

## Happenings

### Using new media to explore old traumas

By Mark Giffard – DESTalk Editor

A Comparative study involving the First Nation Peoples of the United States and Indigenous Australians is the focus of a research project by Samia Goudie, the 2006 Fulbright Postgraduate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award winner.

"The experience of inter-generational trauma is similar between our two nations. The findings of this comparative study will enable me to improve Australian resilience and recovery programmes and contribute to the learning and knowledge base of both countries," Samia explained.

A part-time lecturer and tutor of Aboriginal General Education at the North Coast Institute of TAFE in New South Wales, Samia is also an independent film maker and consultant.

#### A visual approach

She plans to document her research findings using new media and film along with Indigenous narrative to further develop cultural, community and individual resilience.

"My research methodology will model creative applications to building social, spiritual and community capacity for wellness in First Nation and Indigenous communities.

"Indigenous story telling (narrative) is a culturally preferred way of relating and learning, as well as a powerful tool of healing and renewal. A documentary film, exploring the recovery from inter-generational trauma in Australia and American indigenous communities will train practitioners in promoting cultural, community and individual wellness and engage individuals towards resilience, renewal and recovery."

#### Giving survivors a voice

Samia hopes to share her project through cross-cultural forums to explore the issues in Indigenous contexts, as well as workshops and lectures to facilitate renewal of culture and community and 'give a voice' to survivors of inter-generational trauma.



**Novel way to tell the story** - Indigenous Fulbright award winner, Samia Goudie



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