

Calendar of Events Spring 2012

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
January 9	All Day	First Day of Fall Semester	BSU/NTC
January 16	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	Martin L. King Holiday – No Classes	BSU/NTC
January 31	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	Faculty/Staff/Student Feast	AIRC
February 9	9 p.m., 1 & 7 p.m.	Larry Yazzie	BSU
February 16	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	Martin L. King Freedom Walk	Beaux Arts
February 29	1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Academic Transfer Fair	AIRC
March 5-9	All Week	Spring Break	BSU/NTC
March 19	4 p.m.	Deadline to apply for AIRC scholarships	AIRC
March 20	1 p.m.	Pipe Ceremony (first day of spring)	AIRC
March 28	9 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Campus Preview	AIRC
April 4	9 a.m.	Student Achievement Day Hattie Kauffman keynote address	M-100
April 5	6 p.m. -8 p.m.	American Indian Awards Banquet	Beaux Arts
April 13	7 p.m. -10 p.m.	CIS Traditional Pow Wow	Fieldhouse
April 14	12 p.m. -11 p.m.	CIS Traditional Pow Wow	Fieldhouse
April 15	12 p.m. - 6 p.m	CIS Traditional Pow Wow	Fieldhouse
April 26	All Day	Reading Day – No Classes	BSU
April 27 - May 3	All Day	Final Exams	BSU
May 4	1 p.m.	Commencement	Sanford Ctr
May 25	12 p.m. - 5 p.m.	AIRC Scholarship Golf Tournament	Turtle River

American Indian
Resource Center

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2012

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Boozhoo nindinawemaaganidok. Ben Burgess indizhinikaaz zhaaganashimong. Bezhiginin indigoo Ojibwemong. Mishiminidenang indoonjibaa. Hello all my relations. My name is Ben Burgess in English. I'm called Bezhiginini in Ojibwe. I come from Minneapolis. I grew up at Little Earth of United Tribes Housing Project in south Minneapolis. My mother is from Waswaagoning. My father is from Bwanaking. I received my B.A. in American Indian Studies from Augsburg College. I received my masters and doctorate from the University of California at Davis.

My research interest is centered on the examination of Native American literature and its contribution to the vitality and health of Native Nations. Native American Literature in English is a relatively new phenomenon. It will be interesting to see if it is eventually incorporated into the everyday lives of Native Nations. Will schools run by Native Nations incorporate Native American Literature into the curriculum the way that other nations have identified with their authors? What will this mean if they do? These questions keep me engaged in the subject material. I'm constantly searching for ways to incorporate the works of Native authors into the curriculum.

When I came to BSU in the fall 2006 I was faced with the challenge of creating the majority of Indian Studies courses from scratch. I felt that I was not prepared to take on all the responsibilities, but I put my nose to the grind and worked through the challenges. So these first few years have been a trial by fire. When times were the toughest and the challenges seemed insurmountable I could always count on the students in the program to keep me grounded in the work that needs to be done. The energy they bring to the program is integral to the success of the program. Today Indian Studies is a vibrant growing program. It has been an honor to be part of its growth and development. Miigwech.



Ben Burgess, Associate Professor
American Indian Resource Center

Director’s Corner

Welcome to Spring Semester! Although it’s cold outside right now, soon it will warm up and we will start enjoying a beautiful spring in northern Minnesota. There are a lot of activities planned for Spring Semester (e.g. pow wow, awards banquet, feast, campus preview, Larry Yazzie & Hattie Kauffman presentations, etc.). These are wonderful opportunities to learn and experience new things and listen to interesting people.

Welcome aboard goes to Jeremy Chase, a 2011 BSU graduate who just got hired as a Recruitment Representative in the Admissions Office. Jeremy will be located at the AIRC one day per week and “on the road” often. Jeremy’s general responsibilities will be to recruit students from historically underrepresented populations in higher education. Jeremy will be a great addition to the Admissions Office and BSU in general.

Itasca Community College (Grand Rapids) and Central Lakes College (Brainerd) have both expressed interest in having BSU offer them our Indian Studies major. Both of these institutions have high American Indian student populations. We are now in the process of figuring out how to offer the 3rd & 4th years of the major at their respective institutions. Their interest in us is a



wonderful testament to our American Indian programs and the faculty that teach in Indian Studies and Ojibwe Language programs.

BSU will be offering an INMED (Indians Into Medicine) program again this summer. The program is designed for 10th – 12th grade high school students who are interested in math, science, technology, engineering or medical fields. BSU, in conjunction with Dr. David Treuer (University of Southern California) will offer a class titled “Writing on the Rez” spring semester. Contact Dr. Treuer (treuer@usc.edu) or Deb Hawthorn (TA) at wabboose@yahoo.com or 755-2735 for more information.

Take advantage of all the opportunities available to you here at BSU, study hard, play hard, and be kind. Have a great semester!

*Donald R. Day, Executive Director
American Indian Resource Center*

Writing on the Rez

New this spring semester: Writing on the Rez” is a month long literature/creative writing course offered in the University of Southern California Maymester program in conjunction with BSU between May 15 – June 15, 2012. The course will bring up to 12 University of Southern California students to the Leech Lake Reservation for a month-long immersion writing experience where they will study and work alongside 12 BSU students. Application deadline to take this course is January 31, 2012. The course credits may be applied to your spring semester transcripts or as an “independent study” with Anton Treuer for fall semester. Contact David Treuer (Professor) at treuer@usc.edu or call 612-770-6551 or contact Deb Hawthorn (TA) at wabboose@yahoo.com or call 218-755-2735 for more information.



Larry Yazzie

Larry Yazzie is a World Champion Fancy Dancer, flutist and storyteller and is a member of the Meskwaki/Dine Nation. Larry will be facilitating two workshops and an evening public performance on February 9 at BSU. He is a graduate of the American Indian Art Institute and travels the U.S. and Canada sending a positive message on American Indian heritage and culture. During the workshops students will have an opportunity to learn and dance their way to good health and fitness! Stay tuned for more information.

Native American Student Organization President Spotlight - Ken Cloud

Ken is a member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, and he is in his first year of the Practical Nursing program at Northwest Technical College (NTC). Ken brings three and half years of Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) experience into his education, and he continues to work for Leech Lake Ambulance Services while attending NTC. Ken selected the nursing field to become more specialized and to gain advanced skills that he will use to help others.

Ken’s wife, Nicole, is also in the Practical Nursing program, and when they aren’t studying they operate a foster care home for Northwest Juvenile Center, and care for their five children: Peyton 12, Kortni 12, Mady 3, and two year old twins Nishiime and Ken Jr. Ken said, “My wife Nicole and I make such a great team that we felt it would be to our benefit to embark on our new careers together.”

He credits his mother, Dr. Leah Carpenter, BSU professor of accounting, for encouraging him to pursue his career goals, and to not let his family responsibilities prevent him from advancing his



Hattie Kauffman



Four time Emmy Award winner Hattie Kauffman will be featured this spring as the keynote speaker for Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Day and

the American Indian Awards Banquet at BSU. The topic for her keynote address on Student Achievement Day will be, “Crossing Great Divides in Education”. Hattie is a long time reporter for CBS and is currently a National News Correspondent for “The Early Show”, based in Los Angeles. Hattie is Nez Perce from Lapwai Idaho and is the first Native American to report news on a national network.

Along with being a keynote speaker, Hattie will also participate in talking Circles and a student Leadership Gathering. Stay tuned for more information.

education. Ken said his mother had two young children while she earned her degrees, so he knows he can do it too.

Another motivation he has to succeed is supported by his desire to create a brighter future for his children. He wants to provide for them without sacrificing more time, because he must work extra hours or another job to care for them. Ken’s motto is “There’s no time like the present.” He said, “Too many people have excuses that their lives are so busy they can’t go back to school, and that is how I respond to that statement.”

Ken Cloud leads the monthly Native American Student Organization (NASO) meetings in The Gathering Place (next to the Library) at Northwest Technical College. Ken sees his role as NASO president is to help improve Native American cultural education for all attending and working at NTC. The NASO is planning new activities and projects next semester to increase participation in the NASO on campus.

To learn more about the Native American Student Organization, or to meet other Native American students, you are invited to a NASO meeting. The NASO meets the first Monday of every month starting at 12:00 p.m. in The Gathering Place. Pizza is provided. For more information Ken: ken_cloud@live.ntcmn.edu.

INMED (Indians Into Medicine) Program

Through a subcontract with the University of Minnesota Duluth, BSU will offer two 1-week medicine, science, technology, engineering and math programs for American Indian high school students (10th – 12th graders) this summer. Participants will be selected based on their academic ability and interest in the medical and STEM fields. We anticipate selecting 12-14 students for each session. In addition to hands-on experiences with medical procedures, students will be introduced to the fields of chemistry, science, technology, engineering and math, as well as native foods and plants for their healing qualities. The two 1-week sessions will take place in June 2012. Contact Ann Bowman or Don Day at 755-2032 for more information.

Get To Know Our Staff



Molly Aitken-Julín, BS, Interim Asst. Director of Admissions



Dr. Ben Burgess, Assistant Professor of Indian Studies



Dr. Leah Carpenter, Endowed Chair of Accounting



Colette Dahlke, MS, AIRC Retention Counselor



Dr. Donald Day, AIRC Executive Director



Dr. John Gonzalez, Assistant Professor of Psychology



Stephanie Hendricks, OAS Intermediate, AIRC



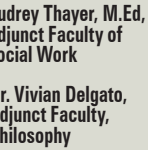
Dr. Anton Treur, Professor of Ojibwe



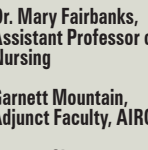
Audrey Thayer, M.Ed, Adjunct Faculty of Social Work



Dr. Mary Fairbanks, Assistant Professor of Nursing



Dr. Vivian Delgado, Adjunct Faculty, Philosophy



Garnett Mountain, Adjunct Faculty, AIRC

Jeremy Chase, BS, Admissions Representative

Graduate Highlight: Billie Annette



Billie earned a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Criminal Justice from BSU in 1980. Billie’s first job after graduating from BSU was with the Bagley School District as a Home-School Coordinator where she worked until the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) hired her to be their Career Education Specialist working mainly with tribal scholarships. After a couple of years, Billie was promoted to her current position as the Coordinator of the Johnson O’Malley Program. Billie has now worked for the MCT for 25 years. Billie has served on many boards, committees and associations over the years including the Board of Directors for the Upper Mississippi Mental Health Center. She is honored to be endorsed by the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Executive Committee to serve as a member of the Tribal Nations Education Committee (TNEC) where she is the current Secretary of the committee. Other boards that are keeping her busy are the Native Youth Advisory Board and the Minnesota Indian Education Association where she serves as the Vice-Chair. Her most cherished board opportunities are the ones that are associated with Indian Education. Billie states that she is blessed with a wonderful husband, family, and six grandchildren. Billie is a proud graduate of Red Lake High School and a proud member of the White Earth Nation. Billie is one the most respected and accomplished Indian Educators in the state. Bemidji State University is honored to call her an alumni.

Faculty & Staff Feast with Students

Each semester, the American Indian faculty and staff at BSU facilitate a feast with the American Indian students that attend BSU & NTC. The feast this spring is scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, 2012 from 5-7 PM at the AIRC. Students – just show up hungry. The AIRC and the faculty and staff will bring all the food and beverages. This is an excellent time to have a conversation with the staff and your favorite faculty member while enjoying some good food. No reservations necessary, just show up and bring the kids. Contact the AIRC at 755-2032 for more information.