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CICSC Newsletter

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Issue No. 8/April 2015

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR!

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 22-23, 2015
PL 280 2-DAY COURSE

CSUSM’s Spring Break in April provided a short breather as we prepared to host the 2015 Golf Tournament to benefit the CICSC at Pechanga. We look forward to reporting in the May newsletter about the success of the event. This month will include me traveling to Lincoln, NE to work with colleagues on Native filmmaking opportunities and then a short stop in Denver, CO as an invited participant to the American Indian Higher Education Data Sharing Meeting hosted by the Lumina Foundation, The National Indian Education Association, and the American Indian Graduate Center. We are also excited to offer our first two-day course titled Understanding Jurisdiction on Tribal Lands: A User-Friendly PL 280 scheduled from April 22-23 at Rincon Tribal Hall.

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

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Student Highlight

Shakyla Curo

Shakyla Curo, a member of the Barona Band of Mission Indians, is currently a student at CSU San Marcos majoring in Psychology. Shakyla is serves as a council member in the American Indian Student Alliance at CSUSM. Shakyla believes the purpose of an education is to expand your knowledge of the world. She sees education as a stepping-stone to being able to build a holistic and integral understanding of society and to find a place in that system. Shakyla's goal is to travel, meet new people and do new things. After traveling, she would like to use her degree to become a counselor for children and adolescents. Her advice to students is "Hold fast to your culture, but learn to embrace others' as well. Expand your horizons and bring that knowledge back to your tribe."

Megan Doughty
CICSC Creative Director

Events

Georgina Lightning - Guest Speaker

Monday, March 9th, 2015
Georgina Lightning (Cree from Hobbema, Alberta, Canada) is an advocate for human, civil and environmental rights, as well as a successful actor and director who has starred in such films and television shows to include The West Wing, Cowboy Up, Walker Texas Ranger and Pocahontas II: Journey to a New World. Georgina has won multiple awards to include "Best Director and Best Supporting Actor" for her film Older Than America, which included other well-known American Indian actors such as Adam Beach, Wes Studi and Tantoo Cardinal. On March 9th, 2015, Georgina joined Dr. Proudfit's "Imagining Indians: American Indians, Media, Film and Society" class through video communication to engage with the students by providing them with stories about her firsthand experience about what it's like being an American Indian director and actor in Hollywood.

Marjon Pino (Navajo)  
CICSC Student Assistant

Tukwut Talks: Dr. Joely Proudfit

Tuesday, March 10th, 2015

CSU San Marcos Cross-Cultural Center invited Dr. Joely Proudfit, Associate Professor of Sociology and Native Studies to share in her experience. From Rez to Research: A Native Woman's Journey Through Academia was the topic of her talk. This event was a
part of TUKWUT TALKS: A Series of Conversations with Faculty.

**NM State Capital Visit**

*Friday, March 13th, 2015*

Tishmall Turner, Tribal Liaison, and Dr. Joely Proudfit, CICSC Director, were introduced on the New Mexico House of Representatives floor during the session held on Friday, March 13, 2015. They were introduced by long time friend Rep. D. Wonda Johnson (Navajo). They were acknowledged for their work in Education and San Diego American Indian Film Festival collaboration with colleagues in the Santa Fe and Albuquerque areas. Representative Johnson is serving her first term for District 5 and is one of three American Indians elected to the House. Johnson earned her B.A. from Marymount University in 2009. Her professional experience includes being the owner of Wonda Johnson Consulting since 2013, as an executive staff assistant for the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President from 2011 to 2013, as a convention & events director for the National Indian Education Assn. (NIEA) from 2004 to 2011 and as an intergovernmental liaison and consultant for special projects for the Arizona State Governor's Office from 1992 to 2003. We are very proud to have the support from a colleague and friend.

_Tishmall Turner (Luiseño)_

_CSUSM Tribal Liaison_

**The Native American Literature Symposium 2015**
Friday, March 13th, 2015

Dr. Theresa Gregor, Dr. Joely Proudfit, and Dr. Linda Sue Warner presented at the Native American Literature Symposium at the Isleta Pueblo in New Mexico, March 12-15, 2015. Dr. Gregor shared her research and analysis about the "Literary Repatriation of the The Autobiography of Delfina Cuero" while Drs. Proudfit and Warner gave a presentation about American Indian representation and absence in movies called, "The Sound of Silence." Both papers were met with favor and enthusiasm by conference goers. The keynote speaker at the event was writer and scholar Stephen Graham Jones (Blackfeet) author of Demon Theory, The Gospel of Z, and All the Beautiful Sinners among other works. Jones's work is an experimental fiction writer who defies the stereotypical categories that many American Indian writers find themselves pigeonholed in. He writes horror fiction, crime fiction, science fiction, and yes, zombie fiction. Check him out!

Theresa Gregor, PhD (Iipay)
CICSC Research Associate

CA Conference on American Indian Education

March 15th-17th, 2015
Dr. Joely Proudfit and Nicole Myers-Lim (Pomo), Executive Director of California Indian Museum and Cultural Center presented at the 38th Annual California Conference on American Indian Education in Palm Springs, CA. They gave a presentation on a new book on California Indian Education titled *On Indian Ground: A Return to Indigenous Knowledge: Generating Hope, Leadership, and Sovereignty through Education in California*. The workshop provided a preview of the upcoming 10-volume book project. The first book in this series is devoted to California Indian Education. The series is dedicated to highlighting recent developments, research, and practice of AIAN education. It seeks to illustrate recent methods, procedures, and applications designed for educators who work with AIAN students and seeks to highlight tribal specific interventions by sharing promising practices.

*Raffdazzel "Raffie" John (Oneida)*  
*CICSC Student Assistant*

**Women of Color in Leadership Panel**

*Thursday, March 19th, 2015*

On March 19th, 2015, CSUSM students were invited to attend, participate in, and listen to the struggles and success of...
women-of-color. The forum focused on how these women overcame adversities and channeled the negativity into becoming positive and inspirational leaders to others within their communities. CICSC student researcher and American Indian Student Alliance Chairwoman, Ernestina Martinez (Navajo) was one of the speakers on the panel and gave students an idea of the struggles and personal challenges she has faced being an American Indian woman journeying through higher education.

*Marjon Pino (Navajo)*  
*CICSC Student Assistant*

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**Upcoming Event**

**First Friday (May 1): Love on a Leash**

*Friday, May 1st, 2015*

Koshi Biggs, Love on a Leash Certified Therapy Dog will be available for de-stressing CICSC students during the First Friday gathering on May 1. Koshi, named after the Koshare clowns of Pueblo Indian culture, is a Hurricane Katrina survivor and is a Catahoula Leopard Dog - state dog of Louisiana. Named for a Choctaw Indian word meaning "sacred lake," the Catahoula originated in northern Louisiana near Catahoula Lake. Koshi has been providing pet assisted therapy for 7 1/2 years, focusing on the elderly in nursing homes and memory care facilities. She regularly visits libraries and schools where children read to her. Her favorite visits are college finals de-stress events because the students are so enthusiastic!

*Bonnie Biggs*  
*CSUSM Professor Emeritus*