

Title: Field of Dreaming

Presenter: Tania Bostock.

Abstract:

Indigenous people's history and knowledge has been written on the landscape; told in the stories passed down through the generations; shown in the artwork designs; demonstrated in the dance and songs; identified by scarring, body artwork, rituals and especially in the language used.

Indigenous have shared our information with anthropologists, archaeologists, historians and information institutions. Today, we want to view this information digitally and with ease.

It is time for a change, but how?

Field of Dreaming is an ideology based on the movie "Field of Dreams", where the main character builds a baseball field in the middle of no-where and due to a variety of circumstances; people from long distances visit it.

This Field of Dreaming concept is about creating a library system to connect Indigenous collections held in libraries and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander remote communities through technology. It is about bending the rules and thinking outside the organization disciplines to service a disadvantage audience that has been forgotten in Australia.

It is the preparation needed before the digital era can commence for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, it is the reviewing and audition of library collections, networking between the Gallery/ Genealogical Society, Library, Archives & Museum (GLAM) institutions to share material, connecting to communities to digitally house relevant material and the employment direction needed to accomplish equitable access.

Field of dreaming is one person's attempt to show how to make available Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander information available online in order to increase Indigenous client's discoverability on what institutions can provide, to empowerment educators and provide an innovative formula on how to open such information.