

Co-Editor's Message

By Patrick “De?ileligi” Burt (Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, Tule River Tribe)

Huŋa ʔumhamuheši? Miw. It has been an honor and a pleasure to have served you as Co-Editor of the *Native Bruin* for the 2017–2018 academic year. I would like to begin with commending the current Native Bruins for their hard work and unexhausted efforts in accomplishing their academic endeavors. For many Native students, being separated from our communities to attend higher education institutions for extended lengths of time can be arduous. Many of us require complex support systems and resources that come in a variety of forms. For the Native community at the University of California, Los Angeles, we have mobilized around common goals and objectives that provide the necessities appropriate for advancing in the academy. Thus, I would like to express my gratitude to the American Indian Student Association, the American Indian Graduate Student Association, the American Indian Studies Center, and the American Indian Studies Interdepartmental Program for accommodating the needs of Native students in our pursuit of a higher education. I end with well wishes for the graduating, current, and forthcoming Native Bruins! *ʔUmwaʔanʔawi.* 🍀

Co-Editor's Message

By LittleDove RunningBear (Maidu, Miwok, & Nisenan)

I am honored to have been an Editor for the *Native Bruin* newsletter during both of my two years at UCLA. Reflecting back on everything that we have been able to accomplish over the 2017–2018 school year truly amazes me. I want to thank all the members of AISA and our project staff for continually working hard to make our events a success.

On behalf of the American Indian Student Association, both myself and Co-President Daniel Streamer (Cahuilla) would like to thank the American Indian Studies Center (AISC) and Interdepartmental Program (IDP), with special thanks to IDP Chair Mishuana Goeman, AISC Director Shannon Speed, as well as the American Indian Alumni Association (AIA), especially Co-Presidents Elizabeth Fasthorse and Heather Torres. We would also like to thank the Community Programs Office Director Antonio Sandoval, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Michael Deluca, as well as our Student Organizations, Leadership & Engagement (SOLE) advisor Kristopher Kaupalolo. AISA is incredibly grateful for all the help, support, and resources received by these leaders, mentors, and gracious sponsors. We could not have accomplished all that we have this year without your amazing support of Native students on this campus. *Mi' we :lu:ʔakmu.* 🍀

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Black Indigenous

By Kelly Wairimu Davis (Muskogee Creek)

My name is Kelly Wairimu Davis. I am a Black woman of Creek Seminole heritage.

I am a member of the Muskogee Creek Nation.

My father was from Muskogee, Oklahoma and my mother is from Kenya.

While I love celebrating both of my heritages,

There is something delicate about being Black and Indigenous.

To identify as “part Native” often feels as though I am distinguishing myself from my Black peers, and somehow betraying my Blackness, which could never be.

Africa has such a rich culture, with beauty that is often diminished by the mainstream media. African culture needs to be celebrated.

But I also can’t disregard my Creek-Seminole grandmother, who was so proud of her culture.

I am a member of the American Indian Student Association to learn more about my Native culture.

I joined to honor my father and my grandmother.

Neglecting to study and learn about my Native heritage would be doing a disservice to myself.

I often wonder whether there are more Black Indigenous people in my university, and if so, why there is a lack of involvement in American Indian student organizations, but such a high involvement in the Black student organizations.

Going to predominantly White schools as a child, I understand what it is like to not want to feel like an outsider or “different” because that comes with the fear of being rejected or ostracized.

But the best way to straddle the cultural line is to be open to exploring both cultures.

We can be Black and still learn about our Native parents and grandparents.

We shouldn’t let public opinion or insecurities stop us from being proud multiethnic men and women, whose Native and African cultures individually and collectively have their own splendor and beauty. 🌸



Graduating Students at UCLA

Undergraduate

Tina Marie Charley
Diné Nation

Gabby Cirelli
Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake

Teena LeBeau
Oglala & Miniconjou Lakota

Della Mendivil
Tohono O’odham

LittleDove Faith Rey (Runningbear)
Maidu, Miwok, & Nisenan United Auburn Indian Community

Michaela Polocca
Hopi

Minda Streamer
Cahuilla (Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians)

Dannielle Zephier
Lakota

Graduate

MA AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES

Marcus A. Bear Eagle
Oglala Lakota

Šiná R. Bear Eagle
Oglala Lakota

Patrick “De?ileligi” Burt
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, Tule River Tribe

Elizabeth FastHorse
Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians

Shalene Niltinna Joseph
A’aniih & Athabascan

Shannon Rivers
Akimel O’otham

David Streamer
Cahuilla (Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians)

Aaron Taylor M. Wilson
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Community

AISA at AISA: Traveling to Arizona for Research

By LittleDove RunningBear (Maidu, Miwok, & Nisenan)

The American Indian Student Association at UCLA traveled to Tempe, Arizona to attend the 19th Annual American Indian Studies Association research conference. Two undergraduate students, Donald Salcedo (Quechan) and myself, presented original research. Several members of the American Indian Graduate Student Association also presented their work at the conference.

The AISA conference took place February 1–2, 2018 at Arizona State University. The conference theme this year was “Unsettling American History: American Indian Studies in the Time of the Trump Administration, White Supremacy, and Settler Nationalism.” At the conference, students attended workshops and presentations from American Indian Studies scholars who traveled from all over the country to attend. Notably, AISA attended an intimate student luncheon with Dr. Elizabeth Cook-Lynn (Crow Creek Sioux), where they were given the opportunity to ask her questions.

Our UCLA Native student presentations were well-received at this year’s conference. Donald Salcedo presented research on using basket weaving to heal through therapy, while I presented work along with graduate students Patrick Burt (Washoe Tribe of NV and CA) and Cesar Barreras (Pascua Yaqui Tribe) on decolonizing research methodologies. Overall, I believe that attending this conference was an amazing opportunity for AISA. I hope that in future years more undergraduate students get involved in academic research and begin presenting at conferences like this.

I would like to thank the American Indian Studies Center and the Community Programs Office, especially AISC Director Shannon Speed and CPO Director Antonio Sandoval, as well as Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Michael Deluca for helping AISA to attend this conference. It was an incredible experience for our undergraduate students to learn more about research in the field of American Indian Studies. 🐾



Native American Heritage Week at UCLA

Patrick “De?ileligi” Burt

The American Indian Student Association (AISA) at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) hosted the annual Native American Heritage Week during the week of November 13–17, 2017. Events included two film screenings, a workshop to refute toxic masculinity, a cultural demonstration by the Cahuilla Bird Singers, and the Native Fashion Show and Culture Night.

The week began with a screening of *The Smudging*. Many students enjoyed a night of Native horror and pizza, followed by a question-and-answer session with Director Mike J. Marin, who is Navajo, Laguna Pueblo, and Washoe.

On November 14, UCLA’s very own Professor Kyle T. Mays led a seminar titled “I Apologize: Indigenous Men and Ending Toxic Masculinity.” Many students attended and benefited from the open discussion about the prevalence of toxic masculinity within Native communities and also engaged in discussions about how to refuse and refute its ongoing effects.

The next night, November 15, UCLA had the honor of hosting John Contreras’s Bird Singers. AISA Co-President Daniel Streamer (Cahuilla) joined the group in this expression of culture and heritage of Cahuilla and Chemehuevi, of which the group was made up.

The next event on the 16th was the Native Fashion Show and Culture Night. Master of Ceremonies Donald Salcedo (Quechan) facilitated the line of models that included students from UCLA as well as community members. The models represented traditional clothing and regalia as well as many contemporary examples of Native fashion. The audience enjoyed demonstrations of both traditional and contemporary dance from the Pacific Islands and a powwow dance demonstration of men’s and women’s northern and southern styles.

To conclude events, Director Gabrielle Norte, enrolled member of the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Capeño Indians, joined the community for the screening of her short film, *The Wounded Healer*, followed by a question-and-answer session.

Native American Heritage Week was a success in engaging and informing students, faculty, and staff about Native American culture. Native Heritage Week Director LittleDove RunningBear stated, “I’m extremely impressed with how well Native Heritage Week turned out this year. I hope in future years we can continue to expand and diversify how we celebrate Native cultures at UCLA; these should be events that all students attend and enjoy.”

Thank you to Native American Heritage Week Director, LittleDove RunningBear and everyone who helped make this week a success! 🐾



19TH ANNUAL YOUTH CONFERENCE AND BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AT UCLA

By Gillian Moore (Cherokee)

March 23–25, 2017 marked the 19th consecutive Youth Conference and Basketball Tournament hosted by UCLA’s American Indian Student Association. Middle and high school students from tribes across the United States took part in this event at UCLA. Students, along with their coaches and families, attended to participate in the athletic tournament as well as gain new knowledge from various skill-building workshops.

Basketball. The tournament commenced on Friday in the John Wooden and Student Activities Center. Men and women from various tribes had the opportunity to play on this historic court and worked diligently to play to the fullest of their abilities. All participants involved displayed tremendous athleticism and sportsmanship skills throughout the tournament. The second day of basketball games began Sunday morning and concluded that night after heated championship matches took place in UCLA’s Pauley Pavilion, determining which teams would be the champions of the 19th annual tournament.

Workshops. Academic, wellness, and cultural workshops took place at the Youth Conference on Saturday between the days of the basketball tournament. The day included a special performance for the students by Emceeeone, followed by workshops covering topics including application insights for higher education,

traditional games, and wellness rethinking exercises. Student panels were also presented during the day to give the youth a chance to have their questions answered and learn more about student life before, during, and after college. Panelists also addressed the importance of higher education for American Indian communities.

The youth conference coordinator Daniel Streamer (Cahuilla) commented, “This year over 300 American Indian youth came to our event. For some it was the first time being in California, or Los Angeles, or on a university campus. That’s why the American Indian Student Association continues this event every year because it is our way to service our communities and give many an opportunity that they have never had. We are able to obtain a space on campus, provide our guests with meals, and share our stories and knowledge. College is often seen as unattainable but we hope to help others see that higher education is empowering for our communities.”

Results.

Young Women

Mudducks	3rd place
Nevada Wolfpack	2nd Place
Sierra Unified	Champions

Young Men

Colorado River	3rd Place
Red Storm	2nd Place
Nevada Wolfpack	Champions

Amazing work, teams!

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers, the American Indian Student Association, and everyone who contributed to making this event such a success. 🐾



33RD ANNUAL POW WOW AT UCLA

May 5–6, 2018

Location: UCLA North Athletic Field

Free and Open to the Public

Head Staff:

Master of Ceremonies: Tom Phillips (Kiowa)
 Arena Director: Victor Chavez (Diné)
 Host Northern Drum: Sharpshooter (US/CAN)
 Host Southern Drum: Sooner Nation (So. Cal)
 Head Man Dancer: Randall Paskemin (Plains Cree)
 Head Woman Dancer: Leah McGurk (Diné)
 Head Judge: Lambert Yazzie (Diné)
 Host Gourd/Color Guard: Golden State Gourd Society (So. Cal)
 Ms. UCLA Pow Wow 2017–2018: Monica Jacome (Kumeyaay)

Gourd Dancing: 11AM

Grand Entry: 1pm

2018 Powwow Committee:

Coordinator: Tekpatl Kuauhtzin
 Coordinator: Shalene Joseph

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GUEST EDITORS

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