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Bio Sketch

Dr. Polly Walker's heritage derives from the Tsalagi (Cherokee) peoples of the Southeastern mountains in what is now the United States. Her research and practice focus on transforming conflict involving Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. She has recently completed a fellowship in which she researched memorial ceremonies involving these peoples. Polly is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow and is teaching and researching Indigenous peacemaking and cross-cultural dispute resolution. She has a particular interest in Indigenous knowledge systems and the role they play in peacemaking. Her research has a focus on reducing epistemic violence toward Indigenous peoples and their knowledge systems.

Area(s) of Expertise

Conflict Transformation

Indigenous peacemaking

Reducing epistemic violence

Interparadigmatic dialogue involving Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples

Issues in cross-cultural dispute resolution

Current Research Activities

- Examining the role of computer assisted dialogue in complex decision making in Aboriginal organisations
- Memorial ceremonies
- Indigenous peacemaking
- Performance peacebuilding

Two Key Publications

- Walker, P, Garu S. 2009, 'A Few More Arrows: Elicitive Mediation Training in Vanuatu,' in *Transforming Mediation in the Asia-Pacific Region: Building Peace*, Elisabeth Porter and Dale Bagshaw (eds.), Routledge.
- Graham, M., Brigg, M. & Walker P. 2009, 'Managing Conflict through Place and Relatedness' in eds. Bleiker, R & Brigg, M. *Mediating Across Difference: Indigenous, Oceanic and Asian Approaches to Conflict Resolution*. University of Hawaii Press.