

**Associate Professor Jenny Cameron – University of Newcastle, Australia**

**Semester 1 2021**



Jenny Cameron is a Conjoint Associate Professor in the Discipline of Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Newcastle (Australia), and she is Deputy Chair of the international Community Economies Institute. Jenny retired from the University of Newcastle in 2019 and moved across the Tasman to live permanently in her little crib in Moeraki (which she built over 30 years ago). Jenny is still active as an economic geographer and continues to research and publish on the innovative ways that communities and companies are putting an ethic of care for other people and the planet at the heart of their economic decisions.

She is also the Deputy Chair of the Community Economies Institute, and she jokes that she has swapped University administration for administration of an international non-profit with fifty core members and the associated Community Economies Research Network that has nearly 300 members from all parts of the globe

Jenny says: **“The Erskine Programme was a fantastic opportunity to spend more time with my host, Associate Professor Kelly Dombroski. Kelly is also a core member of the Community Economies Institute and was co-editor of *The Handbook of Diverse Economies*, which was published by Edward Elgar in 2020 and which features the work of members from the Community Economies Research Network. Zoom time is fine, but it really doesn’t replace the connections that get built through face-to-face interactions.”**

Jenny is a passionate teacher of geography, building on her initial training and work as a primary school teacher in Brisbane and on Thursday Island (in the Torres Strait). She was therefore thrilled to be invited to teach the economic geography module in GEOG110 People, Places and Environments, and to be responsible for the associated economic geography essay. **“One of the things I enjoy most about teaching first year and first semester students is the opportunity to introduce students not just to the relevant content but to some of the basic writing skills that they will draw on in their future learning at University and beyond. Students often come in with a lot of misconceptions about what writing at University-level entails so it’s always great to be able to introduce students to some of the ‘tricks of the trade’ that will help to make their writing (and thinking) clear and concise.”**

**“I have really appreciated the opportunity to connect with colleagues, to interact with first-year students and to spend time with post-graduate students. The Erskine Programme is truly unique; it’s a great way to ‘open doors.’**