

Purpose of this Protocol

The purpose of this Research Protocol is to set out the context, principles and processes for research undertaken as part of the Yuwaya Ngarra-li partnership between the Dharriwaa Elders Group and UNSW.

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Ethical research and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

As a result of the history and context described above, ethical standards and guidelines have been developed for researchers seeking to undertake research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. These are intended to ensure that researchers have given thought to the political, social and cultural context of their research, to the risks and sensitivities involved, and to how the project may work in collaboration with and to the benefit of the communities with whom they wish to work.

The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) has a Code of Ethics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research, structured around four principles of Indigenous self-determination; Indigenous leadership; Impact and value; and Sustainability and accountability, with integrity as a core ethical value at the centre. Each principle gives rise to responsibilities, as represented in the following diagram:⁵

The NSW Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council (AHMRC) has also set out five key principles to be addressed by applications for NSW projects with a W nq/Gh(ar)-6.3 ()-8.1 ((i)3.1 (oh aar)-6.3 2 (i)31-

and sought to collaborate with community-controlled organisations and to privilege the voices and worldviews of Aboriginal peoples.

Building on this research collaboration, and after decades of observing and attempting to influence poor policy and practice by government agencies in Walgett, the Dharriwaa Elders Group invited UNSW to work in partnership to better inform and build the evidence base for improved holistic government service delivery, natural resource management and infrastructure planning. Yuwaya Ngarra-li also seeks to continue to contribute to quality research and education across all disciplines that builds Aboriginal community capabilities and control.⁸

The diagram below represents the way that research and evaluation underpin all aspects of Yuwaya Ngarra-li, and are guided by the core principles and priorities of the partnership.





⁸ McCausland R; Spencer W; MacGillivray P; Robinson V; Hickey V; Baldry E; McEntyre E, 2021, 'CommUNIty-Led development: A partnership to realize Aboriginal Elders' vision for change', *Community Development*, pp. 1 - 19, http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15575330.2021.1923044

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- to this that can be advised by DEG, including developing and employing Aboriginal researchers in Walgett wherever possible.
- 6. **Data sovereignty and intellectual property** are to be negotiated by research collaborators with DEG and the YN Research Committee, including the creation, collection, access, analysis, interpretation, storage, management, dissemination and reuse of data

UNSW COLLABORATOR PROCESS

- YN Research Committee will consider proposal and then refer to DEG Elders Council for consideration and approval
- UNSW Director will provide feedback on outcome and next steps, including who the primary contact person will be for the student and supervisors to liaise with

Ethics

- Students and their supervisors are responsible for submitting their own ethics application to the UNSW Human Research Ethics Committee and Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council Ethics Committee if required
- Draft ethics applications should be sent to the UNSW Director for input two weeks before they are due to be submitted
- DEG and UNSW Director can provide letters of support for ethics application with two weeks advance notice of deadline for submission

- Fill out YN Publication Proposal Form (Appendix 4) for articles and send to UNSW Director: ruth.mccausland@unsw.edu.au for consideration and feedback by the YN Research Committee
- Draft articles should be sent by email to UNSW Director: ruth.mccausland@unsw.edu.au
 for consideration and feedback before submission
- Researchers should report back on article submission and publication

Appendix 2: Yuwaya Ngarra-li Student Project Proposal Form

(complete and email to ruth.mccausland@unsw.edu.au)

What is the proposed title of your project?

What is your name and degree?

Who are your supervisors? What faculty are they in?

Do you already have funding for your project if needed? (ie for travel and accommodation, cultural and community induction, Aboriginal community participation, reporting back and copresentation of findings)

If yes, from what source?

If not, do you or your supervisors have ideas about where to secure funding from?

Why do you think this research would be of value?

Which priority area/s for Yuwaya Ngarra-li does your project contribute to?

- o Greater Aboriginal community control and capacity
- o Increased numbers of Aboriginal young people in education, training and employment

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Appendix 3: Yuwaya Ngarra-li Presentation Proposal Form

(complete and email to ruth.mccausland@unsw.edu.au)

What is the proposed title of your presentation?

Where and when would the presentation be, and who is likely to be in the audience?

Who are you proposing would present?

Do you already have funding for you/YN/Walgett collaborators to attend? If yes, from what source? If not, where do you hope to secure funding from?

Why do you think this presentation would be of value?

Appendix 4: Yuwaya Ngarra-li Publication Proposal Form

(complete and email to