MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR!

On August 3, 1990, President George H.W. Bush declared November as Native American Heritage Month. Now in its 24th year of celebration, Native American Heritage Month is a time for American Indian people to bring more public awareness and attention to their unique histories, cultures, languages, and resources. This month should be celebrated as a time to correct and remind the general public about the historical and contemporary realities that American Indians live everyday. To assist in this education and awareness the CICSC developed a month-long line up of activities to engage our campus and region in events that focus on our local tribal communities. The students and staff at the CICSC have worked hard to develop these events and we invite you to join us for all of them.

Be sure to click on our link to the San Diego American Film Festival taking place November 20-22, 2014 on the campus of CSUSM and at the Pechanga Resort and Casino. This is our second annual film festival and we are excited to host it again. The SDAIF Festival brings three days of exclusive screenings, panel discussions and opportunities for Q&A with film-industry professionals, including some of the best American Indian filmmakers, producers, directors and actors working in Indian Country to San Diego. This year’s notable guests include LaDonna Harris (Comanche) who will join us after the showing of her documentary, Indian 101; the director of Rhymes for Young Ghouls, Jeff Barnaby (Mi’kmaq) will be on campus on November 20, 2014; and burgeoning actress Shay Eyre (Cheyenne/Arapaho) who costars in our feature film Empire of Dirt will participate in a question and
answer session following our feature film on Saturday evening, along with her father, filmmaker/director Chris Eyre (Cheyenne/Arapaho) known for such films as Smoke Signals.

On November 22, 2014 we will also screen a special presentation of Once We Had a River, which is the documentary about the San Luis Rey Water settlement for tribes in Southern California. Opportunities for youth viewings will include a "Saturday Shorts" program facilitated by artist, filmmaker, and humanitarian Steven Paul Judd (Kiowa/Choctaw). Students can attend the festival free but need to reserve tickets in advance and pick them up at the CICSC.

I look forward to seeing you this month at one of our events.

Joely Proudfit, Ph.D. (Luiseño)
Director, CICSC

Events and Conferences
Clasping Hands Across Culture for Unity & Strength

Tuesday, October 7th, 2014

CSUSM kicked off Diversity Awareness month with a presentation on cultural appropriations by Dr. Suzan Shown Harjo (Cheyenne and Hodulgee Muscogee). Dr. Harjo is poet, writer, lecturer and advocate for Native American rights and policies. Dr. Harjo has been working for over 20 years in ridding sports of offensive and stereotypical mascots, to include the current affairs with the Washington football team over its derogatory name.

The event entitled "Clasping Hands Across Cultures for Unity and Strength" brought awareness and education to the students and community of San Marcos. Many were urged and encouraged to stand up for what is appropriate and respect one another by welcoming diversity and ending stereotypes and profiling. After the event Dr. Harjo met with students and guests for photo opportunities with many clapping hands for unity and strength. Photos Link

Marjon J. Pino (Navajo)
CICSC Student Assistant
California Indian Conference 2014

October 9th-11th, 2014

Conference organizers recognized that the California Indian Conference 2014 was held on lands inherited from the ancestors of the Yuhaviatam (Serrano) and Cahuilla people. The conference recognized that California's Indigenous People's continued existence, culturally and socio-politically, is found in survivance, resistance and revitalization.

Dr. Joely Proudfit, Dr. Theresa Gregor, and Ms. Tishmall Turner presented a workshop titled, "Responding to the Higher Education Crisis for Indians in California," which shared the Status of American Indian Education and Alaskan Native Education in California and promising practices in building a culture of education for tribal communities. Dr. Proudfit, Dr. Gregor, and Dr. Anthony Madrigal also presented an informational session about the new Environmental and Cultural Resources Certificate offered through the CICSC; and Dr. Joely Proudfit presented information about her ten-volume series on American Indian Education as well.

Theresa Gregor (Kumeyaay)
CICSC Research Assistant

NIEA 2014 Convention & Tradeshow

October 15th-18th, 2014

Tishmall Turner, Tribal Liaison, and Dr. Joely Proudfit, CICSC Director, attended the 45th Annual National Indian Education Association (NIEA) Convention and Tradeshow "Building Education through Generations," in Anchorage October 14-18.

This premiere event provided an opportunity for professional development and networking with educational leadership from across Indian Country and our own region. They also attended the White House Initiative on Indian Education Listening Session, Culture night activities, the Tribal Education Department National Assembly meeting, and the White House Advisory Council on Indian Education Listening Session. Photos Link

Tishmall Turner (Luiseño)
CSUSM Tribal Liaison

College Nights at San Pasqual and Pechanga
Office of Tribal Liaison and University of California American Indian Counselors and Recruiters Association (UCAICRA) collaborated with the San Pasqual Tribal Education Department and Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians Recreation and TANF Programs to host "College Night" at each of the reservations. Each of the "College Night" events provided outreach and short presentations on community colleges, the California State University and University of California systems.

Students and Parents had the opportunity to learn about college readiness, applications, financial aid, and retention of American Indian students in higher education. Calvin One Deer joined the San Pasqual College Night to talk about Palomar College and Lynda Estrella from Walking Shield joined both evenings to provide information on financial aid. The feedback from the events was very positive and parents requested to have more ongoing support through the application and financial aid filing periods.

Tishmall Truner (Luiseño)
CSUSM Tribal Liaison

Student News

International Women's Hackathon

Saturday, October 11th, 2014

The International Women's Hackathon, was a great event! It took place at CSU San Marcos, October 11th. This event focuses on encouraging women, from all age groups, to join the technological field, and see that you do not need a degree in computer science to know about technology.

There were about 70 students divided into 3-5 people groups. Everyone had the option of doing one of two themes: climate change or natural disaster. My team picked climate change. Everyone had the option to create either a website, a computer game, or iOS/Android app. My team, PC Gang Too Strong, won the grand prize and we have two months to work on the project we made and present it to Microsoft.

What is the project you ask? My team decided to create a computer game
for young children. The game is called Ice Hoppers and has two characters, a penguin and polar bear. The goal of the game is collect trash that is falling from the sky. We created the game using free online software called Scratch. I am majoring in arts and technology with a minor in visual arts, one of my teammates is also a art major, and the other is a computer science major. Although we do not have a background in coding, we were able to win. They will have another International Women's Hackathon in the Spring of 2015. I plan to attend and hope to see you there!

Raffdazzel "Raffie" John (Oneida)
CICSC Student Assistant

Students March for Sexual Assault Advocate

Wednesday, October 29th, 2014

CSUSM students joined Feminists Anonymous by putting together a march on Wednesday, October 29th, to voice their concerns over the growing number of sexual assaults. The students want a sexual assault advocate, someone to be a voice for the victims.

Students of CSUSM walked the entire campus carrying a list of demands and a mattress, which symbolizes the weight that victims of sexual assault carry around with them. As the group of students entered President Haynes Office, they were disappointed to see that the office was empty. They left the list of demands at the front entrance for President Haynes to see as she walks into her office the next day. Hopefully, the President will hire an assault advocate soon, but if not, the students had made it very clear that they will return with another march if nothing is done.

Ernestina Martinez (Navajo)
CICSC Student Assistant