

# ACRAWSA

Australian Critical Race and Whiteness Studies Association



## CONFERENCE 2013 CALL FOR PAPERS

### *Mapping Your Law/Lore*

**December 5-6**

**The Sebel, Mandurah, Western Australia**

The original vision that led to the formation of ACRAWSA in 2002 was *“to bring together scholars who shared an interest in the study of whiteness and race in order to develop an association whereby our work could be showcased and presented as there was and remains no formal race and whiteness field of study within Australian Universities.”* Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson

This conference aims to once again bring together scholars who share an interest in the study of critical whiteness and race to showcase and present their work. Much of the early work by scholars of whiteness studies in Australia was in relation to legal issues such as Native Title and Indigenous Sovereignty, a theme that is reflected at this year’s conference. The conference also acknowledges the place of lore in creation of our present and future, thus extending beyond a singularly legal theme. Both law and lore are used to guide direction and understanding of the world around us. Law and lore are the cartography, the maps, on life’s journey for understanding what is expected and assumed; for aspirations, values and how life is lived.

Cartography creates what it wants to see based on the lore and law it has known. As the work of Minnie Bruce Pratt (1991) suggests, alternative forms of cartography are often ignored by dominant Settler cultures. Therefore we find maps and lore of early colonisers claiming “discovery” of wild, untamed lands. For First Nations peoples these same lands were places of complex, intricate relationships where clear tracks, patterns and maps could plainly be seen. The law and lore gave direction to life, its rich interconnectedness weaving together in sophisticated ways not discernible to coloniser’s eyes.

The theme of the 2013 conference considers the law and lore used and maps developed, exposed, highlighted or cultivated in the eleven years since the founding of ACRAWSA. Further, in considering issues of sovereignty, literature, class, sexuality, gender and justice in relation to critical race and whiteness it intends to pause, reflect and mark this spot so as to consider the future and potential forms of cartography we might utilise in creation of that future.

### **Format – individual papers**

Individual papers will follow the standard format of a 20 minute presentation and 10 minutes for questions. Paper abstracts should be no more than 200 words in length, and should be accompanied by a 50 word biographical note about the author(s).

### **Format – symposia**

Symposia will encompass a 1.5 hour session, and those interested in facilitating one should submit the three 200 word abstracts to be included in the session along with biographical details of each author. It is expected that submitted panels will have a theme that links the three papers.

### **Indicative topics**

These might include:

- \* mapping representations of the law in literature
- \* myths surrounding self-determination and sovereignty
- \* impact of law / lore on Indigenous incarceration
- \* the lore of Indigenous education
- \* laws that define futures
- \* lore surrounding refugee arrivals
- \* application of research maps in community organisations
- \* the terrain of lore-lessness/law-lessness
- \* what is critical about whiteness studies
- \* creating lore-full partnerships between academia and community
- \* the lore of policy development
- \* law / lore keepers
- \* the lore of disadvantage and privilege

**Please submit abstracts and biographies no later than July 5, 2013 to [acrawsa2013@bigpond.com](mailto:acrawsa2013@bigpond.com)**

### **Important Dates**

**Abstract submission deadline:** July 5th

**Decision on abstract notification:** August 16th

**Applications due for scholarships:** September 13th

**Early bird registration deadline:** October 31<sup>st</sup>

### **Publication Opportunity**

An opportunity will be offered to presenters to submit articles based on their presentation for review and inclusion in a special edition in 2014 of the ejournal *Critical Race and Whiteness Studies*

**Convened with community partner**



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