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The American Indian Center staff wishes you a safe and happy holiday!

Quarterly
Fall/Winter 2013
Welcome from the Director

From the AIC Director’s Desk….

The 2013 fall semester began with 76 new and transfer, self-identified, American Indian students. The American Indian student headcount is now at 275. The AIC staff held an Open House at the start of the semester in August and welcomed new faces to the AIC. It was fun to learn about aspiring career goals and provide information about the AIC and our campus. The fall semester was filled with many events and activities, which included: the Indigenous Film conference, which was held at the Leech Lake reservation, booths sponsored at the trade shows Education Minnesota Professional Conference, Minnesota Indian Education Association (MIEA) and the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) Conference. The AIC also provided an informational booth regarding the “Truth about Columbus” at the Memorial Student Union to explain the Native perspective. We had a pumpkin carving contest and a Fall Harvest Feast. We welcomed Native elders and educators for our American Indian Speakers Series, including Craig Howe, Janice Lafloe, and Sherry Sanchez-Tibbets, whose presentations were well attended by the campus community. Our student community continues to grow and if you haven’t yet completed a student intake form, feel free to stop by anytime and meet with our AIC staff and student employees.

A big CONGRATULATIONS to all of our 19 fall 2013 American Indian graduates! All graduating American Indian students are invited to stop by the AIC to pick up their graduation gift and an American Indian sash to wear for the graduation ceremony.

Our winter/spring programs and services include many opportunities to get involved with the AIC and the campus. In January, the AIC collaborates with the MSS office on the Power-in-Diversity Conference. Come join us for another American Indian Speaker Series on February 20, 2014. Travel with us to the Northern Cheyenne reservation in Lame Deer, Montana over spring break in March. Volunteer to help with the American Indian Awareness Week and our annual Pow Wow on April 12, 2014.

Visit our AIC website: (http://www.stcloudstate.edu/aic/ ) for current information and updates regarding upcoming events, programs, services and scholarship opportunities. Also, like us on Facebook to see what we are up to. The AIC is open daily from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. We will continue to focus on our main mission, which is to respond to the self-defined educational needs and goals of American Indian students and communities alike. The AIC staff encourages all administrators, faculty, staff and students to continue their involvement with the AIC, so we can build our future together.

Have a safe & Happy Holiday season!

Sincerely,

Jim Knutson-Kolodzne, Director
On Thursday, September 19, 2013, Janice LaFloe spoke in front of St. Cloud State students and staff, sharing her knowledge and experiences. Janice is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa in North Dakota where she graduated high school. She has a Bachelor degree, Master in Public Policy, and recently completed training as an AMI Primary Guide from the Montessori Training Center of Minnesota. Her professional experiences include working with Indian Education Programs in Elk River, Anoka-Hennepin and St. Paul Public Schools. Janice is currently a Bush Foundation Leadership Fellow, engaged in community work to address the underserved needs of American Indian early learners with a focus on developing a Montessori American Indian Childcare Center. Janice plans to evolve the Montessori American Indian Childcare Center into a Native language immersion environment.

On Tuesday, November 6, 2013, Craig Howe presented on the topic “Knowledge of American Indian Communities and Issues Important to Them.” Dr. Howe earned a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan and taught at several colleges and universities. Dr. Howe served as Deputy Assistant Director for Cultural Resources at the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, and as Director of the D’Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian History at the Newberry Library in Chicago. He is the author of numerous articles and book chapters on tribal histories, Native studies, museum exhibitions, and community collaborations. Dr. Howe is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe.

Sherry Sanchez-Tibbetts visited SCSU as a guest speaker, where she presented on the topic “Stories of Our Grandparents: How Words Impact Definition of Self” on Thursday, November 14, 2013. Sherry is the Director of Institutional Research, Planning, and Grants for Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College. Prior to joining Fond du Lac College, Sherry led a successful $8.5 million dollar capitol campaign to develop Duluth’s first American Indian Center. She has over 10 years of public policy experience and has been a consultant to the US Department of Justice, a legislative policy analyst, public finance attorney, and is on the Urban Indian Advisory Board to the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council. Sherry graduated from the University of Texas at Austin and St. Mary’s University School of Law in San Antonio. She is of Comanche descent and is currently working on her first novel.
New Employees

The American Indian Center welcomed three new employees to its team this fall! Stop by and say hello to student employees Emily Olson and Jonah Isham and Graduate Assistant Aaron Nordrum!

Emily is an enrolled member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Emily has worked for the American Indian Center (AIC) since August of 2013, and has since become the President of All Tribes Council. Emily is currently studying Pre-Veterinary Medicine at SCSU, and plans on going to the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Minnesota after she graduates.

Jonah is an enrolled member of the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Ojibwe. He began working for the American Indian Center in September, 2013. This is his first semester at SCSU, and he plans on majoring in mathematics. Jonah has accomplished many things in his short time here, including making the SCSU basketball cheer team and acting as a Husky Steward, giving tours to the ENGAGE program groups of high school students visiting the campus.

Aaron is originally from International Falls, MN, and is a descendant of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. Aaron began working for the American Indian Center as the Graduate Assistant in August, 2013. Aaron was a big help in arranging ENGAGE program visits from surrounding high schools. Aaron graduated with a Bachelor’s degree from St. Cloud State University in Psychology and Community Psychology in Spring of 2013. He is currently pursuing a graduate degree in the Marriage and Family Therapy program at SCSU. Aaron plans to open a private practice that incorporates animal assisted therapy with family therapy.

The AIC is very fortunate to have such a cohesive team with great team players! Emily, Jonah, and Aaron have shown enthusiasm and dedication to the AIC and its mission. Those here at the AIC are grateful for the work and contributions made by all at the AIC. Thank you for all of your hard work!
Emily Olson has proven to be a fantastic American Indian student here at St. Cloud State University (SCSU). Emily is an enrolled member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. She graduated from Eden Prairie High School in June, 2011, and was in the top 10% of her graduating class. Emily has worked for the American Indian Center since August of 2013, and has since become the President of All Tribes Council. Emily is looking forward to participating in the Lame Deer trip to the Northern Cheyenne Reservation next semester, and encourages all Native students to get involved with the AIC and the opportunities they have to offer.

Emily is currently studying Pre-Veterinary Medicine at SCSU, and plans on going to the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Minnesota after she graduates. Her dream is to become a large animal veterinarian for farms in Minnesota or the Upper Midwest working with cows and horses. Emily is currently interested in obtaining an internship working for the Minnesota Zoo with hoofed animals, or at the Science Center of Minnesota working with wolves.

Emily shared a memory from her childhood:

I remember being very shy as a child. It was always easier for me to connect with animals. My first word was our family dog’s name and after that, my parents knew I would end up doing something with animals in my future. One of my favorite childhood memories was my dad raising pheasants in our garage at home. I have been a diehard Husky hockey fan since I was 7 years old, I and am grateful I get to continue my education here at SCSU.

Emily found amazing support and lifelong friends after becoming a part of the American Indian Center. The AIC helped her reconnect with her Native heritage and Emily says the AIC feels like a second home.
Scholarships

Mail to: American Indian Center
901 4th Ave. South
St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498

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 award. 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.

DUANE DUNKLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
($500-$1,000 Annually)

Criteria: Preference is given to an enrolled member of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, that is majoring in or intends to major in an educational field, and must submit a written essay describing his/her goals and aspirations upon graduation from college. This scholarship opportunity is available to students of any class level, including freshmen who are enrolled full-time as SCSU. The award may be renewed for one or more years at the discretion of the American Indian Center; a student who has received this award must reapply each year to be considered.

All application packets must be postmarked or received by the second Monday in April, 2014 to be applied to fall 2014 tuition.
American Indian Center Events
Fall/Winter 2013

House Blessing

The House Blessing was held on September 05, 2013 at the AIC. The Red Tree Drum Group opened with an honor song and closed with a prayer song. Ojibwe Elder William Wilson was also present and said a prayer. Everyone who attended smudged, and AIC Director Jim Knutson-Kolodzne smudged the AIC. This event was a great way to start the semester and get familiar with AIC staff and student employees. The new AIC signs, created by David Treetop, a local Native artist, were unveiled along with tours of the AIC. Guests also shared food, refreshments, and stories.

Native Leadership Retreat

The annual Native Leadership Retreat was held at the AIC on October 4, 2013. The purpose of the Native Leadership Retreat is to provide first-year Native students the opportunity to learn about campus services, discuss current issues, and learn about opportunities available to them at SCSU. Additionally, returning students are able to practice their leadership skills by presenting at the retreat or interacting with the new students and serving as role models for new students.

Presentations were provided by the Write Place, the Advising Center, Counseling and Psychological Services, Financial Aid Office, Richard Green House Tutoring Program, and Promoting a Caring Community (PACC). Drawings for prizes were held throughout the event. It was a great experience for all who attended!
American Indian Center Events  
Fall/Winter 2013

ENGAGE Program

The ENGAGE Program provides opportunities for individuals and groups of American Indian students to sample the university experience at SCSU, and enables them to fully explore campus life through a one or two day visit.

Earlier this fall the AIC had a total of three high schools that participated in the ENGAGE Program, including Minneapolis Indian Education Program, Fond du Lac Ojibwe School, and Bloomington Indian Education Program. These groups all came for a day visit where they toured the campus, attended an Indian Education class, and visited the planetarium. The AIC was pleased to have the different high schools come and visit us, and we look forward to more high schools visits!

Fall Harvest Feast

The annual AIC Fall Harvest Feast and pumpkin carving contest was held on October 27, 2013. It was a great opportunity to share a turkey dinner with mashed potatoes, stuffing, and have some fun. Congratulations to the pumpkin carving contest winners: Rachel Fairbanks-1st place, Aaron Nordrum-2nd place, and Emily Olson-3rd place!

NIEA

The National Indian Education Association annual convention was held in Rapid City, SD from Tuesday, October 29, through Saturday, November 2, 2013. There were over 400 Natives in attendance from tribal communities in the United States and Canada. The AIC had an informational booth on AIC services, where we highlighted our two summer programs: the Native Studies Summer Workshop for Educators (NSSWE) and the Native Sky Watchers (NSW) program. The AIC Director, Jim Knutson-Kolodzne, and American Indian students Rachel Fairbanks and Isaac Robertson, provided information from the booth and attended many sessions regarding Native education. AIC attendees were joined by SCSU Provost Malhotra for two days during the trade show, and enjoyed a fine meal at a local dining establishment. The NIEA annual convention is a great event to learn and network with other Native communities across the United States.
January 23rd - 26th, 2014
St. Cloud State University’s 5th Annual

Leadership development and personal growth opportunities!
The 5th annual Power in Diversity Leadership Conference will offer opportunities for personal growth and leadership development to college students of color and underrepresented students through a variety of workshops, keynote addresses and programs. It will also provide a forum for student leaders to connect with others from colleges and universities across the region. Advisors, faculty and staff who work with student leaders will also have a chance to network and to share ideas and strategies. Conference attendees will learn from leadership activities that will assist in the development and enhancement of one’s own skills to successfully navigate through college and into the workforce and to be a support for other students as well. The conference theme, “Today’s Vision: Tomorrow’s Reality,” will set the stage for keynote speakers and workshop presenters to identify ways that participants can lead the way in implementing the positive changes for tomorrow’s world that they are envisioning today.

Please check out the website for more information about the conference at:
http://www.stcloudstate.edu/mss/powerindiversity/default.asp

Congratulations Graduates!!
Congratulations to the following Fall 2013 American Indian Graduates!
We wish you good luck and great success with your future endeavors!

Undergraduates
Tyler Allery
Paula Beck
Kyle Coleman
Nicholas Garland
Jared Hicks
Katherine Kalk
Diane Lucas
Nick Mitchell
Darlene Munezero
Jennifer Orosz
Kayla Schubert
Jonathan Sibrian
Griffin Trevino

Masters
John Coyle
Analise Herrera-Minteer
Lindsey Reiners

Associates
Jodi Brown
Braniesney Ortiz Camacho
SCSU Academic Calendar
Spring 2014

January
Day and Evening Classes Begin
Monday, January 13, 2014

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
No Classes; Offices Closed
Monday, January 20, 2014

5th Annual Power in Diversity Conference
January 23-26, 2014
SCSU Atwood Memorial Center

February
Presidents Day
Classes in Session; Offices Closed
February 17, 2014

American Indian Speaker Series
February 20, 2014, 5:00-6:00 PM
Atwood Memorial Center Theatre

March
Lame Deer Spring Break Service Trip
March 9-15, 2014
Northern Cheyenne Reservation
Lame Deer, Montana

Spring Break
March 10 - 14, 2014

April
Faculty Duty Day; No Classes
April 4, 2014

American Indian Awareness Week
April 7-12, 2014

April cont’d
21st Annual American Indian Center Pow Wow
April 12, 2014; Grand Entries 1:00 and 7:00 PM
SCSU Halenbeck Hall

MSS Awards Reception
April 24, 2014, 5:30 PM
Atwood Memorial Center Ballroom

May
Last day of Classes
May 2, 2014

Finals Week
May 5 - 9, 2014

AIC Graduation Reception
May 7, 2014, 4:30-6:00 PM
American Indian Center

Commencements
May 11, 2014

Visit our website at http://www.stcloudstate.edu/aic/ for resources, news, updates, and information about current events!
Support Services

The American Indian Center offers a number of support services to American Indian students on the St. Cloud University campus. All Indian students are encouraged to utilize these services.

Discussion and assistance in:

- Admission process
- Personal concerns
- Tutoring
- Housing
- Financial Aid
- Academic concerns
- Advising
- Career development

Referrals to appropriate SCSU agencies when necessary.

Native Leadership Retreat for all students helping them to become comfortable in their new campus and communities.

Services to Indian student organizations to enable students to become involved in student activities and meet other Indian students.

Social activities are offered throughout the academic year to help students make connections.

Speaker Series events bring American Indian presenters to the SCSU campus. The presenter speaks on a variety of Indian topics.

Student Retention Luncheons are every other Wednesday at noon. These gatherings are a great opportunity to share your story, hear others, and enjoy good food.

Computer lab is available for students to access e-mail and complete coursework.

American Indian Resource Center is a source of educational material relevant to the American Indian.

A quiet place to read a book, write a paper, or study is available.

Are you Native but haven’t stopped by the AIC?

Do you want to learn more about what the AIC has to offer you?

*NEW STUDENTS*

If you are a student who has never visited the AIC, stop by and meet the Director, Jim Knutson-Kolodzne, to get a tour and learn about our services!

All Tribes Council

Another opportunity for students to get involved is joining All Tribes Council. ATC is a student organization which supports the social and academic needs of American Indian Students at St. Cloud State University.

For more information contact Emily Olson (President) at olem1101@stcloudstate.edu or Dylan Decoteau (Vice President) at dedy0901@stcloudstate.edu

ATC Office located at Atwood Memorial Center 117
Work with American Indian children through the Boys and Girls Club of the Northern Cheyenne Nation.

Cost includes transportation, meals on site and housing.

Application Deadline
Friday, February 7, 2014

Fee Deadline
Monday, February 17, 2014

Apply Online at:
www.stcloudstate.edu/volunteer

Contact Civic Engagement
E-mail: civicengagement@stcloudstate.edu
Phone: (320) 308-2205
This publication will be made available in large print or audio tape upon request.