

The Office of Native American Initiatives

VISION

The Office of Native American Initiatives seeks to transform NAU into the nation's leading university serving Native Americans, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and Indigenous peoples.

MISSION

The Office of Native American Initiatives offers unparalleled support to Native American/Indigenous students, communities, and nations, expanding educational opportunity and strengthening sovereignty.

VALUES

RESPECT

We are both honored and humbled to work with Native/Indigenous nations on initiatives that impact their communities. No project or program can begin without the expressed input, endorsement, and/or blessings of the community it is designed to benefit. Ultimately, Native/Indigenous nations will shape their own destiny. The Office of Native American Initiatives assists Native nations in fulfilling their sovereign vision without imposing our own.

RESPONSIBILITY

The Office of Native American Initiatives is accountable for our actions, which will impact communities and Native American/Indigenous students with whom we work. We must be dependable and conscientious stewards of our mission, offering consistent, culturally-competent support throughout the life of ONAI projects or programs. We approach every student and community with the same care, commitment, integrity, and loyalty we bring to our own families and communities.

RELATIONSHIPS

Our success depends upon the bonds we share with individuals, communities, Native/Indigenous nations and the greater world. Rather than operating in isolation, we seek to assist one another reach our individual and collective aspirations. The Office of Native American Initiatives will continue to cultivate enduring partnerships— which occupy the heart of our mission.

RESILIENCE

Throughout the past 500 years, Native/Indigenous nations have maintained their distinct cultures, identities, and lifeways in the face of overwhelming adversity. With our students and Native/Indigenous partners, we will continue to address the legacy of colonialism by offering a spectrum of initiatives in areas such as health, leadership, economic development, education, and environmental sustainability, ensuring the vitality of Native cultures and traditions for the next 500 years.

