The spring semester will be busy with welcoming back our students, holding our second annual charity golf tournament as well as our annual American Indian Graduation Honoring Ceremony. The CICSC will also be releasing our third edition of the State of American Indian and Alaska Native Education in California Report. We thank the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians for their investment in the CICSC so that we can produce this report. The spring semester brings with it a great variety of American Indian Studies courses and adjunct faculty. Dr. Deborah Morton is teaching Contemporary Indian Health & Wellness. Dr. Theresa Gregor is teaching American Indian Communities. Dr. Anthony Madrigal is teaching American Indian Political and Economic Development. Our American Indian Studies department continues to grow. The paperwork for the AIS major has been submitted to the University and we anticipate a Fall 2016 AIS major start date. Thank you again for your continued support and stay tuned for exciting developments throughout the semester.

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

Student Highlight

Autumn Brown
Miss Kumeyaay 2015, Autumn Brown

ROOTED IN CULTURE, RISING IN KNOWLEDGE

Autumn Brown, a member of the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians and a current first year CSUSM Psychology student.

In addition to being a council member of the American Indian Student Alliance (AISA) at CSUSM, Autumn proudly holds the title of Miss Kumeyaay 2015. Autumn believes education is, "empowering. It puts you in charge of your destiny. It could improve the life of your community, yourself, and your family for generations to come".

Autumn has many role models in her life, but the one that stands out the most to her is her mother, "She's always motivated my brothers and I to do better than what the stereotypes say. She has sacrificed so much to give my brothers and I everything we need in order to be successful. She has taught me the importance of education, family and self worth. One of the most important things she has taught me is to be who you are and as long as you know who you are inside nothing anyone says about me should matter, as long as I do right by me".

Autumn is passionate about her field of study, she explains, "I chose the field of psychology because I want to work with kids and enable them to find their inner strengths". Autumn is a delightful addition to our family at the CICSC and we look forward to providing her the continued support in school and in life.

Megan Doughty
CICSC Creative Director

Current News

President Obama Names CSUSM Professor to National Advisory Council on Indian Education

On Friday, Feb. 19, President Barack Obama named California State University San Marcos Associate Professor Joely Proudfit, Ph.D., to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education.

"I am honored that these talented individuals have decided to serve our country," said President Obama. "They bring their years of experience and expertise to the Administration, and I look forward
Proudfit, Chair of the Department of American Indian Studies and director of the California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center at CSUSM, will serve on the council, which was established under the Indian Education Act of 1972. The council is tasked with advising the Secretary of Education and Congress on the administration and funding of Alaska Native and American Indian education programs.

"We are very proud of Dr. Proudfit's appointment to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education," said CSUSM President Karen Haynes. "She has been a champion educator and scholar. Her research and work have been integral to our university's efforts to address the serious challenges facing American Indian students, and we are proud to have the highest per-capita number, and the only increasing number, of American Indian students in the 23-campus CSU system. Furthermore, her work as the founding director of the California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center, in collaboration with our Tribal Liaison, has nurtured transformational relationships with tribal partners in our efforts to increase the educational access and success of American Indian students in our region."

In his announcement on Friday, President Obama appointed six other individuals to key Administration posts, including:

- David Benton - Member, Arctic Research Commission
- Phyliss J. Anderson - Member, National Advisory Council on Indian Education
- Mandy Broaddus - Member, National Advisory Council on Indian Education
- Dahkota Kicking Bear Brown - Member, National Advisory Council on Indian Education
- Robert O. Carr - Member, National Infrastructure Advisory Council
- Keith T. Parker - Member, National Infrastructure Advisory Council

"I am honored to accept President Obama's appointment to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education," said Proudfit. "California is home to more than 110 American Indian tribes and thousands of American Indian/Alaska Native youth and it is time to acknowledge the daunting challenges facing them as we preserve our heritage and honor our traditions through commitments to the cultural values-responsibility, reciprocity, respect and relationships- that define us."

Margaret Chantung
CSUSM, Communications

NEH Grant Workshop - April 2016
The CICSC was awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to convene regional faculty and tribal communities in conversations to support the development of an American Indian Studies major. Over the next eighteen months, the Center will host conversations on the creation of a 21st Century model American Indian Studies program. Beginning in April 2016, participants will engage in workshops around themes such as colonization, interpretation of cultures, changes in race, class and identity, language revitalization, stabilization and repatriation, language policies and politics, stereotypes, the controversies of writing Indian history, the politics of naming, decolonization, and activism and passivism. Devon Mihesuah, the University of Kansas' Core Lee Beers Price Endowed Professor, will join Patricia Dixon and Stan Rodriguez as discussants.

*Linda Sue Warner, PhD*
*CICSC Grant Writer*

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**American Indian Student Alliance (AISA)**

Welcome back, AISA Council Members!

Our first AISA meeting of the Spring 2016 semester was last Tuesday, February 16th, and a complete success. This semester, the American Indian Student Alliance will be preparing and volunteering for the CICSC Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, April 15, 2016. The semester will also be focused on fundraising for extracurricular events. AISA will be making/selling handcrafted American Indian jewelry, available at the California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center to anyone who wants to participate or purchase. Profits will go towards funding movie nights, trips, and other activities that AISA can do as a group. AISA meetings are held every Tuesday during U- Hour (12pm - 1pm) in SBSB 1118.

Please feel free to stop by our next AISA meeting, Tuesday March 1st from 12pm - 1pm at the CICSC conference room (SBSB 1118). Remember, AISA's mission is to increase awareness and acceptance of American Indian Culture and to promote the educational experience of American Indians on campus, the American Indian Student Alliance at CSU San Marcos fosters a positive multicultural interaction both in and out of the classroom.

AISA strives to educate students about Native culture and facilitate leadership opportunities for American Indian students on campus and in the community.
PL-280 Course at Pala Casino Resort Spa

The 2-day course, Understanding Jurisdiction on Tribal Lands: A User-friendly PL-280 Course, was held February 3-4, 2016. It was hosted by the Pala Band of Mission Indians at the Pala Casino Resort Spa. We had a great turnout and filled the class to capacity. There were fifty individuals, representing a diverse combination of tribal and state public safety and service provider entities, from various locations throughout Southern California. This diversity allowed for participants to gain much from each other. Many in the class commented on how they learned a lot from the experience of others in the class, which added value to the whole presentation. There was no lack of interaction and engagement between this lively group during the breakout groups and during the scenarios.

Participants left feeling inspired to move forward in their individual work. Many expressed appreciation for the training's user-friendly format and having a resource guide (included in the tuition) for a ready reference. All attendees received a Certificate of Completion from the California Indian Culture & Sovereignty Center (CICSC), and those from California agencies that are eligible. For more information or to host the PL 280 course, visit our website.

Cindy Pierce
CICSC Program Instructor

Upcoming Events
CSUSM President's Report to Tribal Nations
Date: Thursday, April 7, 2016  
Location: Pauma Tribal Hall, Pauma Valley, CA  
Time: 10 am - 12:30 pm

CICSC Golf Tournament

Jason Braveheart, Tishmall Turner, Joely Proudfit, Byron Chamberlain

Date: Friday, April 15, 2016  
Location: Journey at Pechanga  
Website: www.cicsgolf.com

American Indian Graduation Honoring Ceremony

Joely Proudfit, Hillery Lopez, Kyle Isaac, Ernestina Martinez, Linda Nieto, Anderson Gould, Jr., Nicole Smith, President Karen Haynes
Date: Friday, May 6, 2016
Location: CSUSM Social and Behavioral Sciences Building Courtyard
Time: 12 pm