

Director's Message

by Hanay Geiogamah

Cummer, 2007. The UCLA campus is a bit less crowded, a tad less hectic, quieter, and it's so much easier to find a parking space, except in Parking Structure One. And in this passage of relative calm, we arrive at the beginning of an important transition for UCLA. A new chancellor, Gene Block, took office on August 1st, and every person on campus is asking the same question: What changes will he seek to make? Here are my recommendations.

Most important, Chancellor Block must make a commitment to diversity early in his tenure. He must signal to the faculty, to the students, to the academic personnel and staff, to the alumni, and to the communities of Los Angeles, of California, and of America that UCLA will be, under his leadership, an across-theboard model of full inclusion and representation. And he can get the ball rolling quickly on the issue of faculty diversity by endorsing the Faculty Diversity Initiative, which the directors of UCLA's four ethnic studies centers developed four years ago and have promoted across many sectors of the university. Improving enrollment numbers of students of all colors and identities is also a critical issue on which the new chancellor can provide support and leadership.

We in the UCLA American Indian community can do our part by working

harder to improve and expand our academic and research programs and to support and strengthen the American Indian Studies Center and its various components. Being good neighbors and cooperating respectfully with the faculty, students, and staffs of the other ethnic studies centers and departments will also help this effort.

Our university is one of the best in America, and the potential is here for UCLA to serve as a model and leader in higher education in the 21st century. We at the UCLA American Indian Studies Center welcome Chancellor Block and pledge our support and cooperation to him in the good work that lies ahead. Aho.

UCLA 2007 Graduation banner



2007-08 CALENDAR

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Oct. 3, 2007: Sherman Alexie, California

State University, Long Beach

Oct. 4, 2007: UCLA American Indian

Students Welcome Reception

Oct. 25-28, 2007: National Indian

Education Association Annual

Convention, Honolulu

Oct. 26-27, 2007: California Indian

Conference, UC Davis

Nov. 1-3, 2007: American Indian Science

and Engineering Society (AISES) National

Conference, Phoenix

Nov. 2-10, 2007: 32nd Annual American

Indian Film Festival, San Francisco

Nov. 2, 2007: Un-Thanksgiving

Celebration, Alcatraz Island

Nov. 11-16, 2007: National Congress of

American Indians Convention, Denver

Mar. 6–8, 2008: California Indian

Education Conference, Redding

Mar. 22–23, 2008: UCLA American Indian

Youth Conference and Basketball

Tournament

May 3-4, 2008: 23rd Annual 2008 UCLA

Powwow

MATIVE STUDENTS AND

ICSC's Board of Directors Appointed and in Full Operation

by Theresa Rocha

Can Diego County is rich in American Indian heritage, population, and culture, and it holds the greatest number of federally recognized tribes in the nation at 18. Many tribes, such as the La Posta Band of Kumeyaay Indians, are extremely small with an estimated tribal enrollment of 25, while others, such as the Pala Indian tribal community, boast an enrollment figure of nearly 1,000 enrolled members. These 18 tribes are unique both in their historical relationship to the region as well as in their contemporary exercise of tribal sovereignty and self determination through their participation in the recently created Intertribal Court of Southern California (ICSC).

Born from within the Chairman's Association, the ICSC now operates as an independent judiciary funded by member tribes belonging to the consortium. During ICSC's past year in official operation, the court has experienced its fair share of excitement, praise, scrutiny, and community appreciation in response to the wide variety of legal services offered to local residents. Recently, a momentous meeting took place on the morning of July 10, 2007 as seven tribal leaders from local communities convened with ICSC staff to inaugurate the recently appointed and independent board of directors cabinet. This governing body is responsible for leading the court into a new chapter of community service, determining admission for tribes wishing to join the court consortium, and overseeing the general operating functions of the court. From the vantage point of tribal court intern, I can wholeheartedly attest that this first meeting was a tremendous success! It was apparent that each tribal community sent their dedicated best to represent their unique perspectives on the qualities an effective judicial consortium must display to garner community validity and usefulness.

After a historical overview of the consortium's development led by Tribal Court Administrator Temet Aguilar, this

friendly and focused ICSC board quickly addressed the agenda. Dialogue covered a number of pertinent issues, ranging from determining sustainable funding avenues to be actively pursued to the formulation of a justice center model to foster effective communication among tribal, federal, state, county, and local governments to work together on concurrent and exclusive jurisdictional issues. What is particularly exciting about this model is the concentration of principal resources for American Indian peoples seeking legal assistance, as the Intertribal Court, tribal attorneys, law enforcement, educational materials, and public conferences could all be held in one centralized location. Please feel free to contact me at theresa.ysabel@ucla.edu for updates on this exciting community development. 🏟

American Indian Recruitment: AIR Staff Spotlight

by Mattie Varner (Cherokee/Native Hawaiian)

As the community college coordinator for American Indian Recruitment, Amber Crotty conducts outreach services to Native students and helps them prepare for college. She counsels them in a variety of areas, including academics, family concerns, and identity issues. Amber is graduating this year and recently applied to the American Indian Studies MA Program at UCLA. This is her second year working for AIR.

MV: What are some of the goals you try to accomplish within AIR?

AC: I try to solidify ways of networking with Native students. I also emphasize empowerment, and I advocate for incorporating traditional Native philosophy with Western education. I try to get my community college students to visit the UCLA campus and have them volunteer for site (and we always can use more volunteers). This can be hard, though, because a lot of them tend to have hurdles that they need to overcome.

MV: What should people know about your

work with community college students? *AC*: I think the trend is for Native students to transfer in as opposed to entering as freshmen. Transfers have certain handicaps when entering UCLA, and tend to get overwhelmed. There's no real transition time for them. I think that we need to have more events for transfer students to address these issues. Having informal events is important also, just so they know what's going on at UCLA.

MV: Any thoughts on how AIR and RAIN could work together more?

AC: I think it would be great if AIR and RAIN could share a cubicle. It would facilitate a flow of communication, and we're small enough projects.

Supporting Undergraduate Natives: SUN Pair of the Ouarter

by Mattie Varner

Our SUN Pair of the Quarter is Virginia Myers and Todd Ambo. To get an idea of how a great pair functions we asked Todd and Virginia the following questions:

MV: How did you feel when you found out who your mentee/mentor was?

VM: I was really surprised! I didn't know what to expect since this is my first time being a mentor.

TA: I was PUMPED! I was excited to be paired with Virginia because, as president of AISA, I felt she could teach me a lot about leadership. What better mentor to have than the "Guiding Entity"?

MV: How often do you pair meet?

VM: Todd and I meet practically on a weekly basis. We have developed the type of relationship where we can just call each other if we need something, or just grab lunch if we both have the time.

MV: What do you two do?

VM: We attend meetings, socials, we have lunch or dinner. We run into each other randomly, we check in with one another. We've tried to study together but our study habits are a little different.

TA: We talk about academics, family, politics, and GOSSIP!

MV: What has mentorship done for you while you have been at UCLA?

OUTREACH AT UCLA

VM: Mentorship has been a really great thing for me. For the last three years my mentor always helped me to strike a balance between school and AISA. Now that I am a mentor it is even more exciting. It's nice to be paired with someone who is so motivated about getting involved and becoming a leader on campus. Mentorship is a really great thing because the relationship is reciprocal: you get what you give! TA: Mentorship has helped me relate to the community on campus. It guarantees me a friend and keeps me accountable for my actions.

MV: Any last comments?

TA: As the best mentee last year I felt it was my duty to maintain my title. Thank you. ❖

American Indian Student Association

by Jojo Leon

The American Indian Student Association (AISA) was founded in 1969 by students involved in the American Indian Movement (AIM) and the occupation of Alcatraz. Eighty-nine occupants were students from UCLA. Because of AISA's activist origins, we must ensure that our legacy of student involvement and activism continues. AISA is an inclusive association, open to all UCLA students. Since American Indian students make up less than one percent of the entire student body, we have established strong relationships with all

students in their efforts to receive an education at UCLA. Our community is a place where students come together to work collectively and promote education and interest in their culture. We work as a community to dispel any misconceptions regarding the art, language, and history of American Indian people. Each person represents her or his respective nation and is encouraged to express and share that culture. Within this small community, you are someone, and we are here to listen.

We also encourage students who have lost a part of their culture to come and learn about the community, to gain pride in their heritage. It is the diverse backgrounds that strengthen our group as each student brings a talent or perspective that benefits the entire American Indian community. We invite you to join us. Natives may make up one of the smallest populations but we are one of the strongest communities.

American Indian Graduate Students Association: AIGSA in 2007 and Beyond

by Theresa Rocha

Hello and well wishes to Native undergraduate and graduate students! As the American Indian Graduate Student's Association (AIGSA) chair and fellow MA

student here in American Indian Studies, I sincerely welcome everyone to another exciting year of rigorous life at UCLA. AIGSA will be hosting, fundraising, and planning a wide variety of events this upcoming 2007–2008 academic year, and we are looking for your suggestions and assistance. Please send us an email at aigsa@ucla.edu should you be interested in participating.

As a vibrant core of MA students, we are extremely proud of our efforts to reorganize AIGSA collectively during the last academic year and to participate in such important events as the annual UCLA powwow and the American Indian Studies graduation ceremony. With a renewed organizational structure and clear goals for academic success and community involvement, this is an exciting time to get active in graduate student associations, so be on the lookout for us during biweekly meetings in the AIGSA lounge in Campbell Hall.



2006–07 AISA officers: Katya Adachi, Sara Ajifu, Amber Crotty, Michelle Faraji, Virginia Myers

MA Program in American Indian Studies: 2007–08 Admissions

With eleven new students (including seven American Indians) entering this fall 2007, the master of arts degree program will welcome one of its largest entering classes since the fall of 1998. Included in the new student cohort will be one student who has been admitted into the MA-JD joint degree program in American Indian Studies and Law.

Alastair Bitsoi (Navajo) Michael Cavanaugh Amber Crotty (Navajo)

Matthew de Lira

Alison Grigonis (Potawatomi)

Luis Giraldo

Jesse Johnson (Cheyenne River Sioux)

Tahesha Knapp-Christensen (Omaha)

Andrew Lara (Juaneño Band of Mission Indians)

Alisa Lee (Paiute)

Caroline Mayhew (MA-JD joint degree)

Gonzaga

University of Wisconsin

UCLA UCLA

UC Santa Barbara

Pacific Oaks College Evergreen State College

CSU Long Beach

USC

Brigham Young University Simon's Rock College Political Science/Criminal Justice

American Indian Studies

History

American Indian Studies

Political Science

Human Development

American Indian Studies
Anthropology/American Indian Studies

Nursing

Psychology-Native American Studies, Law

Latin American Studies/Native American Studies

2007 UCLA AMERICAN

UCLA American Indian Graduation: Acknowledging the Dreams of Yesterday

HONORING: THE CLASS OF 2007 & MASTER OF ARTS CANDIDATES IN AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES

Bachelor of Arts or Science Degree

- S KATYA A. ADACHI (WINNEBAGO HO-CHUNK)

 Molecular, Cell, Developmental Biology with Public

 Health Minor
- SARA ALANA AJIFU
 American Indian Studies and Anthropology
- ♦ Amber Kanazbah Crotty (Diné) History
- © CHRIS DURO (SERRANO SAN MANUEL BAND OF MISSION INDIANS)
 American Indian Studies
- ֍ MICHELLE SONAZ FARAJI (CHEROKEE) History
- TY MARY GOODPASTER (APIA, SAMOA, SISIFO)
 Asian American Studies
- ֍ Matthew de Lira American Indian Studies
- ♦ VIRGINIA QUEEN MYERS (YUROK AND KARUK) American Indian Studies and Sociology
- S Brenda Robles
 Chicana/o Studies and Sociology
- THERESA JEAN STEWART (LUISEÑO/TOHONO O'ODHAM)
 American Indian Studies
- ♦ VAILALA FELICIA SALAZAR (SAMOAN/MEXICAN) World Arts and Culture and English Minor
- S KATIE HOPE STUNK (SANTA YSABEL BAND OF DIEGUEÑO INDIANS) History
- S JOYCE LINDSAY PUALANI WARREN (APIA, NATIVE HAWAIIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER)
 American Literature and Cultures

Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics

⑤ JON MICHAEL HANDY (EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE)
"Corona and Interpolation Problems on the Complements
of the Square Cantor Sets"

Master of Arts Degree in American Indian Studies

- ☼ EDUARDO JAVIER AGUILAR "Cultural Sovereignty vs. Territorial Sovereignty: Mexico and the US"
- S KATI DIAS (COMANCHE)
 "The Tribal Learning Community and Educational Exchange: A Model for Education and Empowerment in Native Communities"
- ⑤ JENNIFER RUTH LEAL (WASHOE/MONO LAKE PAIUTE) "Tribal TANF and County Child Welfare Services: A Study in Government to Government Negotiation"
- S ERIC ANTONIO SANCHEZ (NAVAJO AND CHICANO) "Evolution of Sb18: The Traditional Tribal Culture Resources Bill, A Tribal Strategy for Protecting Sacred Sites in California"

"A Case Study: Eliminating Indian-subordinate Images from California's Public Schools"



2006-07 AISA officers: Katya Adachi, Sara Ajifu, Amber Crotty, Michelle Faraji, Virginia Myers

INDIAN GRADUATION CEREMONY

for the Opportunities of Tomorrow







Eduardo Aguilar, Kati Dias, and Jennifer Leal



Nora Pulskamp, AIR Director, and Jojo Leon, RAIN Director



Blanket rack



Green River Drum Group

SCHOLARSHIPS

Arianna and Hannah Yellowthunder Scholarship/Fellowship Awards

A amed after the relatives of one of the major donors, the Yellowthunder Scholarship Fund was established in the mid-1980s, and now has more than \$230,000 in endowed assets. During the past thirty years, 58 UCLA students—graduate and undergraduate—have benefited from the scholarships. Students are selected on the basis of their academic preparation, emphasizing the history and culture of the American Indian, and must be planning to enter a career related to American Indian tribal communities and institutions. Awardees must also demonstrate an exemplary record of involvement with the American Indian community, both on and off campus, as well as leadership skills and financial need.

2007-2008 Awardees

ANGELO SANDOVAL: \$2,000

Angelo Sandoval will be a senior in political science with minors in philosophy and American Indian Studies. Angelo served as outreach coordinator for the American Indian Student Association, mentee for Retention of American Indians Now, supervisor/coordinator for American Indian Recruitment, vice-chair of the Student Initiated Access Committee, and general member of Samahang Pilipino. He has also served as an intern for the Community Programs Office. This spring, he has been elected to serve as president of AISA for the 2007–08 academic year. Angelo is exploring different joint-degree programs, such as the MA in American Indian Studies and JD in law at UCLA, and the public policy and law (MPP/JD) at Berkeley, working on issues that are relevant to American Indian communities. "I need to understand the systems that control the world around me . . . I need to develop my ability to challenge things . . .

I have to have an understanding of where I fit in this world ... I will work on issues that are directly relevant to the American Indian community."

KARI MANS: \$3,000

Kari Mans will be a second-year MA student in American Indian Studies. Kari graduated cum laude in history, American Studies, and American Indian Studies from California State University, Long Beach. She served as secretary for the American Indian Graduate Students Association, as volunteer with the Acjachemen Nation, and worked for Wendy Teeter, curator of archaeology with the UCLA Fowler Museum, on compliance for the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Kari was awarded a Graduate Opportunity Fellowship and is a member of the Golden Key Honour Society. Her career goals include helping both federally and non-federally recognized tribes regain their cultural resources and develop cultural resource programs to fit the needs of those tribes. "Education is essential to navigate the federal and state laws regarding cultural resources; and to learn the operations of museums and other institutions that withhold cultural resources from Native tribes is imperative to negotiate and demand for the return of such items."

JESSICA O'NEILL: \$3,000

A-YU-KWI, NEQ-NA is from the Yurok Reservation in northern California. She completed her BA in Native American Studies at Humboldt State University, and will be a second-year MA student in American Indian Studies. Jessica served as co-chair for the American Indian Graduate Students Association. She began her volunteer service early with the Johnson-O'Malley Program of the Trinidad Rancheria, and this past year with the American Indian Student Association, Supporting Undergraduate Natives, American Indian Recruitment, and Retention of American Indians Now. For an MA thesis project, Jessica proposes to compile a demographic

study with historical information tracing the cultural heritage, history, and contemporary expressions of the Yurok people and their reservation. After graduation, she intends to go on to a Ph.D. program and devote

her future to advancing the understanding of the Yurok culture, traditions, and people. "I intend to return to assist in increasing my tribe's capacity to educate tribal members and the public on the importance of preserving their cultural past for future generations."

FACULTY

Faculty Projects

CLA's faculty members are noted for pathbreaking scholarship and pacesetting research; their work has distinguished UCLA's American Indian Studies program as a vital resource for scholars and for the greater American Indian community. Participating faculty in the program come from several academic schools and departments: Anthropology, Art History, Chicana/o Studies, Dentistry, Education, Literature, Ethnomusicology, History, Law, Linguistics, Nursing, Public Health, Sociology, Theater Arts, and World Arts and Cultures. Following are brief descriptions of some of the many projects in which our instructors are currently engaged.

Maylei Blackwell is an activist scholar and an assistant professor in the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies. Her current research and teaching examines how racial and sexual differences shape the challenges and possibilities of transnational organizing in the Americas. She has worked with the indigenous women's movement in Mexico for more than a decade and also has begun a new project with indigenous migrant organizers. Her recent publications include "Weaving in the Spaces: Transnational Indigenous Women's Organizing and the Politics of Scale," a chapter in Dissident Women: Gender and Cultural Politics in Chiapas (UT Press 2006), and "(Re) Ordenando el discurso de la nación: El Movimiento de Mujeres Indígenas en México y la Práctica de la Autonomía," Mujeres y nacionalismo: De la independencia a la nación del nuevo milenio (UNAM 2004).

Tara Browner is completing an essay collection on Native music entitled Music of the First Nations: Tradition and Innovation in Native North America, which will be published by the University of Illinois Press. She is also working on a project called Songs from a New Circle of Voices, which is coming out as a volume in the Music in American Life Series (MUSA), and the American Musicological Society. It is made up of transcriptions—in Western notation—of songs sung by Cedartree and



What's an Indian Woman to Do?, HOOP Theatricals performance June 2007

Native Thunder from the 2001 UCLA powwow. Professor Browner plans a trip to Germany in February to attend a German powwow and talk with and record the (German) singers, in order to begin creating a comparative framework between the authentic (Indian) and the imitation (German and other European) styles of singing.

Duane Champagne and Carole Goldberg are co-principal investigators on a \$1.5 million grant from the National Institute of Justice (research arm of the US Department of Justice) to conduct a nation-wide study of the administration of criminal justice in Indian country. The study includes qualitative and quantitative surveys as well as site gathering at 62 different research sites. The sites have been chosen based on series of models of the

organization/control of criminal justice on reservations. In particular, the models take into account whether state, federal, or tribal governments control policing, criminal courts, and detention on any given reservation. They will be analyzing all of the surveys as well as compiling case studies based on published sources, with the ultimate aim of proposing improvements in Indian country criminal justice. They will be examining everything from jurisdictional changes to funding issues and alternatives to incarceration.

Jaye Darby works with Director Hanay Geiogamah, as co-director of Project HOOP (Honoring Our Origins and People through Native Theater, Education, and Community Development) to expand Project HOOP to Native communities throughout the US. Currently, she is working to develop a meta-analysis of promising directions that support Native student success and degree attainment in mainstream postsecondary institutions.

Hanay Geiogamah has established HOOP Theatricals, a new division of Project HOOP, the national American Indian theater and performing arts development initiative affiliated with the UCLA American Indian Studies Center. HOOP Theatricals was launched in late June 2007 with its first live stage production of What's an Indian Woman to Do? by Ojibwe playwright Mark Anthony Rolo. The one-person contemporary comedy-drama was performed for three weeks at the new Los Angeles Theatre Center in downtown Los Angeles and received several favorable reviews. Cherokee actress DeLanna Studi performed the role of Belle and will be touring with the production in Indian country in October and November. Sophia Kercher of the LA Weekly called it a "stunning portrayal of the divisions between cultural ties and modernity" and praised Kenneth Martines' "quick, crisp direction" and Studi's "sparkling" performance.

Carole Goldberg is completing a book, to be published by Yale University Press, about the Tule River Indian tribe of

FACULTY

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central California. Coauthored with anthropologist Gelya Frank, the book is entitled Defying the Odds: One California Tribe's Struggle for Sovereignty in Three Centuries. Using a variety of disciplinary approaches, the book examines how the Tule River Indians managed to maintain their legal and cultural autonomy despite persistent efforts by federal and state governments to dominate them. Among the featured topics are the nineteenth-century case of United States v. Whaley, the Indian Reorganization Act as experienced at Tule River, efforts to reclaim tribal land, and contemporary conflicts with federal and state authorities over tribal gaming. The book ends with a dialogue between law and anthropology over methods and findings.

Felicia Hodge is the director of the Center for American Indian/Indigenous Research & Education (CAIIRE). She holds a joint appointment as professor in the School of Nursing and School of Public Health. Her research focuses on chronic health conditions and health beliefs and behaviors among American Indians and Alaska Natives. Current projects include the following: (1) cancer symptom barriers (pain, fatigue, function, and depression) among Southwest American Indians, a five-year, \$2.5 million grant from the National Cancer Institute; (2) diabetes fatalism among the Plains tribes, Centers of Disease Control support to publish from an NIH-funded four-year grant testing diabetes intervention; and (3) smoking

cessation, wellness beliefs/behaviors among California Indians.

Paul Kroskrity is co-editing a book project entitled Revealing Native American Language Ideologies: Beliefs, Feelings, Practices, Policies that brings together the works of more than a dozen scholars working with several languages. The focus is on how beliefs and feelings about languagesome cultural, others emerging from colonial and hegemonic relations—influence various communities in their attempts to maintain and revitalize their indigenous heritage languages. The book is scheduled for publication by the University of Arizona Press in fall, 2008. Another project is a collection of papers on how Native American communities are using storytelling and traditional narratives as a means of maintaining and revitalizing their languages. The tentative title is Telling Stories in the Face of Danger. A third project is in the process of obtaining the necessary community approvals to produce linguistic materials that the Arizona Tewa can use in their goal of language renewal and revitalization.

Pamela Munro's current projects involve producing language lessons and other non-technical grammatical material. (Linguists who study American Indian languages often write only for other linguists, which means that ordinary people might have trouble understanding!) The Chickasaw teaching grammar she has been working on for years with native speaker Mrs. Catherine Willmond is sched-

uled to be published next year. Professor Munro is continuing work on a first-year college textbook for Tlacolula Valley Zapotec, an endangered Otomanguean language of Oaxaca, Mexico. A group of UCLA graduate students worked with her in the spring on the first draft of a teaching grammar of Pima, an endangered Uto-Aztecan language spoken in Arizona. She is also working with members of the Gabrielino/Tongva tribe on developing lessons and a dictionary of Gabrielino/Tongva/Fernandeño, the Uto-Atecan language which was formerly spoken in the Los Angeles basin.

Anthony Seeger, professor in the Department of Ethnomusicology, continues his long-term (35-year) research and community projects with the Suyá, a Gê-speaking indigenous society in Mato Grosso, Brazil. In his recent visit, in May 2007, he worked with them on a collaborative DVD publication project and discussed their steps toward greater political and economic autonomy in the face of large-scale soybean cultivation and growing agricultural settlements near their territory, and agreed to assist with fundraising for some of their projects.

Wendy G. Teeter is co-directing a long-term research project with Desiree Martinez (Gabrieleno/Tongva) on Catalina Island to investigate cultural resources trade and acquisition with the mainland, cultural interactions, and heritage management issues.



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