

Monash Country Lines Archive: Archiving Indigenous Knowledges

Panel Presentation

Presenters: Dr Shannon Faulkhead, Dr Tom Chandler and Brent McKee

The Monash Country Lines Archive (MCLA) is cutting edge in preserving intangible heritage through 3D modeling and animation technologies. The MCLA team of researchers, students and digital animators provide a method of preservation that is immediately accessible for both remote and urban communities, and allows for the cross-generational transfer of knowledge by working with Indigenous communities across Australia to help preserve languages, stories and narratives. This is the first living archive of its kind.

The two primary aims of the MCLA are:

1. To assist Indigenous Australian communities in the sharing and preservation of knowledge and stories through the application of 3D animation software. Through the unique spatial, temporal and sonic capabilities of 3D animation, this project examines the merging of archival sources from a community's history, knowledge, poetry, songs, performance and language in a multilingual digital medium.
2. To encourage intellectual engagement in regards to issues associated with how best to construct a living archive that is a decolonised space in which communities are happy to see their material stored, whilst providing an exciting place for scholars to work and share knowledge.

This form of archiving is ground breaking and exciting not only for Indigenous communities, but also for academics and archivists worldwide.

URL: <http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/non-cms/research/projects/independent/countrylines-archive/>