

POLLY O. WALKER BIOGRAPHY

Polly O. Walker currently is Assistant Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies at Juniata College in Huntingdon, PA. Polly is of Cherokee descent and an enrolled member of the Cherokee Southwest Township. Her research focuses on cross cultural conflict resolution, transforming conflict between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, and the role of ritual in these processes. She is a director of the Peace and Conflict Studies Institute, Australia, and Chair of the Indigenous Education Institute. She lectures in peace and conflict studies at James Cook.

Previously she was a research fellow at the Australian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, and lecturer in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit at University of Queensland in Brisbane. She is co-editor of "Acting Together, Performance and the Creative Transformation of Conflict" and has contributed to a number of professional journals and edited volumes. She is also a facilitator of computer assisted dialogue.

Currently, Polly is planning course revisions on Performance and the Creative Transformation of Conflict, which will be taught at Juniata College. She is working with Jim Skelly, new director of the Baker Peace Center at Juniata to develop a focus on creative conflict transformation. Polly hosted a film screening of "Acting Together on the World Stage" and post-screening conversation at Juniata College with Cindy Cohen, Prof. Celia Cook-Huffman, and Kate Clarke, head of Juniata Theatre Program. She hosted a screening of the documentary during the Peace and Justice Studies Conference in Boston, where she also spoke on the topic of Indigenous knowledge and climate change.