

PhD Completion Seminar: Rosalind Beadle

Waarka walykumunu-latju palyara (we are doing good work):
The experiences and perspectives of Ngaanyatjarra *Minyma* (women)
as workers in Warburton, Western Australia

Supervisors:

Dr. Bill Genat, University of Melbourne
A/Prof. Ernie Stringer, Curtin University
A/Prof. Richard Chenhall, University of Melbourne
Prof. Sandra Eades, Baker Institute
Prof. Ian Anderson, University of Melbourne

Date: Thursday 22nd June 2017 at 12 noon to 1.00pm

Venue: Seminar Room 302/303, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

This seminar will share findings from my PhD study that was undertaken with a group of Aboriginal women who initiated, developed, managed and promoted a suite of catering activities in Warburton, the Ngaanyatjarra Lands, Western Australia. Through my immersion into community life and by developing a network of strong interpersonal relationships, I used a collaborative ethnographic approach to this investigation, within which the women guided the phases of the research, the methods and the writing.

I use this presentation to reveal the women's local perspective on why the activities in which they engaged were meaningful, and how the way in which they shaped their worker role reflected and supported their values – specifically nurturing and relatedness to kin. Their emergent worker role, characterised by strong participation, motivation and a passionate identity, is revealed within the narrative accounts of the study, and provides insights into the life-world of Aboriginal women in remote communities. I discuss the significance of these findings for policy and program design relating to the creation of meaningful work for remote Aboriginal women.

In the ten years since completing a Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies (Hons), Ros has gained extensive experience in the public health and community development arena, mainly in Aboriginal communities and also in Tonga. Her passion lies in taking a developmental approach to supporting community initiated and guided projects. To complement the professional roles she has held in both government and non-government organisations, Ros is currently completing her PhD which emerged from supporting a group of Ngaanyatjarra women in a community development program in Warburton, Western Australia, between 2009 and 2014.

