

# Indigenous people and e-nabling technologies: An analysis of recent experiences in northern and central Australia

**Alicia Boyle**  
**Desert Knowledge CRC**  
**Charles Darwin University**



**Ruth Wallace**  
**Social Partnerships in Learning**  
**Research Consortium**  
**Charles Darwin University**



CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY

## Our acknowledgement

Photo by braha  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/braha/>  
7215762158752438/



- On behalf of our project teams we would like to acknowledge and thank the Mouheneener People of the greater Hobart region, traditional owners of the land on which we are privileged to speak today.
- We would also like to acknowledge and thank all the Indigenous people who have so willingly shared their time and knowledge as active participants in our projects, some aspects of which we will have time to share with you in our presentation.

Social Partnerships in Learning



## Today's story



- Background to what we do and why we do it
- What we know about using technologies and learning in Indigenous contexts
- Examples of our work using technologies in Indigenous contexts
- What we can learn from these stories

## What do we do and why do we do it?

- Social partnerships in learning
- Indigenous contexts
- Workforce and community development
- Technologies can assist in skills and knowledge recognition, knowledge sharing and transmission, capacity building and exchange, enterprise development and communication

## What do we know about using technologies and learning in Indigenous contexts?



- They have the potential to:
  - make explicit Indigenous knowledge and skills
  - facilitate information sharing and understanding of diverse knowledge systems across distance and language
  - support the co-production of learning resources
  - support accurate and appropriate representations of Indigenous contexts
  - support work-based learning
  - ultimately support new approaches to learning that meet the aspirations of Indigenous people

Social Partnerships in Learning



## Story 1: E-portfolios for Aboriginal Artworkers in Central Australia



Desart Member Aboriginal Art and Craft Centres  
[www.desart.com.au](http://www.desart.com.au)

Social Partnerships in Learning



# Story 1: E-portfolios for Aboriginal Artworkers in Central Australia



Social Partnerships in Learning



# Story 1: E-portfolios for Aboriginal Artworkers in Central Australia



Social Partnerships in Learning



## Story 1: E-portfolios for Aboriginal Artworkers in Central Australia



Social Partnerships in Learning



## Story 2: Collaborative online learning: Social networking spaces and Indigenous participation



<http://centralaustraliaeandtnetwork.ning.com/>

<http://powerupplus.ning.com/>



Social Partnerships in Learning



Story 2: Collaborative online learning: Social networking spaces and Indigenous participation



<http://centraustraliaeandtnetwork.ning.com/>

Social Partnerships in Learning



Story 2: Collaborative online learning: Social networking spaces and Indigenous participation



<http://powerupplus.ning.com/>

Social Partnerships in Learning



Story 3: Working from our strengths: Using e-learning to recognise knowledge and competence in Indigenous enterprise training and development



What can we learn from these stories?

- E-learning is:
  - understanding of the role technologies can play in communication across cultures, regions, workplaces and ideas
  - co-production of knowledge
  - skill development to enable participation in workforces
  - ability to share and represent concepts in many ways
- E-learning's potential can be achieved through:
  - partnerships
  - readiness to learn together

## What can we learn from these stories?

- Effective partnerships:
  - recognise all stakeholders' knowledge, strength and needs
  - facilitate the successful integration of e-learning for training and workforce development
- Co-production of knowledge and artefacts:
  - better reflects existing strengths and knowledge – through the use of audio, video, digital stories, websites and e-portfolios
  - provides opportunities to think differently about e-learning and its applications

## What can we learn from these stories?



Photo from Flickr by SIDR-2  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/djwvstener/326174717/sizes/o/>

- Hardware, software and interoperability:
  - decent hardware – computer, headset and digital camera
  - software - freely available, accessible and reliable
  - time, patience and persistence are required
  - working across systems can impact on for example - available information formats, bandwidth, technical support and power



Alicia Boyle

[alicia.boyle@cdu.edu.au](mailto:alicia.boyle@cdu.edu.au)

Do you  
have any  
questions  
for us?



Ruth Wallace

[ruth.wallace@cdu.edu.au](mailto:ruth.wallace@cdu.edu.au)

<http://www.cdu.edu.au/centres/spil/>



[www.desertknowledgecrc.com.au](http://www.desertknowledgecrc.com.au)



[www.cdu.edu.au](http://www.cdu.edu.au)