

FRIDAY 31 MARCH 2006 1.00-2.00PM

ROOM 437, MICHIE BUILDING, ST LUCIA CAMPUS

Why the Bloody Hell is an 'Indian' Here?

Professor Amareswar Galla, PhD



Amar is new to our university and the School. He spends his time equally between the University of Queensland and the Australian National University. It has been nearly thirty years since he first came to Australia, twenty five years as a migrant and twenty years as a citizen. Being a guest on the Margaret Throsby program (ABC Radio FM. 2 November 2004) has led to the current project to write his autobiography. He will be reading two excerpts from his work that is due to go to press at the end of this year: 'On being Indian', one of the six addresses at the opening forum of National Museum of the American Indian in September 2004, and 'From Roebourne to Corroboree 2000', an immigrant's journey with Aboriginal Reconciliation.

Born and educated in India, Amar provides strategic cultural leadership in Australia and the Asia Pacific Region as the Director of Graduate Studies in Sustainable Heritage Development, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, the Australian National University and the newly appointed Professor of Museum Studies in the School of English, Media Studies and Art History, the University of Queensland. He is also a Guest Curator of Transformative Museum Projects with the Vietnam Ministry of Culture and Information, Hanoi; and Founding Convener of the Pacific Asia Observatory for Cultural Diversity in Human Development in partnership with UNESCO. He is the first Australian to be elected as the President of the Asia Pacific Executive Board (1998-2004) -- Founding Chairperson of the Cross Cultural Task Force (2005-2010) -- and recently elected Vice President of the International Executive Council -- International Council of Museums, Paris.