

Identity, Power and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

28 May 2008, 2pm-5pm

Auckland University

Northey Lecture Theatre (Bldg 801 Room 204)

Faculty of Law, 9 Eden Tce

How should disparities of power between indigenous communities, governments, multi-national corporations and international agencies be addressed?

Neoliberal policies promoted by governments and the World Bank to eradicate poverty and promote sustainable development have undermined the capacity of indigenous communities to safeguard their way of life and culture.

International charters and national legislation fail to protect the rights of indigenous communities, while asymmetries of power have contributed to the creation of a "new poor" and growing degradation of the environment.

This meeting is open to the public

More information at www.unrisd.org/ipmeetings



UNRISD and Auckland University are hosting this meeting to discuss disparities of power evident in interactions between governments, international institutions and indigenous peoples in Australia, Canada and beyond. The meeting seeks to bring together academics, NGOs, indigenous peoples and government representatives who will debate this issue. Key points of debate include:

- What reforms are required to create inclusive consultative platforms that allow indigenous peoples to participate in decisions that affect their way of life?
- How can institutions be structured in order to recognize the rights of indigenous peoples while not negating the rights of the rest of the population?

Presenters:

Mark Busse, University of Auckland
Chair

Suzana Sawyer, University of California-Davis
"Transnational Governmentality, Indigeneity, and a Language of Rights"

Jon Altman, Australian National University
"Indigenous Rights, Mining Corporations and the Australian States"

Megan Davis, University of New South Wales
"Identity, Power and Rights: The State, International Institutions, and Indigenous Peoples"

Veronica Strang, University of Auckland
Discussant



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public meeting announcement