

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr Michael Davis

Education

PhD, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Technology, Sydney, 2010.
Thesis title: *Producing a Critique: Writing about Indigenous Knowledge, Intellectual Property and Cultural Heritage*.

B.A. Hons, Department of History, La Trobe University, Melbourne 1985

Current Affiliations

Honorary Research Fellow, Department of History, University of Sydney

2014-15 Redmond Barry Fellow, State Library of Victoria and Melbourne University

Works in Progress

In Preparation

Adamson, Joni, Davis, Michael, and Huang, Hsinya (eds), *Oceans, Islands, Country: Humanities for the Environment in Australia, Asia-Pacific and North America*, proposal in preparation to submit to Routledge Earthscan, Environmental Humanities Series, General Editors Iain McCalman and Libby Robin.

Davis, M. *Entangled Knowledges: Aboriginal and European Encounters on Australia's Pacific Coast, 1770 to 1850*, proposal in preparation to Palgrave MacMillan.

Published Works

Co-authored

Holcombe, S and Davis, M (eds). 2010 *Australian Aboriginal Studies. Journal of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies*. Number 2, Special Edition: Contemporary Ethical Issues in Australian Indigenous Research.

Davis, M., and Holcombe 2010. 'Whose ethics?': Codifying and enacting ethics in research settings', *Australian Aboriginal Studies*, Journal of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies. Number 2, Special Edition: Contemporary Ethical Issues in Australian Indigenous Research, eds Sarah Holcombe and Michael Davis: 1-9.

Craig, D., and Davis, M. 2006. Ethical Relationships for Biodiversity Research and Benefit-sharing with Indigenous Peoples. *Macquarie Journal of International and Comparative Environmental Law*, 2(2): 31-74.

Sole authored

Books

Davis, M. 2007. *Writing Heritage: The Depiction of Indigenous Heritage by European-Australians*. Melbourne, Australian Scholarly Publishing and Canberra, National Museum of Australia Press.

Refereed Journal Articles

Davis, M. 2013. Learning from the past? Some early attempts at protecting intangible indigenous heritage in Australia. *Indigenous Policy Journal*, vol XXIV, No 2.

Davis, M. 2013. Encountering Aboriginal knowledge: Explorer narratives on north-east Queensland, 1770 to 1820. *Aboriginal History*, 37: 29-50.

Davis, M. 2010. Bringing ethics up to date? A review of the AIATSIS ethical guidelines. *Australian Aboriginal Studies*, Journal of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies. Number 2, Special Edition: Contemporary Ethical Issues in Australian Indigenous Studies, eds Sarah Holcombe and Michael Davis: 10-21.

Davis, M. 2008. Indigenous Knowledge: Beyond Protection, Towards Dialogue. *Australian Journal of Indigenous Education*. 37, Supplement: 25-33.

Davis, M. 1999. Indigenous Rights in Traditional Knowledge and Biological Diversity: Approaches to Protection. *Australian Indigenous Law Reporter*, 4(4): 1-32.

Book Chapters

Davis, M. 2011. "I live somewhere else but I've never left here": Indigenous Knowledge, History, and Place. In George Sefa Dei (ed). *Indigenous Philosophies and Critical Education*. New York, Peter Lang Publishing: 113-126.

Davis, M. 2006. Bridging the Gap or Crossing a Bridge? Indigenous Knowledge and the Language of Law and Policy. In Fikret Berkes, Doris Capistrano, Walter V. Reid, and Tom Wilbanks (eds). *Bridging Scales and Knowledge Systems: Concepts and Applications in Ecosystem Assessments*. Washington DC, Island Press: 145-182.

Davis, M. 2001. Law, Anthropology, and the Recognition of Indigenous Cultural Systems. In René Kuppe and Richard Potz (eds). *Law and Anthropology: International Yearbook for Legal Anthropology*, 11. The Hague, Martinus Nijhoff: 298-320.

Book Reviews

Davis, M. 2015. Review of Dark Emu, Black Seeds: Agriculture by Accident? By Bruce Pascoe, Magabala Books, Broome, West Australia, 2014, *Aboriginal History*, Volume 38, January 2015.

Davis, M. 2014. Review of *The Aboriginal Male in the Enlightenment World* by Shino Konishi, Pickering & Chatto Ltd: London, *Journal of Early Modern History*

Davis, M. 2014. Review of *First Footprints: the Epic Story of the First Australians* by Scott Cane, Allen & Unwin: Sydney, 2013, *Australian Aboriginal Studies*.

Davis, M. 2014. Review of *Let the Land Speak: A history of Australia - How the Land Created our Nation* by Jackie French, Harper Collins, *The Canberra Times*, Saturday 22 February 2014.

Davis, M. 2013. Review of *The Paper War: Morality, Print Culture and Power in Colonial New South Wales* by Anna Johnston, UWA Publishing: Western Australia, *Australian Aboriginal Studies*, 2: 106-108.

Davis, M. 2012 Review of *Exploring the Legacy of the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition*, edited by Martin Thomas and Margo Neale, ANU e-press: Canberra, 2011, *The Journal of Pacific History*, 47(4): 532-534.

Conference

A. Clarke, M. Davis, M. Gibbs, C. McReery (Eds) 2013 *Sea Stories: Maritime Landscapes, Cultures and Histories* conference. Sydney: School of Philosophical & Historical Inquiry, University of Sydney.

Other Papers

Davis, M. 2008 (Winter). Reflections from a Wandering Scholar: On Libraries, Collecting and Heritage. *Manning Clark House Newsletter*. Number 34: 6-9.

Davis, M. 1998. *Biological Diversity and Indigenous Knowledge*. Research Paper No. 17. Canberra. Department of the Parliamentary Library, Canberra.

Davis, M. 1997. *Indigenous Peoples and Intellectual Property Rights*. Research Paper No 20. Canberra. Department of the Parliamentary Library.

Davis, M. 1996. Intellectual Property Rights as Knowledge? European Discourses and the Recognition of Indigenous Rights. *Northern Analyst*, 1 (March-July). North Australia Research Unit, The Australian National University: 15-18.

Davis, M. *et al.* 1994. *Controlling Destinies*, Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation, Key Issue Paper No 8. Canberra.

Davis, M. 1992. Colonial Discourses, Representation and the Construction of Otherness: Case Studies from Papua. *Pacific History: Papers from the 8th Pacific History Association Conference*. Guam, University of Guam Press: 49-59.

Select Consultancy Reports

Davis, M. 2009. *Maintain & Strengthen your Culture: Handbook for Working with Indigenous Ecological Knowledge & Intellectual Property*. Report for the Northern Territory Natural Resource Management Board, Darwin.

Smallacombe, S., Davis, M., and Quiggin, R. 2006. *Scoping Report on Traditional Knowledge: Report of a Study for the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre.* Report for the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre, Alice Springs.

Davis, M. 2005. *Undertaking Projects and Research in Central Australia.* Report for the Central Land Council and Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre, Alice Springs.

Davis, M. August 2004. *Indigenous Knowledge Management.* Report for the Murray Darling Commission, Canberra.

Select Conference Presentations

‘Botany, circulating nature, and indigenous knowledge in Enlightenment voyaging narratives, northeast Australia’, *Circulating Natures: Water – Food-Energy*, 7th Conference of the European Society for Environmental History, Munich, 21-24 August 2013.

‘Working with local knowledge: Aborigines and Europeans in North-East Australia, 1848-1849’, *Local Intermediaries in International Exploration*, Australian Centre for Indigenous History, Australian National University, Canberra, 17-18 July 2013.

‘Entangled knowledges: Indigenous knowledge, science and botany in north-east Australia, 1820 to 1850’, *Sea Stories: Maritime Landscapes, Cultures and Histories*, School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, The University of Sydney, 12-14 July 2013.

‘**Ethical Knowledge Management & Intellectual Property**’, [Indigenous Knowledge Forum](#): Indigenous knowledge and biodiversity: comparative studies between Australia and other countries, University of Technology, Sydney, 1-3 August, 2012.

‘Governance for Indigenous intangible heritage: Australian Indigenous community rights in law and policy’, *Sharing Power: A New Vision for Development*, Whakatane, New Zealand, 11-15 January 2011.

‘Indigenous knowledge: beyond protection towards dialogue’, presented to conference *Indigenous Studies and Indigenous Knowledge*, Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning, UTS, Sydney, 11-13 July 2007.

‘Indigenous Knowledge, Ethics, and Bioprospecting’, presented to international conference *Indigenous Knowledge and Bioprospecting*, Macquarie University, Sydney, 21-24 April 2004.

‘Bridging the Gap or Crossing a Bridge? Indigenous Knowledge and the Language of Law and Policy’, presented to international conference *Bridging Scales and Epistemologies, Linking Local Knowledge and Science in Multiscale Assessments*, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Alexandria, Egypt, 17-20 March 2004.

'Made to Order: Authenticity and Intervention in Collecting and the Production of Ethnographic Collections', presented at '2001 - End of an Odyssey?' Australian Anthropological Society Conference, La Trobe University, Melbourne, 27-29 September 2001.

'Writing Indigenous Environmental Knowledge and Practices: Discourse and Imagery in European Texts', presented to Australian Anthropological Society, Annual Conference, Perth, 21-23 September 2000.

'The Language of Absence: Descriptions of Indigenous Cultural Rights in Western Policy', presented to 1997 Fulbright Symposium, *Indigenous Cultures in an Interconnected World*, The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, 24-27 July 1997.

'Competing Knowledges? Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Western Scientific Discourses', presented to conference on *Science and Other Knowledge Traditions*, convened by the Humanities Research Centre, Henrietta Fourmile, and Paul Turnbull, James Cook University, Cairns, 23-27 August 1996.

'Post-Columbian Voyages: Torres' and Prado's Journey through south eastern Papua, 1606', presented to *Columbus Quincentenary Conference*, La Trobe University, June 1992.

'Colonial Discourses, representation, and the construction of otherness: case studies from Papua', presented to the *8th Pacific History Association Conference*, Guam, Micronesia, December 1990.

Select Consultancies

2012. Consultancy for The UrbanGrowth NSW Development Corporation. Aboriginal Connections with the Former Eveleigh Railway Workshops, Inner Sydney. Report and video recorded oral history with Gadigal Elder Mr Allen Madden.

2011. Consultancy for Sovereign Hill Museums, Ballarat. Significance Study of the Pern Collection of Indigenous Ethnographic Materials.

2010. Consultancy for National Centre for Indigenous Studies, ANU. Report of audit of Indigenous materials held by the CSIRO, including tools for managing these materials.

2010. Consultancy for the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS). Review and revision of the AIATSIS Guidelines for Ethical Research in Indigenous Studies.

2010. Consultancy for Western Plains Cultural Centre – Dubbo Regional Museum. Report on provenance and history of museum collection of Wiradjuri cultural material, including policy and protocols for managing collection.

2008-09. Consultancy for National Centre for Indigenous Studies, Australian National University, commissioned by Northern Territory Natural Resource Management

Board. Handbook on Indigenous Ecological Knowledge, Intellectual Property and Natural Resource Management.

2007. Consultancy for Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre. Expert advice on revision of Aboriginal Knowledge and Intellectual Property Protocol.

2007. Consultancy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Unit, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, Sydney. Contribution to 1996 Social Justice Report.

2005. Consultancy for Charles Darwin University. Project funded by the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre. Collaborative research report on Traditional Knowledge.

2005. Consultancy for James Cook University, Cairns. Project funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research. Field based study of Indigenous traditional knowledge issues in North Queensland Aboriginal communities, as part of collaborative project on domestication of agroforestry resources in Australia and the Pacific.

2005. Consultancy for Murray-Darling Basin Commission. Technical writing input into the Commission's Indigenous Action Plan.

2004. Consultancy for Murray-Darling Basin Commission. Research report on Indigenous Knowledge Management for input into Commission's Indigenous Action Plan.

2004. Consultancy for Central Land Council. Project funded by the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre. Prepared protocols and agreements for protection of Aboriginal intellectual property rights.

2004. Participated as expert consultant in Indigenous intellectual property workshop in Honiara, Solomon Islands. Project funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research.

2004. Consultancy for Murray-Darling Basin Commission. Research report on Indigenous Knowledge Management.

2003. Consultant to Victorian Department of Justice Native Title Unit. Research report on history/ethnography of the Wathaurung people of Western Victoria.

2002. Consultant to Cairns & District Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Regional Council. Report on recognition of Aboriginal intellectual property rights in Wet Tropics.

2000. Consultant Writer/Editor, Earth Negotiations Bulletin, International Institute for Sustainable Development, Winnipeg.

1998. Consultant to Science, Technology, Environment and Resources Group, Information and Research Services, Australian Parliament. Wrote report *Biological Diversity and Indigenous Knowledge*.

1997. Consultant to Social Policy Group, Information and Research Services, Australian Parliament. Wrote report *Indigenous Peoples and Intellectual Property Rights*.

Teaching

2014, Second Semester, Guest Lecture, Indigenous Studies, University of Sydney

2011, Autumn Semester, University of Technology, Sydney, Introduction to Aboriginal Studies.

2010, Spring Semester, University of Technology, Sydney, Learning & Change (MA course)

1987 to 1991. Tutor, La Trobe and Deakin Universities, Melbourne. Tutored courses in anthropology at first, second and third year levels.

1987 to 1991, various periods. Guest lectures in anthropology and qualitative research methods, Victoria University and La Trobe University.

Positions Held

2011 – 2014. ARC Industry Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, Department of History, University of Sydney.

2007–2009. Researcher, Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning, University of Technology, Sydney.

2005-2006. Indigenous Knowledge Project Officer, Kimberley Language Resource Centre.

1991-2004. Senior policy roles with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, Canberra.

1999. Senior Research Officer, Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee, Australian Parliament, Canberra.

199- 1995. Executive Officer/ Senior Project Officer, Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, Canberra.

1987-1988. Researcher, Monash University, National Centre for Industrial Relations, and Telecom Research Laboratories (Information Flow Studies Team).

1986 to 1987. Historian, Victoria Archaeological Survey, Melbourne.

Professional Affiliations and Honorary Positions

Member, European Society for Environmental History

Member, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS), Canberra

Member, IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy, Culture and Conservation Theme

Member, IUCN Commission on Education and Communication

Awards and Fellowships

- 2008-09 David Scott Mitchell Memorial Fellow, State Library of NSW
- 2008: Janet Holmes a Court Fellowship at Manning Clark House, Canberra
- 2006: Library Council of NSW 2006 Honorary Fellowship
- 2001: Northern Territory History Award
- 2000: History and Education Grant, National Council for the Centenary of Federation