

COMMISION FOR NATIVE AMERICANS

Wednesday January 23, 2020

2:00-3:00pm

Cline Library Room 298

Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting started at 2:00pm

a. Welcome and Introductions: Shepherd Tsosie, Linda Robyn, Laurie Rubino-Hare, Lauren Copeland-Glenn, Nancy Navarro, Deeda Williams, Emily Janssen, Madison Ledgerwood, Kiara Weathersby, Mike Bouck, Jeff Burglund

1. Subcommittees volunteers, next steps—Shepherd/Karen
   1. Last meeting we split up into three subcommittees
2. Directory Subcommittee
   1. Shepherd: The committee is working on building a directory of self-identifying Native American staff and faculty. Ora is the head of the Directory Subcommittee. The thinking around this committee is that it’s nice to know who your Native American colleagues are around campus, for collaboration and for getting students help when they need it. Once the directory is created it will be available on the website. More information will be provided once an update from the committee is received.
3. Education Subcommittee
   1. Shepherd: A couple of years ago Diana and Shepherd presented a poster on “What are you doing for Goal three?” Stats were pulled about Native American graduation and retention rates, and student and staff perceptions of campus. The Education Subcommittee is trying to turn that project into a PowerPoint presentation. The hope is that we can all take the PowerPoint and present it within our own units
4. Events Subcommittee
   1. Shepherd: This year we would like to hold a reception for New Native American Faculty and Allies. Shepherd is putting together an invite list. If anyone has any names of folks that work with Native American students, staff or faculty please let us know. We are currently setting up a time for the subcommittee to meet. We’re likely going to push the event back until fall. Shepherd will send out an email to the subcommittee so a meeting time can be set up
   2. Kiara- We have a meeting with the Assistant Vice President of Inclusion, Ivy Banks, next Monday to see how we can get the training designed by Calvina turned into an Indigezone and have that be a training for everyone rather than just faculty
   3. Shepherd: The land acknowledgement text block is available to put on your email signature and any other documents you’d like. It is thought to be available from the Office of Native Americans Initiative website, but Shepherd will send it out to the listserv again.
   4. If you are not on a subcommittee and would like to be, please email Shepherd
   5. Nancy: Our office specifically tracks recruitment activities. Any events we go to with a ten percent or more representation of Native American students we track and can share information about, Karen can email me or Rebekah Alvarado
5. Diversity Awards, Cal Sicewa Award—Shepherd/Karen
6. The diversity awards are coming up soon
7. The reception is April 30th from 6pm-8pm at the High Country Conference Center
8. Gabe is speaking with University Events and the President to discuss a few changes that the commissions would like to see. He has explained that part of the importance of the event is as a gathering; a space where people come together to celebrate over food and are able to sit down at tables and engage with each other.
9. Shepherd: We would like to have as many people from the commission attend the event as possible
10. CNA awards in four different categories- faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Shepherd will be sending out the nomination form, so please think of folks that you want to nominate.
11. Update/announcements from commissioners
12. Update on DSP:
13. Lauren: The DSP is in its very final stages. It is sitting with co-chairs for final edits. The content for the most part has been fleshed out. There have been some last minute requests related to new language. That language will be reviewed and incorporated. The next steps are for the plan to go out to everyone who is a part of the commissions for any small final edits
    1. The plan is to create a document that’s digestible for everyone
    2. Goal is to create a DSP website. The draft is currently on the Center for University Access and Inclusion website
    3. The plan is to have the polished paper version out this semester. We hope to have an education team that people can reach out to as we’re implementing the plan. It’s exciting that we’re in the final stages now and will have the plan out to the campus community this semester. It’s been a lot of work from a lot of people around campus over the last few years
    4. The website will be the easiest place to change something quickly. We can expand on some of the topics that were talking about. We can provide more nuanced and detailed information to help people understand the issues addressed in the DSP. We can use the website as an educational tool for the campus and public to help to strike a balance between definitions that we would like to see moving forward, and the definitions that our policies use. We want to move the bar forward
       1. Example: We have a faculty co-chair who suggested we use gender experience rather than gender identity
14. David Treuer is speaking on Monday the 27th from 7-8:00pm at Prochnow Auditorium. David Treuer, an award-winning author, is a member of the Ojibwe tribe from Minnesota and Professor of English at the University of Southern California. His mother is Ojibwe and his father an Austrian Jewish Holocaust survivor. His new book, *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present* was published in 2019
    * 1. David Treuer will also be meeting with staff, faculty, and students on Tuesday morning at 10:15 am until around noon
15. The library is having a book event on March 6th from 3-5:00pm. The event will be a celebration of NAU authors. There will be a panel of 4-5 authors talking about their process of writing and publishing. Save the dates have been sent out
16. Please meet with your subcommittee before our next meeting which is February 20th
17. The Price of Nice:
    1. Angelina Castagno published an edited volume called *The Price of Nice: How Good Intentions Maintain Educational Inequity*, focusing on niceness in the classroom and the results of avoiding hard topics such as race. She will be holding a book event with a panel of authors who contributed to the text
       1. The event will be on April 24th
       2. Angelina needs to know if the commissions will support the event financially. Karen and Shepherd will be reaching out to commissioners to ask if you want to help out with funding. She needs about $200-250 per commission in order to pay for her panel’s travel and lodging expenses
18. Jeff Berglund On Wednesday, February 5, from 12:30-2:00pm he and other faculty members from AIS are presenting on our various disciplines perspectives on indigenous sovereignty. Flyers will be given to Shepherd to pass along
19. Nancy discussed two admission events- the Native American Visit Day and Lumberjack Spirit Day
20. During the 1st week of October, high schools from AZ, Southern CA, and NM are invited to participate in the Native American Visit Day. They get a tour and a presentation on different campus programs. We partner with different organizations such as NACC and AIS.
21. Lumber Jack Spirit Day has gotten bigger this year. It’s on February 8th. The event is for junior high students. The event is mostly about the different resources available to Native American students as they think about college. They also get to go to an athletics event
22. Shepherd will be sending information out to commissioners and reminding the heads of subcommittees to set up meetings with subcommittee members
23. Meeting adjourned at 2:50
24. Next Meeting: February 20, 2020. Location: TBA