating to Indigenous people and their knowledge, including the renewal of the Protocols established for libraries archives and information services. Professor Larissa Behrendt has an international reputation in community management and consultation. Both will be crucial in guiding and providing legitimacy to the collection and management of Indigenous research data sets in accordance with appropriate Indigenous and research standards and protocols.

The Library's role will be to assist in identifying valuable data sets, ingesting and storing the data through the ANU Supercomputer facilities. The data collected from leading researchers will be managed under appropriate protocols which respect both research ethics requirements and negotiated agreements with Indigenous communities.

This project provides UTS with the opportunity to strengthen its reputation as a national leader in Indigenous issues. It also provides the opportunity to expose the staff and students of Jumbunna to new skills, responsibilities and opportunities.

About the Australian Social Science Data Archive

The Australian Social Science Data Archive (ASSDA), with its central node located in the Research School of Social Sciences (RSSS) at the Australian National University (ANU), was set up in 1981 with a brief to collect and preserve computer

readable data relating to social, political and economic affairs and to make this data available for further analysis.

ASSDA uses a distributed network with nodes currently operating at ANU, UQ, UNSW and UWA. ASSDA aims to have at least one node in every state by 2012 with each node specialising in a particular domain of social science data.

ASSDA provides the nodes with the necessary NESSTAR software, training and central backup of data. The node is responsible for providing a server on which to store the data, staff to ingest the data and manage liaison with the researchers. The node is also responsible for developing protocols relevant to their datasets, with support from the central ASSDA archivists.

UTS Indigenous Digitisation Project

UTS researchers, the State Libraries of NSW and Queensland and the Northern Territory Library, have collaborated to investigate the practical issues being grappled with by institutions when digitising materials generally, and when digitising Indigenous materials in particular.

The aim was to gather a variety of institutional experience, both with general approaches to digitisation and the fit within these of Indigenous Australian materials, in order to highlight the issues and to describe some approaches to dealing with Indigenous materials in the digitisation process. The identification of difficult or unresolved issues provides opportunities for further exploration of these issues to assist the development of protocols for dealing with them.

The project has investigated current practices and significant issues by investigating institutional documents and interviewing key personnel in relation to digitisation processes and issues, and then with a particular focus on Indigenous materials. Interviews were open-ended and guided by the descriptions of practices and issues raised by various personnel involved in different aspects of the digitisation process. The views of Indigenous professionals were included in this process, whether they were directly involved in the digitisation workflow or not. This enabled inclusion of Indigenous library and information services issues and community perspectives as understood by Indigenous information professionals.

Beyond this project, the end goal is best practice guidelines for developing and managing Australian Indigenous digital collections. An additional aim is to extend the collaboration into another project to focus nationally and across cultural institutions that collect and hold Indigenous materials to learn more about how disparate collections and repositories can facilitate access to resources of significance to Indigenous Australian communities. The intent for these projects is to identify potential standards and protocols that can best progress (a) consistent and efficient practices with Indigenous materials in public collecting institutions in Australia as well as (b) engagements with Indigenous communities while respecting the cultural rules of the communities.

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