



ANNUAL REPORT

Our DNA • Our people • Our stories • Our way

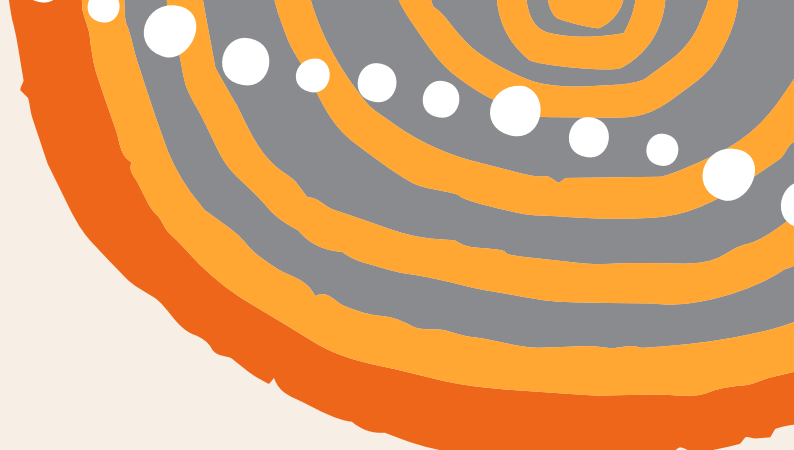
2025

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Australian National University acknowledges, celebrates and pays respects to the Ngunnawal and Ngambri people of the Canberra region, and to all First Nations Australians upon whose traditional lands we meet and work, and whose cultures are among the oldest continuing cultures in human history. We acknowledge that Aboriginal sovereignty was never ceded.

*It always was and always will be,
Aboriginal land.*





ABOUT NCIG

The National Centre for Indigenous Genomics (NCIG) is a research centre within the Australian National University, established by statute under the ANU Act (1991). It holds Australia's only federally legislated mandate for Indigenous governance of a collection that includes genomic data and biological samples.

NCIG is recognised nationally for its leadership in Indigenous genomics research, community engagement, ethics, and policy development.

NCIG's work aligns with the ANU Renew agenda and the Centres, Institutes, and Entities framework, and focuses on three key areas.

Key Areas

- **Research leadership:** Leading national programs in Indigenous genomics, securing over \$50 million in external funding since 2021;
- **Infrastructure and governance:** Ethical management of biospecimens and genomic data, including biobanking, secure data systems, and Indigenous data governance;
- **Community engagement and education:** Partnering with Indigenous communities to support informed decision-making and genomics capacity-building.

ABOUT THE NCIG STATUTE

The National Centre for Indigenous Genomics Statute 2021 establishes the governance framework for the National Centre for Indigenous Genomics at the Australian National University, placing the NCIG Collection of Indigenous biospecimens under the custodianship of an Indigenous-majority Board. It defines the Board's authority and responsibilities for stewardship of the collection, including oversight of ethical use, community engagement, research access and strategic direction, ensuring the resource is managed transparently and for the benefit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Read the Statute here: www.legislation.gov.au/F2021L00183/asmade/text



The information and commentary in this report is accurate for the reporting period (calendar year 2025) and as at the time of preparation (January 2026). Things may have changed since that time.

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FRAMING THE NARRATIVE

NCIG is a bold and complex initiative with many interconnected elements. The purpose of NCIG - its why - is straightforward and is articulated in the Director's Welcome.

Explaining **what** NCIG does and **how** is more complex. These dimensions unfold across multiple, often overlapping streams of activity the purpose or relevance of which may not be immediately apparent, or that can be challenging for non-expert readers to navigate.

To assist readers, we describe NCIG using a three-part framework. This structure is intended as a narrative aid rather than a strict reflection of organisational boundaries. In practice, NCIG's activities are deeply interconnected and mutually reinforcing. Nonetheless, NCIG can be usefully understood through the following lenses:

- The NCIG Collection
- Genomic Research
- Indigenous Community Engagement and Indigenous-led Governance

Under **NCIG Collection**, we describe how NCIG cares for, grows and responsibly uses its unique collection of biological specimens, genomic data and historical records.

Under **Genomic Research**, we outline NCIG's portfolio of projects spanning both fundamental and disease-focused genomic research and our work to improve stewardship of Indigenous genomic data.

Under **Community Engagement and Governance**, we explain NCIG's norm-breaking approaches to consent, participant-centred control, and Indigenous governance.

The annual report concludes with the required financial, management and performance reporting.

“ I'd like to see all the benefits that we are talking about with Indigenous communities spread out across all of Australia. Because we know that when we look at Indigenous science, and when we look at Indigenous genomics, that the benefits will be for all Australians.

Associate Professor
Azure Hermes

”





“ Our work is grounded in Indigenous leadership and driven by a conviction that scientific excellence and cultural responsibility must walk hand in hand. ”

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

It is a privilege to present the 2025 Annual Report of the National Centre for Indigenous Genomics (NCIG).

At its heart, NCIG exists to ensure that the genomic knowledge and biological materials entrusted to us are stewarded ethically, respectfully, and for the benefit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Our work is grounded in Indigenous leadership and driven by a conviction that scientific excellence and cultural responsibility must walk hand in hand.

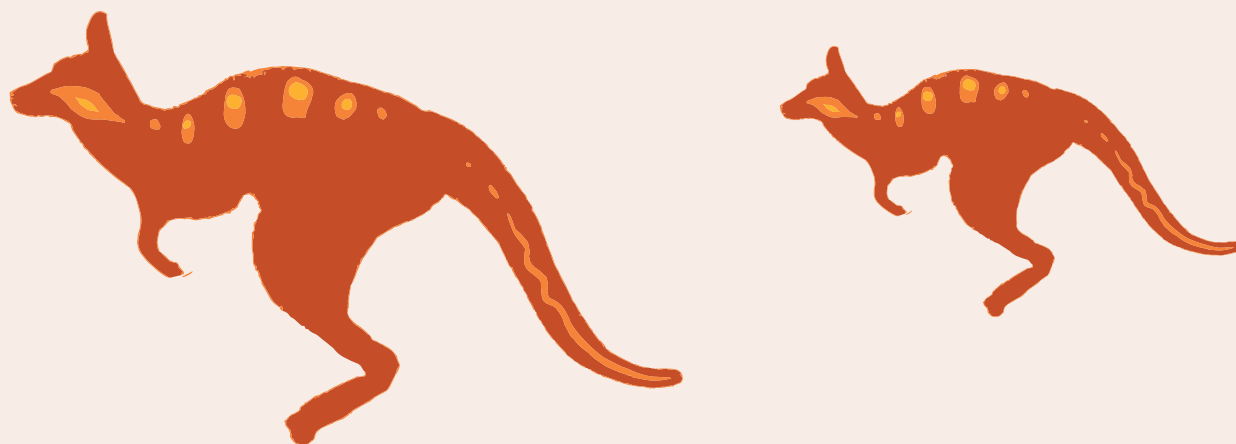
2025 was notable for two very special achievements among others. Both represent tangible expressions of our mission – bridging the gap between technical science and lived experience, so that genomics can serve communities on their terms. First, we launched a suite of culturally appropriate genetics and genomics resources, co-designed with communities, to support informed decision-making about genetic testing, health care and research participation. Second, arising from this work, NCIG Deputy Director Azure Hermes was awarded the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) Traditional Knowledge Innovation Award.

Our partnerships with Australian Genomics, the Kids Institute, the Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics, Genomics Technologies Group, Black Ochre Data Labs and others continue to expand the reach and impact of Indigenous-led genomic research across Australia. Together, these collaborations are demonstrating that when Indigenous knowledge systems guide scientific practice, the outcomes are more just, more sustainable, and more likely to improve lives.

Our community engagement activities this year reaffirmed the trust and commitment that underpin NCIG's work. Through dialogue, outbound and inbound visits, and collaborative projects, communities across Australia have shared their priorities and hopes for how genomic data might contribute to better health outcomes and stronger futures. This feedback continues to shape our policies, our research, and our collective understanding of what ethical genomics means in practice.

Our technical teams have maintained high standards in sample integrity, data management and access oversight. These behind-the-scenes activities are essential to preserving a resource that is unique – a collection that is not simply biological, but cultural and historical, reflecting the generosity of generations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.





Our researchers have made major progress towards the release of important Indigenous genomic reference resources, as well as continuing research in the emerging field of pharmacogenomics, and a number of disease-specific research projects including kidney disease and Machado Joseph disease.

I extend my deepest gratitude to our Board, whose Indigenous-majority leadership ensures that every decision made at NCIG aligns with community values and expectations; to our staff and students, who bring dedication and integrity to their work each day; and to our partners and funders, who share our commitment to a more equitable and culturally grounded future for genomics in Australia.

Above all, I acknowledge and thank the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people whose samples, knowledge, and trust make this work possible.

The NCIG Collection is a living legacy – a testament to their contribution to science and to the principle that Indigenous peoples must lead in shaping how that science is used.

We are proud to present this report highlighting NCIG's national leadership and achievements in 2025.

Professor Alex Brown

Director, National Centre for Indigenous Genomics
Australian National University



NCIG – A NATION-LEADING ROLE

Genomics has the potential to enable treatment for diseases like cancer, kidney disease or diabetes to be precisely calibrated to an individual's genomic makeup.

If so, we can make radical improvements to patient experience, and save lives. At the population level, First Nations communities experience more disease and have poorer health outcomes. So, the promise of genomics is particularly important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Transformational outcomes are most likely when investment is directed to priorities identified by Indigenous peoples themselves. NCIG's governance model and operational protocols are built on the principle that Indigenous people must be engaged at all levels of programs that specifically target their health, wellbeing and communities. This means embedding Indigenous people in all decision-making processes.

Additionally, from the outset, we foresaw that an **integrated, collaborative national ecosystem** was required, encompassing:

- foundational genomic resources to inform both fundamental and disease-focused research;
- advanced data management platforms that support Indigenous governance and data sovereignty;
- clinical translation pathways;
- sustained community engagement, consultation and leadership.

Year upon year, NCIG has worked steadily to bring this vision to life and now stands proudly in a truly impressive and important collaborative national Indigenous genomics ecosystem.

NCIG's three core activities – genomic research, trusted stewardship of the NCIG Collection, and best-practice community engagement – are foundational to its work and now inform nationally applicable models and frameworks. ALIGN and CONNECT are significant national programs under the leadership of NCIG Director Alex Brown, creating necessary genomic reference bases, building capacity for Indigenous-led genomics research, supporting clinical and public health advances, and strengthening ethical, culturally-informed data governance. NCIG is delivering major projects in genomics, community engagement and consent, and sector capacity-building within this ambitious program.



Listen to members
of our team talk about the
work of NCIG in this video:



“ NCIG was created and structured to be a deliberate intervention in legacy research models. The way NCIG works is as innovative as its scientific discoveries.

Professor Simon Easteal,
NCIG Director 2013-2021.

”

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025

Release of Award-Winning Genomic Resources

In May, NCIG launched a ground-breaking suite of culturally appropriate genetics and genomics resources developed with Indigenous partners. These resources will help people seeking to understand genetic conditions, genetic testing and genomics research, and to navigate the sometimes-complex pathways to these.

Beautiful to look at and easy to understand, the resources include storytelling through animations, plain language explanations, video interviews, fact sheets and an interactive genetic services map.

The resources are so good they received immediate uptake by some state health services and work is underway to integrate these resources into postgraduate genetic counselling curricula.

The launch was the culmination of two year's work by a large team, funded through the CONNECT program and Australian Genomics. We record our heartfelt thanks to our community partners:

- Gurriny Yealamucka Health Services, Yarrabah;
- Yalu Aboriginal Corporation, Galiwin'ku;
- Genomic Advisory Group, Tiwi Islands;
- Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO);
- Machado-Joseph Disease Foundation, Groote Eylandt;
- Australian Genomics;
- The Kids Research Institute Australia;
- Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics.

Now underway is the translation of the animations and fact sheets into four Indigenous languages: Yumplatok, Yolgnu Matha, Pitjantjatjara and Walpiri.



ATSE Traditional Knowledge Innovation Award

For her vision and leadership in the development of these resources, NCIG Deputy Director Azure Hermes, a proud Gimuy Walubara Yidinji woman, won the Traditional Knowledge Innovation Award from the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE).

This award acknowledges and recognises an individual, team, community, or organisation respectfully and successfully applying Australian Traditional Knowledge in contemporary innovation contexts.

Azure was recognised for her national leadership in developing culturally safe genomics resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including for people experiencing a rare disease, strengthening trust between science and community. The success of the project was made possible through strong collaborative partnerships with Yalu Aboriginal Corporation, Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service Corporation, and other key contributors.



Azure Hermes, Evelyn Djotja, Chair of the Yalu Board, and Katrina Connolly, from Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service Corporation, Yarrabah, at the ATSE Award night.



Hardip Patel
and Azure Hermes
at the CONNECT +
ALIGN Symposium
Photo: Annalee
Stearne,
thekids.org.au

ALIGN + CONNECT Symposium

Many of NCIG's major programs are funded and delivered through the ALIGN and CONNECT consortia, both led by NCIG Director Alex Brown. Together, ALIGN and CONNECT are building a national Indigenous genomics architecture at the intersection of genomic science, health and medical research, health care delivery, data sciences, ethics, policy, and Indigenous knowledge systems. This architecture centres and empowers Indigenous leadership in genomics research for the benefit of all Australians.

The shared objective of ALIGN and CONNECT is to deliver equity and tangible benefit to Indigenous Australians through genomics. This is achieved through a purposeful alliance between academia, industry, governance bodies, and Indigenous communities, working collectively to develop a framework – designed by and for Indigenous people – that enables the translation of genomic medicine into equitable health outcomes.

In September, almost 90 participants from across the ALIGN and CONNECT programs convened for a two-day symposium on the lands of the Kaurna people in Adelaide. Attendees included investigators, collaborators, and Indigenous governance committee members, alongside representatives from Genomics Australia, Cancer Australia, the Centre for Population Genomics, Bioplatforms Australia, CSIRO, SAHMRI, NSW Health, AHMRC, WAAHEC, AHCSA, AIATSIS, and NHMRC.

The symposium program combined strategic updates and research presentations from the five CONNECT domains and six ALIGN nodes. NCIG leads CONNECT Domain 1, which focuses on community awareness, genomic literacy, capacity-building, and the development of culturally appropriate structures and processes across health care, sample collection, curation, and repatriation. Progress in this domain was presented to the gathering by Azure Hermes.

NCIG also leads CONNECT Domain 3, closely linked with its role as the Genome Biology Flagship node of ALIGN. This domain aims to document and understand the diversity and variation of Indigenous genomes and phenotypes, and to develop high-quality reference datasets to support genomic, or 'precision', medicine. Progress in Domain 3 was presented by NCIG Bioinformatics Lead Hardip Patel.

Alex Brown and Azure Hermes participated in a panel discussion on the critical elements required for capacity and capability building across the sector. Hardip Patel also contributed to a panel discussion, moderated by Alex Brown, which explored priorities and directions for the coming years.

The symposium highlighted the breadth and depth of work being undertaken across the ALIGN and CONNECT networks, which includes substantial contributions by NCIG, with a strong focus on developing clear pathways to health benefit from genomics for Indigenous Australians.



A panel discussion at the CONNECT + ALIGN Symposium. Panel members from left to right: Professor Jason Kovacic (Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute), Dr Kath Keenan (Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council), Fiona Cornforth (Yardhura Walani, ANU) Associate Professor Kalinda Griffiths (Flinders University), Associate Professor Hardip Patel (NCIG), Tiffany Boughtwood (Genomics Australia), and Professor Alex Brown (NCIG) (Moderator).

CARE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NCIG COLLECTION

The NCIG Collection consists of biospecimens collected from more than 40 sites around Australia between the 1960s and 1990s, and their related documents and genomic data.

We conduct ongoing work to safeguard the collection for longevity, and to prepare approved components for our genomic research projects. Additionally, we ingest new biospecimens from existing and new partner communities collected through our Community Engagement program. The NCIG Collection has grown from an initial 7,000 historical biospecimens to around 10,800 specimens today. To date, NCIG has repatriated or respectfully destroyed approximately 300 historical specimens, at the request of the donors or their families.

Groote Eylandt Historical Samples: DNA Sequencing Progress

The laboratory program follows the community engagement program. Throughout 2024 the NCIG Community Engagement team consulted deeply with the people of Groote Eylandt (Northern Territory). By May 2025, Senior Technical Officer Carly Conlan completed the year-long project by processing approved historical Groote Eylandt samples for DNA extraction and sequencing.

In total, samples from 120 individuals in the Groote Eylandt cohort of samples were consented for use in the NCIG project.

Bridie Moy is contributing to several genomic projects as she undertakes her PhD program with NCIG.



This interactive map on the NCIG website shows the sites at which the biological samples were collected.
Source: <https://ncig.anu.edu.au/community-outreach/ncig-collection>



Genetic sequencing was carried out using several sequencing technologies, depending on the quality and quantity of DNA available. This work was undertaken by the Garvan Institute of Medical Research in collaboration with long-standing research partner Dr Ira Deveson.

Overall, high-quality genetic sequence data were obtained from 111 participants from Groote Eylandt. The results of this work are now being prepared for publication by NCIG PhD candidate Bridie Moy.

Fitzroy Crossing Cemetery Project: Genealogy in Partnership with Community

We have reported about the Fitzroy Crossing Cemetery Project annually for many years and an update can be found in this report under Community Engagement and Governance. Briefly, at the request of the local community, NCIG is working in partnership with Adelaide University to help match genetic information to human remains recovered from the Pioneer Cemetery in Fitzroy Crossing, Western Australia.

Saliva samples and the associated consent forms were collected by the NCIG Community Engagement team in 2018 and 2025 in partnership with the local community body, KALACC.

The resulting genetic data are now undergoing genealogical analyses by Professor Bastien Llamas and PhD Candidate Dawn Lewis at the University of Adelaide, who previously sequenced DNA from the remains recovered from the Pioneer Cemetery.



Data Manager
Jiaxin Yuan and
Bioinformatician
Kirat Alreja

Management of NCIG Biospecimens

NCIG inventoried stored samples to identify those with lower quality data that could be prepared for further sequencing. Of the samples checked, 40 DNA samples from 36 participants were suitable and will be sequenced by the Garvan Institute in 2026.

Samples from participants who requested disposal were safely destroyed (72 samples from 30 participants). Twelve participants requested the return of their samples and these were prepared to be shipped in 2026 (30 samples in total).

Data Management and Infrastructure

In 2025, NCIG strengthened its data systems to support its research mission. Data Manager Jiaxin Yuan processed 179 sequencing datasets from samples sent to the Garvan Institute and finalised two pipelines for bringing new data into NCIG's systems.

NCIG bioinformatician Kirat Alreja worked on core infrastructure projects, including:

- organising genomic data and associated information into a reliable database structure to support all downstream projects;
- building scalable pipelines for large-scale genomic analysis on the NCI Gadi supercomputer;
- implementing a complete workflow for identifying genetic variants in short-read data, forming the foundation of NCIG's Indigenous Variant Library.

These developments ensure NCIG can manage, analyse, and use genomic data effectively and reliably for current and future research.

CARAC – Research Project Application Portal

The CARAC (Collection Access and Research Advisory Committee) platform has now been in operation for two years. In 2025, three project applications were submitted for Board approval: one progressed successfully, while two were withdrawn part-way through the year by the applicants. User manuals for applicants, NCIG staff, and the (yet-to-be-formalised) CARAC committee have been tested and finalised, and are now ready for public release.

Operating Framework

Over the year, NCIG has continued to develop and document a comprehensive set of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the management of the NCIG Collection. Once finalised, these SOPs will span the full lifecycle of the Collection, from field-based sample and consent collection through laboratory processing, data generation and ingestion, and the governance of secure and appropriate data access. The SOPs are subject to an annual review and update each January to ensure they remain current, robust, and fit for purpose.

Senior
Technical Officer
Carly Conlan working
with the historical
biological samples in
nitrogen tanks



GENOMIC RESEARCH



Some of the NCIG genomics research team, left to right: Lucía Rey Álvarez (PhD candidate), Sarah Jackson (PhD candidate), Hardip Patel (Bioinformatics Lead) and Zahra Chew (PhD candidate).

Creating Reference Datasets

At the foundation of NCIG's scientific program are core research projects focused on documenting and understanding the breadth of Indigenous genomic diversity. These projects are:

- the generation of Indigenous Australian reference pangenomes;
- the construction of population-level variation libraries.

Significant progress was made during the year in work led by NCIG Research Fellow Dr Hyungtaek Jung: the development of a population variation library, including allele frequencies and variant annotation, and the construction of reference pangenomes as a substrate for high-quality genomic analyses. This work focused on three key objectives:

- building complete telomere-to-telomere (T2T) genome assemblies using cost-effective long-read sequencing approaches;
- integrating Indigenous Australian genomic diversity into predominantly European-centric global genome and pangenome resources; and
- identifying medically relevant genes and variants specific to Indigenous Australians to lay the groundwork for tailored genomic applications and health benefits.

Collectively, these resources are intended to provide high-quality reference datasets that underpin precision medicine, pharmacogenomics and integrated models of healthcare for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Data Systems, Data Sovereignty

The work to generate reference datasets informs another important project, which is to help establish robust and secure data systems aligned with Indigenous data sovereignty principles.

Indigenous data governance remained a central pillar of NCIG's activities. Conversations commenced with Maïam Nayri Wingara, a collective established to promote principles of Indigenous data sovereignty in the Australian health and research systems. (www.maïamnayriwingara.org/).

NCIG data systems were prepared for formal assessment against ALIGN network researcher Associate Professor Kalinda Griffiths' four-part framework of ownership, control, access and custodianship. The goal is to embed FAIR and CARE principles across data practices, and to create self-assessment tools adapted for use with large-scale datasets. NCIG also contributed to national workshops in Adelaide on stewardship models for large genomic datasets, and delivered training in Indigenous data governance to ALIGN network members.



FAIR and CARE data sovereignty principles.



Research Fellow
Dr Hyungtaek Jung

Machado-Joseph Disease

Preparatory work commenced for genomic research into Machado-Joseph Disease (MJD) in the Northern Territory, with the support of the Machado-Joseph Disease Foundation, including the development of ethics applications and the appointment of a dedicated PhD student, Lucía Rey Álvarez. Using long-read sequencing and other modern genomics techniques NCIG aims to create a resource of DNA sequence information from Indigenous individuals affected by MJD, and their families. We anticipate that cutting-edge genomics techniques, coupled with detailed clinical phenotyping on Indigenous families, will lead to new and valuable knowledge about the genetic determinants of MJD in the Indigenous population and support clinical trial readiness.

Lucía Rey Álvarez,
PhD candidate



Simon Jiang (Centre for Personalised Medicine, JCSMR) and Azure Hermes with Purple House Board Members, Alice Springs, Northern Territory. Photo credit: Victoria Orpin, Project Manager, Purple House.

Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)

In July the NCIG Governance Board approved a collaboration with the Centre for Personalised Medicine (CPM), an initiative of Associate Professor Simon Jiang of JCSMR, whose primary research focus is chronic kidney disease. He has discovered genomic variants in the Tiwi population associated with end-stage kidney disease, and his research also has potential applications in pharmacogenomics and nutrigenomics.

Already working together for some time in the Tiwi Islands, where CKD is distressingly common, NCIG and CPM will now expand to include Central Australia. The CPM entered an agreement with Purple House to investigate the causes of kidney disease in the Pintubi Luritja people of the Western Desert and NCIG will contribute both community engagement and bioinformatic services.

Pharmacogenomics

Our pharmacogenomics research is focused on improving testing, diagnosis and personalised treatment for Indigenous Australians by increasing medicine efficacy and safety, while reducing adverse drug reactions, unnecessary interventions and associated healthcare costs.

The systematic inclusion of Indigenous Australians in leading-edge pharmacogenomics research is essential to ensure equitable benefit from genomic advances and to avoid widening existing health disparities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations. NCIG Bioinformatics Lead Hardip Patel was awarded a \$2.1m grant over 3 years by the Medical Research Futures Fund (MRFF) to focus on this work.

The effective tailoring of public health strategies and clinical care to the needs of Indigenous people and their communities depends on the availability of high-quality, Indigenous-specific reference data generated through the meaningful inclusion of diverse populations. This work is intended to significantly expand the evidence base for Indigenous pharmacogenomics and to establish the governance, data and translational pathways required to support its integration into routine clinical care, contributing to sustained improvements in health outcomes.

A natural flow-on from the variation library work, a dedicated postdoctoral role was established to focus on pharmacogenomic variation and in October we welcomed Research Fellow Dr Natasha Vassileff to our research team.

Research
Fellow Dr Natasha
Vassileff



Other Diseases

Broader discussions explored the relevance of genomics to dementia and younger-onset conditions, including exploratory links with dementia researchers at UNSW.

“ I really believe in this science. When we think about closing the gap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, you have to think that genomics can play a part in that.

Associate Professor
Azure Hermes

”



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Each year NCIG hosts educational groups, work experience students and visiting groups from Indigenous communities represented in the NCIG Collection, as well as conducting fieldwork around Australia.

Three areas of interest direct NCIG's community engagement programs.

- Supporting our genome reference and variation library assembly projects by delivering informed consent for the ethical use of the historical NCIG biospecimen collection.
- Co-designing and embedding community perspectives across genomic research, genomic data, genetic health service delivery, and governance.
- Building capacity and future Indigenous leadership in genomic health services and research.



Kerenza Sunfly, from KALACC, processing saliva samples on site at Noonkanbah community, southwest of Fitzroy Crossing, Western Australia. Photo credit: KALACC.

Youth Engagement, Capacity Building and Future Leadership

NCIG hosted students from Hawker College and Kaleen High School on one-week work experience placements in June and September. The students were involved in wet-lab and bioinformatics activities and experienced a range of typical student and academic activities including attending a seminar and tour at National Research Collections Australia (CSIRO) and conducting a small-scale research project in collaboration with NCIG PhD students.

Fitzroy Crossing Cemetery Project

Since 2018, in partnership with the Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre (KALACC), NCIG has been undertaking culturally respectful, community-led genomic analysis to reconnect families with the remains of their ancestors displaced by successive floods and wash-aways from their burial places in the Pioneer Cemetery.

In June, July and November, NCIG Deputy Director Azure Hermes and Community Engagement Officer Natasha Best conducted fieldwork in Fitzroy Crossing and surrounding communities, including Bayulu, Joy Springs, and Noonkanbah, to meet families, obtain consent, and collect DNA samples.

The focus has now shifted to the laboratory, as described elsewhere in this report. NCIG will again partner with KALACC to plan the most suitable and respectful approach for returning results to families and supporting them in understanding the findings.





Senior Technical Officer Carly Conlan demonstrating lab techniques to a Kimberley visitor.

Community Visits to NCIG – Two-Way Learning in Action

In October and November, NCIG welcomed community members from Galiwin'ku and the Tiwi Islands in the Northern Territory, and from the Kimberley region in Western Australia. During these visits, participants engaged with archival materials relevant to their families and communities, toured NCIG and National Computational Infrastructure (NCI) facilities, and contributed to discussions on ethics, data governance, consent, the future direction of NCIG projects, and the concept of a future Indigenous genomic biobank.

Across all engagements, communities highlighted the central importance of cultural authority, transparent communication, and Indigenous data sovereignty in genomics research. These visits strengthened mutual understanding, clarified community priorities, and established a sound foundation for future collaboration. They also informed ethics planning, shaped community engagement activities scheduled for 2026, and provided valuable insights to guide NCIG's genomic and social science research programs.



Representatives from Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Cultural Centre (KALACC), Nyul Nyul PBC Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, Bardi and Jawi Niimidiman Aboriginal Corporation (BJNAC), Bunuba Dawangarri Aboriginal Corporation, and The Kids Research Institute, Broome, visiting NCIG at ANU Canberra.



Visitors from the Kimberley (middle) and the Tiwi Islands (bottom) examine their communities' family history documents from the NCIG Collection.



Natascha Best (centre) and Deb Marbug (right) with Yalu staff at the Yalu stall at the Garma Festival.





Empowering Communities in Genomics Research

As part of the CONNECT consortium and the LINEAGE Study, a team of NCIG social science researchers led by Azure Hermes, Research Fellow Dr Lyndsay Newett, and Indigenous community partners from the Anindilyakwa Land Council, Groote Eylandt Language Centre, Groote Eylandt Bickerton Island Primary College Aboriginal Corporation, Yalu Aboriginal Corporation, and Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service Aboriginal Corporation, have been working on mixed-methods projects to explore Indigenous peoples' perspectives on genomics research practices and outcomes.

Specifically, the team is undertaking a comprehensive survey and analysis of attitudes and understanding about community consultation, consent, sample collection, genomic data generation, sample and data storage, data sharing, incidental findings, the communication of findings and results, and the potential for benefits and risks.

The team launched a 25-question survey at the Lowitja Institute's International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference in June. Following the commencement of in-person survey data collection in South Australia, and the Northern Territory, the team launched the online survey component in December.

In partnership with Yalu Aboriginal Corporation (Galiwin'ku, NT), Gurriny Yealamucka Aboriginal Health Service (Yarrabah, QLD), the Machado Joseph Disease Foundation (Groote Eylandt, NT), and genetic health professionals, NCIG is also leading the co-creation of resources for culturally safe genetic healthcare. Funded by the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) Indigenous Health Research initiative, the project focuses on identifying gaps in current genetic health services, outlining First Nations genetic health priorities, and creating knowledge-sharing pathways between communities and healthcare providers.

Together, the team is working to develop three key outputs:

- **educational tools** for genetic counsellors and health professionals that will be integrated into university qualifications at the University of Melbourne (UoM) and University of Technology Sydney (UTS);
- **genetic health literacy resources** to empower First Nations patients, families, and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations to navigate and benefit from genetic health services;
- **a policy analysis** to provide foundations for transformational change in genetic health service delivery nationwide.

In parallel, Azure Hermes and Research Fellow Dr Jess Muller are overseeing research being conducted by Masters of Genetic Counselling students at University of Technology Sydney and University of Melbourne to assess genetic counselling students' and recent graduates' readiness for culturally safe practice with First Nations patients and their families.



The KALACC team facilitating and supporting NCIG's community consultations in the Kimberley, Western Australia.

STATUTORY REPORTS

Governance Board

Dr Caroline Hughes AM joined the Board as Chairperson. Long-serving board member and stalwart friend of NCIG, Dr Gareth Baynam retired from the Board after 6 years of impactful contribution. We also farewelled with thanks Dr Yvette Roe after 4 years of service to the Board. In their places we welcomed Ms Fiona Cornforth Director, National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Wellbeing Research (Yardhura Walani) at ANU, and Professor Kiaran Kirk, Dean of the ANU College of Science and Medicine.

Throughout the year, the Board's primary focus was to advise and support the NCIG Executive during a period of institutional uncertainty. The Board formally wrote to the University on two matters: seeking collaboration to address specific operational challenges, and requesting clarity regarding NCIG's future funding arrangements. Both matters remain under consideration.

Governance Board Membership and Meeting Attendance

Board Member	Meeting 34 – 13 March	Meeting 35 – 2 July	Meeting 36 – 23 Sept	Meeting 37 – 25 Nov
Assoc Prof Yvette Roe (until November 2025)				---
Mr Slade Sibosado	Yes		Yes	Yes
Mr Ben Murray	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mr Mark Mayo	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mr Tim Brown	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ms Fiona Cornforth (from November 2025)	---	---	---	Yes
Dr Caroline Hughes AM		Yes	Yes	
Ms Julia Mansour	Yes		Yes	Yes
Prof Graham Mann	Yes	Yes		Yes
Prof Lachlan Blackhall (DVCRI)				Yes
Prof Kiaran Kirk (from July 2025)	---			Prof Stuart Wyithe attended as delegate for Prof Kirk
Participants				
Prof Alex Brown	Yes		Yes	Yes
Assoc Prof Azure Hermes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Ms Deb Marburg	Yes		Yes	Yes
Ms Jackie Stenhouse	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Staff and Students

Area	Role	Name	From/To (if applicable)
Executive Leadership	NCIG Director	Prof Alex Brown	
	NCIG Deputy Director	Assoc Prof Azure Hermes	
Executive Support	Senior Administration Officer	Ms Deb Marburg	Until August
	Board Secretary	Ms Jackie Stenhouse	
Community Engagement & Social Science Research Programs	Program Manager & ACT Node Coordinator for Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics (ALIGN)	Dr Michael He	Until August
		Ms Deb Marburg	From August
	Research Fellow	Dr Lyndsay Newett	
	Community Engagement Manager	Ms Natasha Best	
	Community Engagement Officer (Yarrabah)	Ms Katrina Connolly	
	Community Engagement Officer	Ms Alice McCarthy	On leave in 2025
	Postdoctoral Fellow	Dr Jessica Muller	From May
	PhD Candidate	Ms Rubi-Jayne Cohen	
	PhD Candidate	Mr Joel Keen	
	Research Assistant	Mr Oliver Juttner-Melland	
Collection Management	Research Assistant	Ms Lynne El Hassan	
	Senior Technical Officer	Ms Carly Conlan	
	Data Manager	Ms Jiaxin Yuan	
Bioinformatics & Genomics Research Programs	Bioinformatics Lead	Assoc Prof Hardip Patel	
	Bioinformatics Officer	Mr Kirat Alreja	
	Bioinformatics Officer	Mr Adam Heterick	
	Research Fellow	Dr Hyungtaek Jung	
	Research Fellow	Dr Hadi Nazem-Bokaei	
	Research Fellow	Dr Natasha Vassileff	From October
	Research Fellow	Dr Eli Niktab	
	PhD Candidate	Ms Sarah Jackson	From February
	PhD Candidate	Ms Bridie Moy	
	PhD Candidate	Ms Lucía Rey Álvarez	From March
	Honours Student	Ms Zahra Chew	



BACK ROW: Oliver Juttner-Melland, Jessica Muller, Eli Niktab, Joel Keen, Deb Marburg, Carly Conlan **MIDDLE ROW:** Hadi Nazem-Bokaei, Hardip Patel, Kirat Alreja, Natasha Best, Sarah Jackson, Zahra Chew **FRONT ROW:** Alex Brown (seated), Jiaxin Yuan, Lynne El Hassan, Lucía Rey Álvarez, Rubi-Jayne Cohen, Lyndsay Newett, Bridie Moy, Azure Hermes (seated).



Financial Sustainability

NCIG operates through a combination of internal allocations and short-term competitive grants. It secured \$19 million in competitive funding between 2021 and 2025, a figure that rises to \$55 million when including partner-held funds. Nevertheless, key governance and custodial responsibilities, which cannot be grant-funded, are not structurally funded. The current funding model is not sufficient to meet the Centre's national and institutional responsibilities. NCIG has proposed to the University that from 2027 it is included as a permanent line in the John Curtin School of Medical Research operational budget, with an annual investment of \$2.39 million to support staffing and core operations. The University is considering its response.

2025 Financial Snapshot

	ANU Operational Funding	External Grant Funding	Philanthropic Donations	Total
Opening Balance	\$44,099	\$612,964	\$55,110	\$712,173
Income				
Operating & Project Grants	\$512,390	\$2,307,041	\$100	\$2,819,531
Operating Expenses				
Salaries	\$464,189	\$772,653	\$-	\$1,236,842
Equipment	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Travel & Fieldwork	\$3,172	\$30,473	\$-	\$33,645
Expendable research materials	\$-	\$96,028	\$-	\$96,028
Consultancies	\$1,945	\$113,558	\$-	\$115,503
Consumables	\$8,381	\$125	\$-	\$8,506
Other expenses	\$6,883	\$9,209	\$-	\$16,092
Grant share to others	\$10,000	\$291,583	\$-	\$301,583
Total Expenses				\$1,808,199
Net result				\$1,723,505

Grants and Other Funding

Grant Source	Description	Funding received 2025	Remaining period	Remaining funding
Internal Grants				
JCSMR Operational Funding	Core operational funding	\$320,000	1 year	\$320,000
ANU Grand Challenge	Kidney disease in the Tiwi people	\$366,717	1 year	\$227,877
DVCRI Operational Funding	DVCRI operating contribution	\$152,390	1 year	\$150,000
External Grants				
MRFF GHFM	Advancing health equity for Indigenous Australians through pharmacogenomics	\$6	0 years	\$-
NHMRC AGGP24	Working to ensure equitable access to genomic health advancements across Australia	\$341,500	0 years	\$-
MRFF IHRG23	Improving First Nations' experiences of genomic health services	\$453,037	0.9 years	\$-
NHMRC MRFF Synergy	Empowering Indigenous communities in genomic medicine	\$265,276	1 year	\$262,559
NHMRC IG23	Indigenous telomere-2-telomere human reference genome	\$949,123	1 year	\$-
MRFF GHFM	Pathways to benefit for Indigenous Australians in genomic medicine	\$131,216	1.4 years	\$131,216
MRFF GHFM	Ethical governance for clinical and genomic data	\$103,701	1.4 years	\$82,233
		\$3,082,966		\$1,173,885

ABBREVIATIONS

JCSMR	The John Curtin School of Medical Research
DVCRI	Deputy Vice Chancellor Research & Innovation
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
MRFF	Medical Research Future Fund (offered through Comm Dept of Health)
IG	Ideas Grant (offered by NHMRC)
GHFM	Genomic Health Futures Mission (offered by NHMRC)
AGGP	Australian Genomics Grant Program (offered by NHMRC)
IHRG	Indigenous Health Research Fund



Publications

MacKay D, Boyle J, Campbell S, Freeman N, **Brown A**, et al. Care provided to women during and after a pregnancy complicated by hyperglycaemia: impacts of a multi-component intervention. *Lancet Reg Health West Pac*. 2025. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lanwpc.2025.101514>.

Dawson A, Pearson O, Boyd M, Dwyer J, **Brown A**, et al. A methodological approach to generate local solutions that promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social and emotional wellbeing. *First Nations Health and Wellbeing*. 2025. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fnhli.2025.100043>.

Truong A, Williams-Tucker K, Narkle A, Slicer E, **Brown A**, et al. Current gaps in knowledge and future research directions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with cancer. *Med J Aust*. 2025. <https://doi.org/10.5694/mja2.52650>.

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Chow C, Kovacic J, Neal B, Donnan G, **Brown A**, et al. Can Australia tackle its failure in research translation to reduce cardiovascular disease and improve equity? *Heart Lung Circ*. 2025. <https://authors.elsevier.com/a/11Unc58KFq4vmx>.

Kockx M, Wang J, Howard NJ, Suryawanshi A, **Brown A**, et al. HDL remodelling and enrichment with apoCIII and apoE in Indigenous Australians. *J Clin Lipidol*. 2025. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacl.2025.08.006>.

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Dawson A, Lyons J, Morey K, Pearson O, **Brown A**, et al. Ways of working in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled health organisations. *Aust J Prim Health*. 2025. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1326020025000482>.

Brown K, Howard NJ, Paquet C, Carrington MJ, **Brown A**. Documenting cardiovascular-kidney-metabolic risk within an Aboriginal cohort. *Heart Lung Circ*. 2025. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.hlc.2025.08.016>.

Wicks M, Wood A, Titmuss A, Shaw J, **Brown A**, et al. Islet autoimmunity in young First Nations women with prediabetes and type 2 diabetes. *Diabetes Res Clin Pract*. 2025. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/41173196/>.

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Broad Z, Lefevre J, Wilkinson M, Jung H, et al. Gravitropic gene expression divergence associated with adaptation in an Australian wildflower. *Mol Ecol*. 2025. <https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.17543>.

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DeBortoli E, McGahan E, Yanes T, Berkman J, **Hermes A**, et al. Utility of germline, somatic and ctDNA testing in adults with cancer. *Cancer Med*. 2025. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/40747594/>.

Weber S, **Álvarez LTR**, Stoffel N, Ansedo-Bermejo J, Cruz R, et al. Increased prevalence of an oxytocin receptor gene variant in functional neurological disorder. *J Neuropsychiatry Clin Neurosci*. 2025. <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.neuropsych.20250031>.

Accepted

Harrison C, Kennedy J, **Keen J**. Buraalgamayi: positioning Koori approaches to social work. *J Soc Work*. 2025.

Preprints

Niktab E. DNATokenizer: a GPU-first byte-to-identifier tokenizer for high-throughput DNA language models. 2025.

Invited Talks and Presentations

Name	Status	Topic	Event / Host	Location
Kirat Alreja	Invited speaker	Indigenous variant library: A Comprehensive Catalogue of Genetic Variation Across Five Australian Indigenous Communities	ABACBS Conference	Adelaide
Lucía Rey Álvarez	Poster	Characterization of Nuclear Insertions of Mitochondrial DNA in Human Pangenome Reference Assemblies	ABACBS Conference	Adelaide
Alex Brown	Invited speaker		Maurice Wilkins Centre Symposium	Auckland, New Zealand
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Indigenous Genomics	Indigenous Public Health Canada	Virtual/Canada
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Indigenous Genomics: Governance, Equity and Access	Royal College of Pathologists Australia	Melbourne
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Indigenous Genomics, NCIG	Australian Digital Health Agency	Virtual
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Empowering Indigenous Communities in Genomic Medicine	Australian Genomics National Steering Committee Meeting	Virtual/ Melbourne
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Indigenous Genomics	Oxford Nanopore Population Health and Precision Medicine Summit	Melbourne
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Indigenous Genomics	P4P*: Pre-Engagement Meeting (*Precision Medicine for Public Health)	Broken Hill, NSW.
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Indigenous Genomics	OnTRACK (Teaching, Research and Community Knowledges)	Melbourne
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Indigenous Genomics	Royal Flying Doctor Service - NSW/VIC (Sth. East)-P4P Presentation	
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Indigenous Genomics	European Society of Human Genetics	Milan
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Indigenous Genomics	WEHI Reconciliation Week	Melbourne
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Genomics Our Way: An Introduction to Genomics Research with Indigenous Australians	Genomics Education Network of Australasia (GENA)	Virtual
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Wardliparingga Seminar	Adelaide
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Broken Hill
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Tamworth
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Inverell
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Wagga Wagga
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	The Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics - What does Equity in Genomics look like?	Genomic Diversity Symposium, Queen Mary University of London.	Virtual
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Nowra

Name	Status	Topic	Event / Host	Location
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Wyong
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Tharawal
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Indigenous Genomics	Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee (WAAHEC)	
Alex Brown	Convenor	ALIGN Annual Symposium		Adelaide
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Wagga Wagga
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Newcastle
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Multimomics of CVD in Indigenous Australians	Australian Stroke and Heart Research Accelerator (ASHRA) Summit	Melbourne
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Durri (Kempsey)
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Wollongong
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Defining excellence in Indigenous research	OCHRE Convocation	Brisbane
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Griffith
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	The future of precision health	UNSW Faculty of Medicine Health	Sydney
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project, Community Engagement	Bombaderry
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Can Genomics overcome health inequalities for Indigenous Australians?	Sydney Cardiovascular Symposium	Sydney
Alex Brown	Keynote speaker	Beyond inclusion - Indigenous Empowerment in Genomic Medicine	ABACBS Annual Conference	Adelaide
Alex Brown	Invited speaker	Towards Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	P4P Project Maari Ma Board	
Zahra Chew	Invited speaker	Conservation and Diversity of Ribosomal DNA in Chordates	Genetics Society of AustralAsia (GSA)	Auckland
Zahra Chew	Honours Flash Talk	Conservation and Diversity of Ribosomal DNA	JCSMR Student Conference	Canberra
Azure Hermes	Invited speaker	Clinical, Diagnostic and Research (CDR) Network meeting	Australian Genomics	
Azure Hermes	Invited speaker	NCIG	Australian Digital Health Agency	
Azure Hermes	Panel speaker	NCIG	AIATSIS	Darwin
Azure Hermes	Panel speaker	NCIG	Lowitja Conference	Adelaide
Azure Hermes	Invited speaker	NCIG	Our DnA Symposium (satellite meeting of HGSA 48th Annual Scientific Meeting)	Sydney
Azure Hermes	Plenary speaker		HGSA Conference	Sydney
Azure Hermes	Invited speaker	NCIG	Kimberley Aboriginal Health Research Alliance (KAHRA) conference	Broome

Name	Status	Topic	Event / Host	Location
Azure Hermes	Invited speaker	NCIG	Summer Internship in Indigenous Genomics (SING)	Cairns
Azure Hermes	Invited speaker	Cancer Care Forum	Rare Cancers Australia event	Parliament House Canberra.
Sarah Jackson	Student Presentation	Local Assembly of Structurally Complex and Medically Relevant Loci	JCSMR Student Conference	Canberra
Sarah Jackson	Invited speaker	Local Assembly of Structurally Complex and Medically Relevant Loci	Genetics Society of AustralAsia (GSA)	Auckland
Sarah Jackson	Poster & Lightning Talk	TANGLZ: Pangenome Graphs to Study Structurally Complex and Medically Relevant Loci	ABACBS	Adelaide
Sarah Jackson	Presentation	Studying Complex, Medically Relevant Genes	Presented to a delegation of representatives from the Kimberley, WA	Canberra
Zahra Chew	Invited speaker	Conservation and Diversity of Ribosomal DNA in Chordates	Genetics Society of AustralAsia (GSA)	Auckland
Zahra Chew	Honours Flash Talk	Conservation and Diversity of Ribosomal DNA	JCSMR Student Conference	Canberra
Joel Keen	Facilitator	Governance, Story, Systems and Accountability – Systemic Design Paradigms	School of Cybernetics, ANU	Canberra
Bridie Moy	Poster	Understanding the functional consequences of CKD-associated structural variants in Indigenous Australians	JCSMR Student Conference	Canberra
Bridie Moy	Poster	Understanding the functional consequences of CKD-associated structural variants in Indigenous Australians	ABACBS	Adelaide
Bridie Moy	Presentation	DNA extraction of historical blood samples from Groote Eylandt	Presented to a delegation of representatives from the Kimberley, WA	Canberra
Hadi Nazem-Bokaee	Invited speaker	Predicting the impact of human genetic variations on metabolism: a genotype-first approach	JCSMR Genome Science & Cancer Seminar series	Canberra



Committee Memberships and Other Community Service

Name	Committee	Term of service
Alex Brown	CSIRO Board	2023 – current
Alex Brown	Cancer Australia Expert Advisory Committee	2023 – current
Alex Brown	NSW Health Research Innovation Council	2025 – current
Alex Brown	AAHMS First Nations Researcher Medal (Chair)	2023 – current
Alex Brown	NHMRC Research Committee	2025 – current
Alex Brown	National Health Genomics Policy Framework Project Reference Group	2024 – current
Alex Brown	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group on Health Genomics	2020 – current
Alex Brown	World Health Organisation Western Pacific Region accelerating access to human genomics for Public Health (Expert Advisor)	2025 – current
Azure Hermes	CSIRO Advisory Committee	2025 - current
	Undiagnosed Disease Network Australia (UDNAus)	2025 – current
Joel Keen	JCSMR Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Committee, ANU.	2025 – current
Joel Keen	Cultural Safety Advisory Group (PhD Panel – J. Kennedy), Federation University.	2025 – current
Hadi Nazem-Bokaei	STEM Student Mentor, IMNIS program, Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering	2023 – current
Hadi Nazem-Bokaei	JCSMR Student Conference – Abstract review and presentation assessment panel member	2024 – current
Natasha Vassileff	Early Career Representative, The Society for Redox Research Australasia	2023 – current

Teaching

NCIG staff delivered lectures in support of undergraduate and other courses at ANU and elsewhere.

Name	Topic/Course	Institution
Assoc Prof Azure Hermes	Indigenous Genomics / Biol 3161	ANU
	Health Data Governance	University of Melbourne, Law
	Indigenous genomics	Summer Internship for Indigenous Genomics (SING)
	Indigenous Genomics / Masters of Genetic Counselling	UTS
Dr Hyungtaek Jung	Genomic Applications / Life Science	ANU
Dr Lyndsay Newett	Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods / SOCY2043	ANU
Assoc Prof Hardip Patel	Genomics and its Applications / Biol 3161.	ANU
	Genetics of Human Disease / Biol 3204	

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NCIG thanks the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander donors and communities who entrusted their samples and knowledge; the NCIG Governance Board for their leadership; partner organisations; NCIG staff and students; and funders who support the Centre's mission.

- Adelaide University
- AH&MRC (Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council)
- AHCSA (Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia)
- AIATSIS (Australian Institute of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies)
- ALIGN (Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics)
- Anindilyakwa Land Council
- Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics
- Banuba Dawangarri Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC
- BJNAC (Bardi and Jawi Niimidiman Aboriginal Corporation)
- Bioplatforms Australia
- Cancer Australia
- Centre for Population Genomics
- CONNECT (Consortium for National Indigenous Genomics Capacity)
- CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation)
- Garvan Institute of Medical Research
- Genomic Advisory Group, Tiwi Islands
- Genomics Australia
- Groote Eylandt Bickerton Island Primary College Aboriginal Corporation
- Groote Eylandt Language Centre
- Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service Aboriginal Corporation, Yarrabah
- JCSMR (John Curtin School of Medical Research, Australia National University)
- KAHRA (Kimberley Aboriginal Health Research Alliance)
- KALACC (Kimberley Law and Cultural Centre)
- MJDF (Machado-Joseph Disease Foundation), Groote Eylandt
- Medical Research Future Fund
- Menzies School of Health Research
- National Computational Infrastructure
- NHMRC (National Health & Medical Research Council)
- NSW Health
- Nyul Nyul PBC Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC
- Purple House
- SAHMRI (South Australian Health & Medical Research Institute)
- The Kids Research Institute Australia
- Tiwi Land Council
- VACCHO (Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation)
- WAAHEC (Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee)
- Yalu Aboriginal Corporation, Galiwin'ku

RESEARCH IN ACTION: ACROSS AUSTRALIA 2025

