

## Indigenous Ecological Knowledges - Editorial

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This special issue of PAN brings together a number of thinkers pursuing a diverse range of research and community projects which engage with Australian Indigenous understandings of home-places. Each contribution reflects a dedication to recognising, valuing and supporting the particular cultural influences of localised Indigenous epistemologies, and collectively they present some of the existing Australian interactions between Indigenous and Western traditions in the context of Australian landscapes. The issue's theme of Indigenous ecological knowledges refers to Indigenous relationships with country, and raises questions concerning shared knowledge and learning.

In 'Stories want to be told: *Elaap Karlaboor*', Sandra Wooltorton, Len Collard and Pierre Horwitz collaborate to present historical research and explore how Noongar ways of knowing can help protect an ecosystem threatened by ongoing economic growth in South West Western Australia. John Bradley and Stephen Johnson, through an exploration of the song lines of the Yanyuwa people of the south west Gulf of Carpentaria in the Northern Territory, discuss the problematic of reductive Western labels for Indigenous experiences and worldviews, and the limitations of cross-cultural knowledge, in "'We Sing our Law, is that Still TEK": Traditional Ecological Knowledge and can the West come to know?' Nia Emmanouil, in her essay 'You've got to drown in it', encounters complex physical and intellectual experiences of learning, conversation and connection with stories and country on the Lurujarri Dreaming Trail in The Kimberly with the Goolarabooloo community. Scott Heyes and Andrew Saniga discuss how the Haycock Point Culture Camp in New South Wales informed new teaching and learning experiences about place, and evaluate the creative responses of their landscape architecture students, in 'Sensing a Remote Coastal Landscape: How an Aboriginal Culture Camp Experience Informed Conceptual Design Thinking of Public Space in Australia'. Ben Gleeson examines Australia's history of agriculture and the tensions between Indigenous and European approaches to cultivation and conservation through a critique of human interactions with living landscapes.

Many thanks to each author for sharing their scholarship, perspectives and experiences, which traverse past and present times, and continue an eco-cultural dialogue between philosophy and activism.

### Notes

1. Rebecca Garcia Lucas has a PhD in literature and environmental philosophy. After 15 years of tertiary teaching she has returned to study for a Masters of Primary Teaching, and is following her interests in ethics and children's literature in early years curriculum.