

DEADLY ABORIGINAL EDUCATORS

Didamain (Dee) Uibo

Generous 'Both-Ways' Educator



DEE'S STORY

Didamain (Dee) Uibo spent 39 years as an educator in the Northern Territory. She was a Teacher Aide, Assistant Teacher, Aboriginal cultural advisor, Teacher, Principal and held a number of advisory positions in head office.

In 1971 Dee commenced as a Teacher's Aide at Belyuen School. Dee then worked as an Assistant Teacher in Maningrida for two years. After moving to Batchelor she continued working as an Assistant Teacher while she completed her teacher education studies.

In 1978 Didamain worked in the Catholic Education System, in Townsville Qld, as Indigenous Cultural Advisor. She regularly visited all their schools in that region.

Dee began her career as a registered relief teacher at Batchelor Area School in 1982 where she stayed for some years, upgrading to four year trained status in 1992. In that year she joined the Batchelor Institute staff, for one year, as a lecturer training other Indigenous Australians to become teachers.

Dee also worked in Batchelor as the Assistant Director of Yira Childcare Centre. In 1995, Dee moved to Darwin taking up various head office roles in curriculum related positions for four years.

In January 2000, Dee moved back to Numbulwar to take up the role of Principal. Numbulwar is her country, where she was born and had grown up. Unfortunately Dee became sick after more than twenty years and had

to move back to Darwin for treatment. She had regular dialysis treatment which meant she could no longer work full-time in a high-pressure job such as Principal.

Dee then joined the Human Resources as an Administration Officer in the Indigenous workforce area. On 10 February 2006 Didamain received a long-awaited call to go to Adelaide to have her kidney transplant

Dee has been a mentor and friend to staff and trainees in the More Indigenous Teachers Program and was part of a small team which developed and presented the DET's cross cultural communications training.

In October 2009 Dee was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by The Australian Council for Educational Leaders.

She worked part time in the Indigenous Education Unit until her retirement in 2010.

Didamain Uibo was unique in her ability to be strong in her Traditional Nungubuyu self, and instantly be comfortable in the Western Domain. She was always happy and willing to assist others with Indigenous Language and Culture, valuing their input into education in 'Both Ways'.



Batchelor
Institute



Career Highlights

1971 Teacher's Aide, Belyuen School, NT.

1978 Indigenous Cultural Advisor, Townsville, QLD.

1982 Relief Teacher, Batchelor Area School, NT.

1995 Various Head Office roles, Darwin, NT.

2000 Principal, Numbulwar School, NT.

2009 Awarded Honorary Fellowship by the Australian Council for Educational Leaders.