
Boyer Lectures

2012 Boyer Lectures

Sunday 18 November 2012 - Sunday 2 December 2012



IMAGE: 2012 BOYER LECTURER MARCIA LANGTON, AM

The Quiet Revolution: Indigenous People and the Resources Boom

The 53rd Boyer Lectures will be presented by Professor Marcia Langton AM, Chair of Australian Indigenous Studies at The University of Melbourne.

The lectures' subject will be The Quiet Revolution: Indigenous People and the Resources Boom. Prof Langton will look at the dependency of Aboriginal businesses and not-for-profit

corporations on the resources industry and their resultant vulnerability to economic downturns.

Each year the ABC Board invites a prominent Australian or group of Australians to present a series of radio lectures expressing their thoughts on major social, cultural, scientific or political issues.

Chairman of the ABC Board, James Spigelman AC QC, said Marcia Langton's outstanding reputation as an Indigenous leader, educator and thinker has made her a most worthy choice for this year's Boyer Lectures.

"She has made a significant contribution to government and non-government policy, as well as to Indigenous studies at three universities. In 1993 she was made a member of the Order of Australia for her work in anthropology and advocacy of Aboriginal rights, and in 2002 she was awarded the inaugural Neville Bonner Award for Indigenous Teacher of the Year. I'm sure Marcia Langton's Boyer speeches will prove to be thought-provoking, insightful and memorable."

Prof Langton said she was honoured to be presenting the 2012 Boyer Lectures.

"When W.E.H. Stanner delivered the Boyer Lectures in 1968, *After The Dreaming: Black And White Australians--An Anthropologist's View*, he gave credence, perhaps inadvertently, to the widely held assumption at that time that Aboriginal life was incommensurate with modern economic life. Today, the expectation is quite the reverse.

"The emergence of an Aboriginal middle class in Australia in the last two to three decades has gone largely unnoticed. There are hundreds of Aboriginal businesses and Aboriginal not-for-profit corporations with income streams, delivering economic outcomes to communities on an unprecedented scale."

Marcia Langton has held the Foundation Chair of Australian Indigenous Studies at the University of Melbourne since February 2000. An anthropologist and geographer, she has researched Indigenous relationships with place, land tenure and environmental management, agreement-making and treaties in the Northern Territory and Cape York Peninsula.

Marcia Langton's research has been assisted by a variety of funding sources