

American Indian Center Quarterly

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY
A tradition of excellence and opportunity



Spring 2006

The Access and Success of American Indians in Higher Education

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) Board of Trustees has requested the Chancellor to develop initiatives that provide greater access and success for American Indian students from the 11 Minnesota Indian communities. The Chancellor has been visiting the Tribal Executive Officers of the 11 Minnesota Indian Nations to discuss how this initiative will be developed. The American Indian Center has been directly involved in these visits to assist in making connections within the Indian communities. A follow-up work team comprised of MnSCU presidents, administrative staff and directors met with tribal education directors to identify the educational needs of the tribe.

The American Indian Center will continue to assist in the development of these initiatives with other MnSCU institutions in collaboration with the Indian communities. With these coalition building strategies and initiatives, we will simultaneously address racial disparities in education and advocate institutional change in the structural inequities that exist in higher education. The American Indian Center's staff has been writing grants to seek funding for new initiatives as well as funds to expand existing programs that will address critical student need for greater access, opportunity, and success in higher education. The goals of the American Indian Center include the following:

- Improve student readiness and an awareness that college is possible
- Provide financial incentives to start their college career
- Build coalitions with the Minnesota tribal communities and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system
- Increase the access and success for American Indian students throughout Minnesota
- Provide a community of support and services for American Indian students to achieve success

- Increase the graduation rate of American Indians from institutions of higher education

Several tribal Higher Education directors have made recommendations to increase the recruitment and retention of American Indian students. These recommendations include: establishing a liaison between the tribes and the MnSCU system, increasing the number of American Indian faculty and staff employed by the MnSCU system and establishing a professional development seminar for faculty and staff that addresses the sensitivity and awareness of American Indian history, culture and language on our campuses.

The directors from the American Indian Center, the Multicultural Resource Center and the American Indian Studies minor held meetings to discuss the possibility of offering an American Indian Studies Summer Institute (AISSI) to include American Indian history, culture and language for K-12 educators, college faculty and administrators. The proposed AISSI would be an opportunity to share resources and to create an environment where an exchange of knowledge from both the Indian and non-Indian perspective can take place.

The American Indian Center will send an invitation to the 11 Minnesota nations to attend a meeting during the upcoming American Indian Awareness Week in April with the purpose of establishing a coalition of the 11 Minnesota Tribal Higher Education directors and commissioners in order to address student needs in their respective tribal communities and to help foster the relationships needed to advance racial equity in the realm of higher education. Establishing a collective voice from the Minnesota tribal nations will help shape systemic change in the structural inequities of post-secondary education. If you are interested in these initiatives and have additional ideas, please contact the American Indian Center director at (320) 308-5449.

Miigwech, Jim Knutson-Kolodzne

Boozhoo (hello),

Welcome to spring semester '06 at SCSU. We have many events this semester to assist in academic endeavors as well as to nurture the culture and language. We hope that you will consider attending the American Indian Student Award Banquet on April 18th to honor graduates and their families. The language table is now combined with Cultural Night, and the Pow-wow is just around the corner.

American Indian faculty and the staff at the American Indian Center want to wish you all a great spring. Spring is the time for new beginnings and new life. We hope that students at SCSU can breathe new life into their academics, and those of you who are not currently in school can find peace and pleasure in another spring.

Miigwech, Tom Andrus

A place for everyone

SCSU American Indian Student Awards Banquet

At 5 pm on Tuesday, April 18, family and friends of SCSU American Indian students will gather in Atwood Center Voyageur Room to honor graduates of this past year and to congratulate them on completing this phase of their education. In addition, the Outstanding Student of the Year will be named and presented with a monetary gift, and the recipients of several American Indian scholarships for academic year 2006-07 will be announced. It is an exciting time for students, staff, and faculty alike, and we hope that you will plan to be there for the fun! The banquet meal is free to SCSU American Indian students; others pay \$6.

**Make your reservation today by calling Diane Hanson,
Office Manager at the American Indian Center,
(320) 308-4065 or
djhanson@stcloudstate.edu**

American Indian Awareness Week

April 3-7

Monday April 3

Barb Munson, WI Educatin Association Mascot & Logo Task Force

2 pm -- Glacier North, Atwood Center

Tuesday April 4

Chris Mato Nunpa,
Southwest Minnesota State University
2 pm -- Glacier North, Atwood Center

Wednesday April 5

Meeting of the 11 Tribal Higher Education Directors from Minnesota

Thursday April 6

Theresa Miller, Wild Rice Preservation
1 pm -- Mississippi Room, Atwood Center

Dan Jurek, Medical Wilderness Survival
2:30 pm -- Mississippi Room, Atwood Center

Brenda Child, University of Minnesota
Reception, 5 pm -- American Indian Center

Grammy Award winner Michael Jacobs Concert
7 pm -- Atwood Center Ballroom

Friday April 7

Presentation on Powwow Etiquette
5:30 pm -- Little Theatre, Atwood Center

Saturday April 8

SCSU Annual Traditional Powwow
Grand Entries -- 1 pm & 7 pm
Halenbeck Hall Gym
sponsored by the All Tribes Council and
American Indian Center

Annual American Indian Center canoe trip

will take place May 21-May 25, 2006. This year the journey will continue along the Mississippi River, beginning at Bear Den and finishing on the County Road 9 access near Bemidji. If you have any questions please contact Tom Andrus at (320) 308-4706 or tandrus@stcloudstate.edu

All Tribes Council Update

All Tribes Council (ATC) is a wonderful student organization made up of a positive diverse group of students, faculty and staff here at St. Cloud State University (SCSU). ATC focuses not only on issues concerning social justice, but also take pride in being a productive and courageous group that gives back to home communities. ATC is the hardworking organization that hosts the annual All Tribes Council Pow-wow. Your invited to come and enjoy ATC's 13th Annual Pow-wow on April 8th, 2006 at St. Cloud State's Halenbeck Hall.

ATC holds meeting every Thursday at 5:00 pm in the Atwood Cultural Center Meeting Room. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Protect Our Sacred Manoomin

Winona LaDuke spoke at SCSU on February 8th. She spoke of many important things, but one thing that she brought to the forefront of our minds is a devastating threat that we must heed. And quickly.

Wild Rice (Manoomin) grows wild in Minnesota lakes, and is sacred to the Anishinaabeg. Manoomin- a natural, diverse, and original strain of Wild Rice- is found ONLY in Minnesota.

Corporate manufacturers of wild rice have genetically engineered new strains in order to build a \$46.7 million industry. Since the 1950's, the U of M has conducted research in genetically engineered wild rice to benefit these corporate manufacturers. This rice grown in rice paddies is harvested with combines and requires other machinery to process.

Corporate wild rice manufacturers patent their strains in order to claim ownership of their domesticated varieties of wild rice. This also allows them to claim Manoomin that has been contaminated by pollen drift between domesticated rice paddies and natural wild rice stands. Farmers whose fields are found to have the genetically modified strains in them, have been court ordered to pay large sums of money to these corporations.

Pollen drift of genetically engineered rice will invade Minnesota's natural Manoomin stands, permanently altering the strain. Native Wild Rice will cease to exist. With the extinction of this natural and diverse strain of Manoomin, the entire ecosystem will be altered as well. What parts of the food chain will be affected? Keep in mind that people are part of this system too.

Corporate rice manufacturers also deceptively sell their rice in packaging that uses Native American imagery and the words "wild rice" in order to confuse consumers who thought they were buying the more nutritious natural Manoomin. They don't tell you that the genetic engineered rice is far less nutritious than the natural Wild Rice.

What can we do? First, we need to educate ourselves on this serious issue. A good starting point is via the web: www.savewildrice.org

Other proactive ideas to protest genetic and predatory research on wild rice:

- Letter to the Editor – local newspapers
- Writing Campaign to U of M officials (President Robert Bruininks and Vice President of Research R. Timothy Mulcahy), as well as the funders for wild rice research
- Request for a resolution from the American Indian Advisory Board asking President Saigo to take a stance on this issue
- Request that the American Indian Center resolve that no genetic engineered wild rice be consumed at the AIC
- Attend the Wild Rice rally during American Indian Awareness Week: 1:00 pm Thursday April 6th, Mississippi room, Atwood Center.

For information or inquiries, please email Theresa Miller at tamiller@stcloudstate.edu



All Tribes Council Presents

St. Cloud State University's
13th Annual Traditional

Pow Wow

Saturday, April 8th, 2006

SCSU Halenbeck Hall

Grand Entries - **1:00 pm** and **7:00 pm**

Feast - **5:00 pm**



**Master of Ceremonies—
Jerry Dearly**

Host Drum— North Spirit Singers



Contact Info

Pow Wow Chair: Nick Bad Heart Bull
(320) 266-5565

ATC Chair: Nikki Turner: (320) 291-6572

All Tribes Council: atc@stcloudstate.edu

No Admission Charge.

**Please call ahead for Vendor or Drum contracts, space
is limited and contracts are needed.**



We welcome and encourage

everyone to come and enjoy the 2006 SCSU Pow-wow, sponsored by the SCSU All Tribes Council.

There will be vendors displaying traditional craft items for purchase. Indian Tacos and concession food items will also be available. Enjoy the brilliantly colored regalia of dancers, listen to the singers, feel the drum beat, join in dancing the intertribal dances. We welcome you to come and experience a traditional American Indian Celebration.

The Pow-wow is a traditional celebration of life for American Indians.

It is a time for families to gather and renew friendships, a time to sing, dance and spiritually bond. The Pow-wow season includes celebrations in several locations from March through September, and many families travel to several celebrations.

Although all Pow-wows have religious and patriotic significance, the Pow-wow season includes two types of gatherings: the competition pow-wow and the traditional pow-wow. In a competition pow-wow, participating dancers and drum groups from different tribes compete for recognition and prize monies. The traditional Pow-wow includes many of the same symbolic dances, but the emphasis is more on fellowship, feasting and honoring ceremonies.

The All Tribes Council's annual SCSU Pow-wow is a traditional gathering. It is a Pow-wow where no admission fee is charged. It is usually held for feasting, for give-aways and for honoring ceremonies within the community. The Pow-wow remains an important part of life for Native Americans. It is a tradition that helps keep alive the cultural and spiritual traditions for young and old alike.

Grand Entry

The Pow-wow opens with a Grand Entry in which dancers enter the arena after the Eagle Staff, and the American, Canadian, State and Tribal flags. Spectators show their respect by standing and removing their hats during the Grand Entry. A Flag

Song is sung and an elder gives the invocation. A Veterans Song honors those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The Eagle Feather

Dancers place great emphasis on their eagle feathers, taking special care with them since the eagle is believed to be a relative. In some traditions, the fallen eagle feather is said to represent a fallen warrior. If one sees an eagle feather on the ground it is important to inform an elder rather than pick it up. When an eagle feather is dropped, a special ceremony, involving a spiritual leader, veterans, and special songs is performed while it is being picked up.

Intertribal Dances

When the MC announces "everybody Pow-wow!", it is time for the Intertribal Dance. This is a time for everyone, including tourists and other spectators, to join in the festivities. Dancers don't have to be in regalia; street clothes are welcome. Dancers move sun-wise ~ clockwise ~ and use the basic step used by traditional dancers: tap the ball of the foot on one beat and place down flatly with the next, then repeat the action on the opposite foot without missing a beat.

"One of the most wonderful things about life is that there's always so much more to know, so much more to discover."

~Joni Eareckson Tada

SCHOLARSHIPS

For American Indian students at St. Cloud State University

AMERICAN INDIAN ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP ((\$500 Annually)

For students enrolled at St. Cloud State University with a minimum of 12 credits and in good standing with a GPA of 2.5 or better. Preference will be given to St. Cloud State University American Indian students. American Indian alumni of St. Cloud State University support this scholarship. It is their interest to collectively build the principal to create an endowed scholarship.

THE AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP ((\$500 Annually)

This is an active, annual scholarship. The American Indian Center accepts applications and determines awards. Selection criteria for applicants: Must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe and an entering student at St. Cloud State University; may be a new entering student at any class year level; must be intend to major in teacher education; may intend to teach at any level- pre kindergarten through high school. Preference will be given to those who plan to teach in schools with high populations of American Indian children.

HENRY M. & J. ELEANOR MEYER/JOSEPH M. & THERESA L. HELTEMES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ((\$500 Annually)

This is an endowed scholarship founded by a first generation college graduate. Preference for this scholarship is given to persons with financial need, who are of American Indian ancestry and who are involved with campus organizations.

THE JOYCE AND MARVIN HOLMGREN SCHOLARSHIP FOR NATIVE AMERICANS ((\$500 Annually)

This is an endowed scholarship. The Financial Aid Office determines awards. Selection criteria require that the student: verify enrollment in a tribe or is at least one quarter Native American and is from either the U.S. or Canada (there are no other tribal restrictions); must be eligible for unconditional admittance to St. Cloud State University; must maintain scholastic average of "C" or better; must carry at least 12 credits per term. It is the donors' preference that the award be given to a first year student and that the award follow that student as long as s/he is enrolled in good standing at St. Cloud State University and is in accordance with the criteria defined in the scholarship.

JAMES MARSH SCHOLARSHIP ((\$500 Annually)

This is an active annual scholarship. The American Indian Center accepts applications and determines awards. Selection criteria for applicants: must be a descendent from a federally recognized tribe, must be a student enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits in good standing with a GPA of 2.5 or better. This scholarship honors the American Indian Center director's grandfather.

All scholarship applications are due April 3rd, 2006

If you would like to contribute to the American Indian Center's Alumni Scholarship fund please contact Diane Hanson at (320) 308-4065 or djhanson@stcloudstate.edu

Your donation will be matched up to \$10,000, plus any donation is tax deductible.



(left to right) Bill Miller, Megan Ballinger, and Katie Reger at the reception for Bill Miller at the American Indian Center on February 8th, 2006

Live @ Lunch with Bill Miller

Bill Miller (Mohican), Grammy Award winning musical artist, featured blends of Native American and western folk/blues traditions in guitar and vocal music as he played to a packed house on February 8 in the Quarry Room. Cedar Dream Songs, his latest collection, brought Bill great recognition by winning this year's Grammy Award for Best Native American Recording. A Mohican Indian from the Stockbridge-Munsee Reservation in northern Wisconsin, Bill Miller has long been one of the most admired figures in the Native American music arena and beyond. His passion to save the environment of North America, the land of his forebears, is reflected in his work as is his dedication to being a peacemaker. As an award-winning recording artist, performer, songwriter, activist, and painter, he's been described as a voice for the voiceless and uses the vocal and visual arts to build bridges for positive change. On the road for up to 200 days a year, Bill and his band continue to build friendships across the country and around the world.

ATTN: American Indian Advisory Board members:
We need bios from all of you. If you haven't yet turned one in please send your bio to Diane Hanson at djhanson@stcloudstate.edu

Student in the Spotlight:

Nicholas Bad Heart Bull (Oglala/Lakota)

- Nick was born and raised in Minnesota between the cities of Annandale and Holdingford
- After high school, and a year off, Nick decided that he wanted something more from his life so he enrolled at St. Cloud State University.
- Nick is a 3rd year student studying Mechanical Engineering. He enjoys designing things and loves building something new out of nothing.
- This is the second year that Nick has been the All Tribes Council (ATC) Pow-wow Chair. He supervises three ATC members as well as fifteen volunteers. He says that the most challenging thing about being the Pow-wow Chair is coordinating all of the people traveling from other states and Canada, along with making sure that everything and everyone is on schedule. What encourages him to continue as Pow-wow Chair is that he enjoys bringing more culture and diversity to St. Cloud, and the opportunity to meet a lot of fun and interesting people.



The Advanced Preparation Program (APP): June 11, 2006 – July 13, 2006

The Advanced Preparation Program is a summer scholarship-supported program open to incoming first-year students who are admitted to St. Cloud State University. Students receive an in-depth academic assessment, take college classes and participate in activities that introduce them to college life and the community. It's demanding—and a lot of fun! Students remember the program, the weekend activities, and the friendships for a lifetime.

**If you are interested or have any question please contact
Jim Knutson-Kolodzne at 320-308-5447 or jkolodzne@stcloudstate.edu**

SCSU Ethnic Studies Summer Pre-College Programs

For further information and application contact:

Dr. Robert C. Johnson E-mail: Ethstudies@stcloudstate.edu
Telephone (320) 308-4928 <http://pipeline.stcloudstate.edu/applications.html>

June 17, 2006 - July 13, 2006

Math-Science-Computer Camp (MSC): This program is designed for students currently in 3rd through the 8th grade. The program exposes students from underrepresented groups to science, math, and computers in fun and innovative ways.

July 23, 2006 - August 19, 2006

Scientific Discovery Program (SDP): This program is for students currently in 9th and 10th grades is designed for high ability, high potential students who demonstrate a strong interest in science and mathematics.

July 30, 2006 - August 19, 2006

Advanced Program in Technology and Science (APTS): This program is designed for students currently in 11th and 12th grades. This is a special program for high ability, high potential students who are seriously interested in a future in technology and science.



**Spring
2006 Calendar**



Ojibwe Language Table: will be held every Monday from 5:30-8:00 pm.

Cultural Project Night: Every-other Monday in conjunction with Ojibwa Language Table from 5:30-8:00 pm.

March 13th: Dreamcatchers and Loom Beading--continue projects

March 27th: Student, Faculty and Staff Art Show

April 10th: TBA

April 24th: TBA

American Indian Awareness Week: April 3rd - April 8th.

Annual SCSU Traditional Pow-wow: Saturday April 8th, 2006

Grand Entries at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Feast at 5:00 pm

Annual American Indian Center Canoe Trip: Sunday, May 21st - Thursday, May 25th

VISIT OUR WEB SITE!

<http://www.stcloudstate.edu/~aic>

SCSU American Indian Center 720 Fourth Avenue South St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301-4498

Phone: (320) 308-5449 Fax: (320) 308-5451 Email: aic@stcloudstate.edu

TTY: 1-800-627-3529 SCSU is an affirmative action/ equal opportunity educator and employer.

Upon request this publication will be made available in large print or audio tape.