

**Miller, Tanya.** *Prescott College and Blue Planet Living Institute*  
Ecobricolage: Inquiry Infused with an Ecological Consciousness

Imagine a world where the questions we ask and the actions we take are rooted in an Earth centered framework and where we develop an eco-centric relationship with our meaning making process. From the inter/trans/multidisciplinary brackish waters of qualitative inquiry, ecobricolage emerges as a model for an ecologically conscious bricoleur to be informed from, grounded in, and guided by Earth. I expand the current conceptual model and multi-perspective methodology of bricolage with the robust knowledge and support of nature, the natural world, the non-human world, and Earth. We become co-creators, collaborators, and educators to one another in our quest for understanding. This discussion explores the potential of building knowledge, engaging in inquiry, and enhancing relationships through an ecological consciousness. In this, ecobricolage becomes a model for inquiry that acknowledges the significance of Earth and a framework that brings us together with all aspects of our world.

**Mills, Frances.** *School of Nursing, Midwifery and Nutrition, James Cook University*  
Working on Each Others' Ideas: Mentoring circles as a method of supporting remote Australian Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal nursing students

See Mills, Jane

**Mills, Jane.** *Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Research, James Cook University*  
Working on Each Others' Ideas: Mentoring circles as a method of supporting remote Australian Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal nursing students

A mentoring circle is a teaching and learning strategy that has been used to support students in tertiary education. In this study researchers implemented a mentoring circle at a remote satellite university campus in the Torres Strait, Australia using an action research approach. The aim of the study was to foster the emotional and social growth of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nursing students to improve the students' experience and retention rates. Results of the study showed mentoring circles do support the development of emotional intelligence, which students need to work effectively in a university setting. Although this study was conducted within a nursing degree in a Torres Strait Island community, its findings have potential for use in other contexts.

**Mills, Jane.** *Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Research, James Cook University*  
Weighing Up the Costs of Seeking Health Care for Dengue Symptoms: A grounded theory study of backpackers' decision-making processes

Dengue fever, a mosquito-borne virus, is an ongoing public health issue in North Queensland. Dengue is imported by travellers visiting or returning to Australia and epidemics may ensue. This study uses grounded theory methods to construct a descriptive theory that explains the process backpackers use when seeking health care. Fifty semi-structured interviews were conducted with young backpackers, hostel receptionists, travel agents and pharmacists. Interview transcripts were analyzed and coded, resulting in identification of a core category: 'weighing up the costs of receiving health care'. This core category has three subcategories, self-assessment of health status, wait & see and seek direction. Findings from this study identified key areas where health promotion material and increased access to health care professionals could reduce the risk of backpackers spreading communicable diseases such as dengue.