

American Indian Resource Center
Newsletter Fall 2014



Executive Directors Note

Boozhoo Gakina Awiya!

We are all looking forward to another exciting year at the American Indian Resource Center. We are planning student trips to the Ojibwe Language Conference at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, and to the Big Island of Hawaii through our Hawaiian Field Program. The Council of Indian Students will host several events this year, including the annual powwow. We also have two new program at

the AIRC this coming year—an Elders-in-Residence Program that will bring knowledgeable tribal elders to campus to hang out with students, work with faculty, and advise the CIS. The other is our peer advisor program, which offers advise and assistance to students on academics, course registration, and more.

Our annual American Indian Awards Banquet is set for Tuesday, April 16, 2015 at 6:00PM in the Beaux Arts Ballroom. We have new scholarship opportunities for native students, now offered as part of a comprehensive financial aid opportunity initiative with our friends in the Admissions Office. Make sure you apply this spring for the following year.

Come see what's happening at the AIRC. Visit our website or stop by any time. We are here to serve you. Bi-mawadishiweg!
Miigwech.

Anton Treuer, Executive Director

Message from Tori, Retention Counselor



The first week of school can be very exciting and somewhat scary at the same time for new incoming freshman and transfer students. At the American Indian Resource Center students had an opportunity to feel at ease by meeting faculty, staff and Peer Advisors on the Day of Welcome, August 27, 2014. This year and by popular demand Kevin Locke returned, inspiring us all with his in depth historical and cultural knowledge and talents as a Hoop Dancer and traditional Lakota Flutist. At 9:00 AM Dr. Treuer began with a Pipe Ceremony and the Young Kingbird Singers sang an honor song to kick off the new semester.

A Mini Student Services Fair took place in the lobby of the AIRC after the opening ceremony, including STEM, the Council of Indian Students (CIS), TRIO/SSS, The American Indian Alumni Chapter (AIAC), Career Services and more. The Peer Advisors assisted students with questions on financial aid, tutoring, e-services, getting books and refer students to the appropriate offices, resources and offer tours if needed. While everyone enjoyed the festivities there was free fry bread for everyone that visited during the Day of Welcome.

News



Under the program, BSU will hire four Elders in Residence who will be placed on campus in short-term residencies or on a commuter basis, depending on the elder's needs, and have those elders participate in public events and training activities both on campus and in the Bemidji community. In addition, the elders will mentor BSU's Indian students on their own culture and support them in their educational and student lives, and also will participate in research so their knowledge of tribal culture can be documented and used to support the program moving forward.

[Bemidji State starts Elder-in-Residence program to support Indian retention](#)

Feast the Sculpture



Bemidji State University officially celebrated the creation of its shoreline wildlife sculpture, installed and carved during the summer of 2014, during an Oct. 13 ceremony. BSU President Dr. Richard A. Hanson; Dr. Anton Treuer, director of BSU's American Indian Resource Center; Erika Bailey-Johnson, BSU sustainability coordinator; and artist Curtis Ingvaldstad each spoke during the ceremony, which celebrated BSU's monument to the wildlife found in the air, on the land and in the waters surrounding the campus. The log for the sculpture came from a pair of white pine trees, estimated to be approximately 110 years old, which were taken down by the university during the summer of 2013 as part of a project to install a modern artificial playing surface at BSU's Chet Anderson Stadium.

[Photoes](#)



Meet Our

Peer Advisors





Pictured R-L. Vincent Staples-Graves, Amber Dorr, David Northbird, Paris Nicazio, Enrique Goose, Tom Sullivan, Katelynn Eisterhold

What are some of the services Peer Advisors provide to students?

- General Campus Information
- Navigating My-BSU: passwords; e-services; DARS; financial aid; Records Office forms; grad plans; etc.
- Referrals to student services such as: Tutoring; Advising; Careers; TRIO/SSS; etc.
- Building class schedule to help prepare for Advisor meeting.
- Listen
- Answer questions!

When are Peer Advisors available and where?

- Monday through Friday
- 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- American Indian Resource Center (AIRC), 109A

Last academic year the Peer Advisors met with 112 students and had a total of 317 student contacts that included phone calls and emails. The Peer Advisor Program has been a great addition in assisting with the retention efforts at the AIRC and BSU.



American Indian Scholarship Award Recipients



Six of our American Indian Students recieved scholarships through the American Indian Resource Center totaling \$4600. There is atleast one student recipient from all three of Bemidji's surrounding reservations; Red Lake, Leech Lake and White Earth. Pictured from counter clockwise; Mark Mitigomish, Vincent Staples-Graves, Madeline Treuer. Not Pictured; Bryanna Grimes & Victoria LaFrinier. The Following is a breakdown of the Scholarships awarded to each student recipient.

Stuart Desjarlait Memorial Scholarships:

Bryanna Grimes & Victoria LaFrinier

Joe & Jan Lueken American Indian Scholarship:

Mark Mitigomish

Stan K Medina Memorial Scholarship:

Madeline Treuer

F. Miles & Margaret Nelson Scholarship:

Vincent Staples-Graves

Red Lake Scholarship:

Vincent Staples-Graves

Jack & Marie St. Martin American Indian Scholarship:
Victoria LaFriniere

Esther & Alfred C. Instebo Scholarship:
Ingrid Mesarina

Bemidji State University Council of Indian Students



Your text caption goes here

The main goal is to offer Indigenous students an opportunity to participate and share his or her culture and traditions in a positive way. As well as raising awareness about diversity in our communities and surrounding areas. We welcome ANY student who is willing to spread a positive influence throughout Indian Country!

To find out more...

Recurrent Events at the American Indian Resource Center



Pipe Ceremony

This year's annual Welcoming Pipe Ceremony was held on August 27th at the American Indian Resource Center. The Young Kingbird Singers was the featured drum group with Native Hoop Dancer and flutist Kevin Locke as special guest.

Ojibwe Language Table



The Ojibwe Language Table is held at the American Indian Resource Center every Wednesday night, 6pm-8pm. The Table is officiated by elite Ojibwe Language learner students from BSU. It is open to people of all ages that are interesting in learning Ojibwe. We cater the Language Table to the guests, for example; if a lot of kids are present we will play games.

Traditional Gatherings



The Traditional Gatherings is held at the American Indian Resources Center every Thursday night from 6pm to 9pm. Traditional Gatherings was formally called Moccasin games. Traditional Gatherings consists of Moccasin Games and beading circles and occasionally a drum circle.

"We counted 44 people at moccasin games tonight. The majority of them being youth! It's exciting to see people come together and have something to look forward to. Proud of Vincent Staples Graves and Charles Grolla for making this happen every week and being positive role models and a real source of support." Anna Goldtooth-Graves

[To view the Pioneer article](#)

Save The Date

- Every Wednesday 6pm to 8pm: Ojibwe Language Table
- Every Thursday 6pm-9pm: Traditional Gatherings
- November: Native American History Month.
- November 7th, 2014: CIS Native American Indian History Month Kick Off Pow Wow.
- November 17th-21st, 2014: CIS Native American Indian History Month Movie Week.
- April 10th & 11th, 2015: 42nd Annual Pow Wow
- April 16th, 2015: 35th Annual American Indian Student Awards Recognition Banquet

[AIRC Calendar](#)

American Indian Alumni Chapter



L-R. Hiram Price, Colette Dahlke, Dr. Carla Norris-Raynbird, Molly Aitken-Julin, Billy Jo Annette, Delana Smith, Harvey Roy

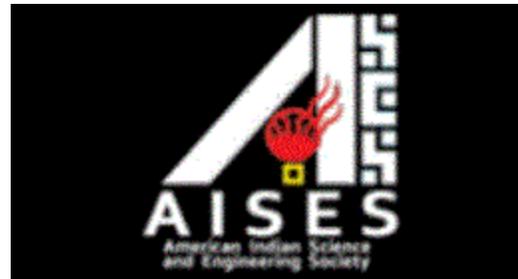
The American Indian Alumni Chapter has been an organized chapter for many years in order to establish and maintain a relationship between BSU and its American Indian alumni. The purposes of the Chapter are to serve as a resource for current BSU American Indian students, to endeavor to provide scholarships for American Indian students, to support the American Indian programs at BSU and the Council of Indian Students, and to promote the professional development of BSU's American Indian Alumni. The Chapter Board members always encourage and invite the participation from all of its alumni members, and encourage them to keep their addresses updated on the BSU Alumni Association website. Our current President of the Chapter is Ms. Delana Smith, an elementary school teacher at Red Lake, and formerly Miss Indian World.

One of the signature activities of the American Indian Alumni Chapter is to purchase an embroidered graduation stole for each graduating American Indian student. In 2012, the Chapter gifted 42 stoles to our students, and 26 stoles were given in 2013. Each year we count on the donations from our alumni to purchase a stole for our students, so you may receive a phone call or email from a Board member in the near future to ask for your help! The stoles are given to the students at the annual Indian Student Awards Banquet, which will be held this year on April 16, 2015 at Beaux Arts Ballroom.

The American Indian Alumni Chapter sponsored the annual American Indian Scholarship Golf Tournament this fall. The Golf Tournament was held at the Castle Highlands Golf Course, proceeds from the tournament went toward American Indian Scholarships. In the past 6 years this tournament has raised over \$20,000 and we have successfully endowed the Stuart Desjarlait Scholarship and the American Indian Alumni Chapter Scholarships. As these endowments grow, the larger the scholarship dollar funds will be that can be awarded to American Indian students.

If you are interested in participating in an Alumni Panel, please contact Leah J. Carpenter at lcarpenter@bemidjistate.edu.

The BSU Chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society" is being organized. There are scholarships available to bring students to a major national conference. Those interested in the chapter and the conference should contact Pat Welle at pwelle@bemidjistate.edu





For more information about what is happening at BSU, check out [BSU Insider](#)



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