

American Indian Center Quarterly

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY
A tradition of excellence and opportunity



Spring Is Here!

Spring 2007

Aniin,

As I write this article, I realize another school year is quickly coming to an end. Our mission at the American Indian Center (AIC) is to provide quality programs and services for our students and guests throughout the year. During the summer months the AIC staff will reflect back on how well this year's experiences played out for all of those who were involved. Assessment of our programs and services is critical for improvement. This spring we are developing and implementing an AIC Student Support Services Satisfaction Survey. The effectiveness of this assessment will depend upon the response rate we receive from our students. We will share this data with the campus and use it to improve our programs and services. Looking at the entire 2006-2007 school year, we had many wonderful opportunities to experience the stories of American Indian elders, educators, speakers and entertainers. Our guest list included: George Googleye Sr., Charles Blacklance, Rachel King, M. Cochise Anderson, Sandy White Hawk, Joe D. Horse Capture, Brent Michael Davids, and Edgar Heap of Birds, to name a few. Upcoming speakers in April include: Dave Larsen, Don Wendll, Vikki Howard, and Sharon Fineday. All of these people have interesting native perspectives and provide support for the idea that there is no ONE Indian way.

The American Indian Center is really about our students and their experiences as they make their way through their college career. Our American Indian and non-Indian students find themselves faced with many trials and tribulations; it is our hope that the American Indian Center staff can provide assistance in ways that meet student need. Our Engage program brought students to campus from four different school districts for an early college visitation program. It was refreshing to have these high school students visit us and share their goals of attending college. The success of our Engage program is due to the involvement from faculty & staff from various departments on campus. We are currently developing plans to expand this important recruitment tool.

There are approximately five weeks of school left with several events to participate in. We have the annual AIC Art Show; American Indian Awareness Week: April 9th-13th; the All Tribes Councils' Powwow on Saturday, April 14th; and the American Indian Student Awards banquet on April 17th. Please join us when you can and I hope to see you around the American Indian Center!

Jim Knutson-Kolodzne

Spring! Spring! Spring!

It's here once again. I love the springtime. Everything starts over fresh and new. The snow will soon be melting and the ice will be coming off the lakes.

The Pow-wow, Awards Banquet and End-of-the-year BBQ are all coming up sooner than we think. Before you know it the temperature will be climbing and we will all be wearing shorts! Don't let the semester get away from you. If you are in need of help please stop by the AIC and see one of the staff. Hope to see you at our functions this spring.

Tom

St. Cloud State University

All Tribes Council

Invites you to attend our

14th Annual Traditional Pow Wow

Saturday April 14, 2007

Halenbeck Hall

St. Cloud State University

1000 4th Ave. S.

At the corner of 4th Ave. S. and University Dr. on SCSU Campus

Grand Enteries at 1:00 and 7:00

Meal at 5:00

Host Drum: Little Otter
Invited Drums: Young Kingbird,
Muskrat Lodge, Northern Wind, Smokey
Hill
MC: Jerry Dearly, Sr.
Arena: Director: Ricky Smith
Spiritual Advisor: George Goggleye, Sr.
Head Male Dancer: Loren Bad Heart Bull
Head Female Dancer: Sharon Fineday

Sponsored by All Tribes Council
and co-sponsored by the
American Indian Center

Vendor space limited, contact:
Amy at ATC office 320-308-6424
or atc@stcloudstate.edu

For more information contact:
Patrick Tom at 320-308-5446

Free and open to the public

Student in the Spotlight: Jason Theisen

Boozhoo. My name is Jason Theisen. I am anisinaabe from white earth Indian reservation. I'm in my first year of school here at St Cloud State University. My major is pre-med. In the future I plan on attending the U of M medical school. I really feel a need to help people in my native communities so I would like to work for Indian health services someday.



Besides getting an education the most important thing in my life is my daughter Mackenzie who is 6 years old or 6 and a half, if you ask her. She is the greatest thing that has ever happened in my life and I thank god for giving her to me everyday. I am always telling her that she needs to do well and try hard in school and that someday she will go to college. So I thought that I better take my own advise and set a good example for her by going to school myself.

I try to stay involved with all tribes council, a student organization here at St Cloud State University, as much as I can. We do things like putting on the annual pow-wow at halenbeck hall on April 14 to just hanging out and visiting. I want and plan on becoming more involved with ATC. I also am planning on playing for the St Cloud thunder birds, the local semi-pro football team, this fall. Most important is that if I can just keep up with my daughter I will be doing just fine.

American Indian Mascot and Logo Issue

When the following announcement appeared in newspapers across America, all I could think to say was: "It is about time!" At St. Cloud State University, President Saigo, many faculty & staff and the students; both Indian and non-Indian have been very active on this issue for a very long time.

On February 16, 2007, Lawrence Eppley, chair of the board of trustees issued a unilateral ruling retiring Chief Illiniwek. Chief Illiniwek's last performance, by the final Chief, Dan Maloney of Galesburg, Illinois, took place on February 21, 2007 at the last men's home basketball game of the 2006-2007 regular season, in Assembly Hall. On March 13, 2007, the University of Illinois board of trustees voted to retire Illiniwek's name, image and regalia.
Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chief_Illiniwek

President Saigo deserves a lot of credit in bringing attention of this issue to the NCAA board. This resulted in an investigation by the NCAA, and eventually issuing their stance on the use of American Indian mascots and logos. The SCSU American Indian Center will continue to support the campus and the students on their efforts toward eliminating the use of American Indian mascots and logos.



Project ENGAGE

We will have four groups participating in ENGAGE this semester. Shakopee area schools visited on February 21st and 22nd and Osseo area schools were here on March 14th and 15th. The staff at the AIC would like to thank admissions, the Write Place, the Faculty and the Holiday Inn for their participation in the project.

ENGAGE has proven to be an asset to SCSU and to the American Indian students that participate in the project. We believe the ENGAGE project increases the rate of retention in students that participate. We will be studying the data collected to see if that is the case.

Bug-O-Nay-Geshig school will be arriving April 5th to participate in the program. We hope they enjoy the event as much as other schools have. Anoka-Hennepin area schools will be coming April 13th. They will be here for the SCSU Pow-wow to help setup.

The staff at the AIC look forward to next year's ENGAGE with anticipation. We would like to bring eight schools to SCSU next year. Be sure to contact the AIC if you would like to bring your school to SCSU.

American Indian Awareness Week

April 9-13, 2007

Monday:

3:00 pm
5:00 pm

Dave Larsen: A Dakota Worldview
**American Indian Awareness Week Reception
and AIC Art Show Reception**

Location:

Atwood, Glacier Room
American Indian Center

Tuesday:

10:30 am - 2 pm
3:00 pm

All Tribes Council Silent Auction
Don Wedll: History of Minnesota Tribes & Nations

Atwood Main Lounge
Education Building room A123

Wednesday:

10:30 am - 2 pm
11 am - 2 pm
6:30 pm

All Tribes Council Silent Auction
American Indian Taco Stand
Ojibwe Language Table

Atwood Main Lounge
Barden Park
American Indian Center

Thursday:

3:00 pm
TBA

Yvonne Wilson: Leech lake Educational Leader
Annie Humphrey
Singer/Songwriter

Atwood, Voyageurs North
TBA

Friday:

5:30 pm

Sharon Fineday: Pow wow Etiquette

Atwood Little Theater

Saturday:

Grand Entries
1:00 pm, 7:00 pm
5:00 pm

Annual ATC Pow wow
Honoring Alumni and President Saigo
Meal

Halenbeck Hall, SCSU

Alternative Spring Break Trip to Lame Deer, Montana

The following is an excerpt from an essay by Tessa Scheffler

... I wanted to get something out of my spring break rather than just going to someplace warm with the bright sun bit I never imagined it would be a changing point in my life. I chose to go to Lame Deer, Montana to work with the northern Cheyenne Tribe at their local Boys and Girls Club. As a leader my experience began with trip planning as well as team leadership skills. I often talked with my co-leader about my excitement for the trip yet I did not realize the trip would have a significant impact on my life.

When I first arrived in Lame Deer I immediately began to learn about their culture. It was an amazing, yet eye opening experience for me. It is hard to even begin to describe my experience. The community was filled with such wonderful people and it was visible that they strived on each other for support and acceptance. The staff at the Boys and Girls Club as well as members from the community was very willing to teach us about their culture, the history of the Cheyenne tribe, and issues they faced today. Their pride and love for their culture was apparent in everything they did. As volunteers at the club our duties ranged from cleaning to interacting with children. As we would assist the staff with cleaning and minor improvement projects it was apparent to me their lack of resources. This was a frustrating learning experience because I often felt like we could do so much more. We would begin a project yet could not finish because they did not have the materials, support, or resources. As my frustration grew my learning did as well. The staff was so involved in the children's lives and cared so much about their well being they did not let the lack of money or resources affect the positive atmosphere and environment they provided. To observe this quality they had was so beneficial. It made me realize the important of cherishing the positive attributes in my life. In my culture it seems to me that it is so easy to get caught up in the every day life that we do not take time to appreciate what we have. The community of Lame Deer seemed to have so little yet they showed their appreciation for everything in their life. The children were a huge part of my experience. It was a wonderful feeling each day to be greeted with smiling faces excited to interact with you. As volunteers we had the opportunity to play games such as sharks and minnow, duck, duck, grey duck and basketball. The children were so excited to just talk to us and it was so hard to say goodbye...

American Indian Graduates of 2007

Undergraduates

Charity Clukey ~ BA in Criminal Justice
Calvin Decorah ~ BS in Marketing
Brian Eagle ~ Associate of Arts
Amy Harris ~ Bachelor of Elective Studies
Casey Jaeger ~ BS in Aviation
Shanna Lowe ~ BS in Aviation
Jennifer Marker ~BA in English
Andrea Tholkes ~BS in Marketing
Kelsey Tommerdahl ~BS in Biology

Graduate Student

Monte Fronk ~ MS in Criminal Justice

American Indian Students with a 3.0 or higher GPA

Summer Austin-Guevara	Jennifer Marker
Tina Boettcher	Jenna Maschino
Jacqueline Brooks	Peter Nayquonabe
Jeffrey Chaffee	Emily Ortler
David DeGreeff	Rajib Pandey
Rebekah Fineday	Michael Reigel
Raunn Finley	Geralynn Ryckman
Peter Freshwater	Evelyn Saxon
Monte Fronk	Kateri Skunes
Brody Fuchs	Traci Sorenson
Bruce Halvorson	Jeffrey Strand
Nicole Hohenwald	Quinn Sullivan
Casey Jaeger	Theodore Taylor
Kaelynn Kampa	Jennifer Teal
Timothy Kindel	Andrea Tholkes
Tiffany King	Kelsey Tommerdahl
Stephanie Lanier	Amanda Wilkens
Nicholas Latterell	Marshall Wilson
Shanna Lowe	Lucas Winskowski
Krystal Malisheske	Heidi Zwack 5

The American Indian Center Awards Banquet

Thursday, April 19th
6 pm

For ticket information
please contact
Theresa Holubar
(320) 308-4065 or
taholubar@stcloudstate.edu

We hope to see all of
the graduates there!

Spring 2007 Calendar

OJIBWE LANGUAGE TABLE:

Takes place every Wednesday at 6:30 pm (unless SCSU is on a holiday or break) for more information please contact Theresa Holubar 320-308-5449 or taholubar@stcloudstate.edu

WEDNESDAY LUNCHESES:

Lunches will be held at the American Indian Center every Wednesday from 12 pm - 1 pm (unless SCSU is on a holiday or break)

OTHER EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

April (2007)

9th - 13th, Monday - Friday: American Indian Awareness Week
14th, Saturday: Annual All Tribes Council Pow wow (Hallenbeck Hall)
19th, Thursday: American Indian Advisory Board Mtg
(3-5 pm, Mississippi room, Atwood)
19th, Thursday: American Indian Center Awards Banquet
(6 pm, Atwood)

May (2007)

11th, Friday, Graduate Hooding and Commencement (evening)
12th, Saturday: Undergraduate Commencement

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

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

American Indian Studies Summer Institute

An *American Indian Studies Summer Institute* (AISSI) will be held at SCSU on June 11-15, 2007. The AISSI is sponsored by the St. Cloud State University Ethnic Studies Department, the Multicultural Resource Center and the American Indian Center in partnership with the Mille Lacs Indian Museum and the MN Historical Society of St. Paul, MN. Funding for this program is provided by grants from the MnSCU Center for Teaching and Learning and the SCSU School of Graduate Studies.

The *American Indian Studies Summer Institute* is designed to increase the knowledge, sensitivity and awareness of Minnesota educators, administrators and employees on the histories, cultures and languages of the federally recognized tribes and bands in Minnesota. By providing a high-quality professional development opportunity that focuses on accurate and authentic information, the goal of the American Indian Studies Summer institute is to facilitate learning among teachers, administrators, and student service providers in order to increase the effectiveness of working with American Indian students and to incorporate the use of culturally appropriate materials into the curriculum.

The *American Indian Studies Summer Institute* will offer sessions throughout the week that include: Minnesota Indians 101; Understanding Tribal Sovereignty; Dakota History, Culture and Language; Stereotypes and Cultural Misinformation; Urban American Indian Centers, Schools and Organizations; Incorporating American Indian History and Culture into the Curriculum; Treaties and Trust Responsibilities; American Indian Philosophy; American Indians in the Media; Talking Circles; Language Classes; Field trips to Urban Indian Communities and the Mille Lacs Indian Reservation.

The *American Indian Studies Summer Institute* is designed to provide a professional development opportunity for 32 participants. Undergraduate and Graduate credit will be available. Applications are available through the American Indian Center or you can print one out online at <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/aic/events.asp>. For more information contact Jim Knutson-Kolodzne, American Indian Center director at: 320-308-5447 or jkolodzne@stcloudstate.edu