



2nd Annual CAICC Urban American Indian Education Conference

May 5th, 2018

Workshop Session Information

Workshops Session A 10:20-11:50AM

Self in the City: Personal Narratives of the urban Indian experience

Presenters: Cynthia Soto, Jennifer Michals, Jasmine Gurneau

Parkes Hall 122; Lake Michigan

Come join us in lively discussion, and share stories with others on growing up in Chicago. Open to new and old faces. Did you move here for school? Did your family live here since forever? How did you get involved in local Native community? How do you connect? Share your personal narratives on growing up in Urban Native Chicago.

Photographing Indian Country: Taking Back Our Narrative

Speaker: Adam Sings In The Timber

Parkes Hall 214; Beaver

"How do we create art that captures on the ground reality while still portraying people in a way that makes them proud to be who they are? Adam will cover some of the technical basics of photography. He will talk about sharing work in real time, as well as apps that he uses in the field for editing. Attendees will have greater understanding of using photography as storytellers and documentarians of their Native identity.

Native identity: Intersects Land, Community Organizing and PROactivism

Panelists: Anthony Pochel Tamez, Naomi Harvey-Turner, Adrien Pochel, Eli Saldana

Parkes Hall 215; Wild Rice

How do we use relationships to create our stories that are often too marginalized to matter? Our stories are important and we have valuable experience to expand the reach of our voices to create change across the Nation. We will focus on our own stories from first voice then arm participants with indigenous community organizing tools, and teach them to begin to tell their own stories in relation to the land they occupy.

Pekiskwewinaw o'mistikak (We are talking to the trees): Maple Tapping, Shifting Climates, and Outdoor Education

Panelists: Eli Suzukovich III, PhD, Lorenzo Gudino, Justin Curto

Parkes Hall 223; Maple

This session will focus on how outdoor classes, incorporating Indigenous science, and community building (between human and nonhuman) are being combined at Northwestern via the maple tapping course. There will be two twenty minuet sections during the session will include a three person panel.

Workshops Session B 12:50-1:50PM

Becoming a Champion for Change

Speaker: Amber Richardson

Parkes Hall 122; Lake Michigan

CNAY will share champions for change initiative and highlight Chicago's own, Anthony Tamez in his leadership initiative. We would like to invite an additional Champion to share their work and discuss best practices to empower youth in finding their identity, belonging and kinship.

Challenges & Success of Identifying Native Students in an Urban School District

Speakers: Chantay Moore, Lisa Bernal

Parkes Hall 213, Salmon

Living and working in the 3rd largest urban school district provides many challenges when needing to identify and serve the academic needs of Native American students. In this session, you will learn how this Chicago based, Title VII federal grant program strategizes, implements and constantly revitalizes their processes and procedures to properly identify Native American students to serve.

Food and Cultural Identity

Speaker: Becca Dower

Parkes Hall 214, Beaver

Food sovereignty is the right for a community to control its own food system. In this session we will explore food sovereignty initiatives happening in Native communities and the ways food acts as a cultural and spiritual connector--uniting people across generations and renewing cultural connection to the land. Specifically we will discuss food and an intergenerational bridge to improving community health through decolonizing Native diets. There will be a group conversation following a speaker-lead presentation.

Identity and Language Learning

Speaker: Patrick Del Percio

Parkes Hall 215, Wild Rice

Indigenous languages contain essential information including the worldview of a people, their knowledge about medicines, and descriptions of geographical locations that recall the history of a people. To lose a language is to lose essential knowledge about the world around us. What are the ways in which we are learning our Indigenous languages? How does that inform our identity, and what are we doing to carry this knowledge with us in the spaces we call home, urban and non-urban?

Transforming American Indian Identity Through Higher Education Experiences

Panelists: Dorene Wiese, PhD, Clovia Malatare, Christine Red Cloud

Parkes Hall 223, Maple

Our identities as American Indian people are transformed through experiences with higher education. This panel hopes to encourage participants to examine the long-term benefits of this identity transformation. The panel will consist of three enrolled tribal members who have all attended, taught, or lead NAES American Indian College. The take-aways will be a richer understanding of the benefits of identity transformation for Native students in higher education and the impact for future generations.

Workshops Session 3 2:00-3:00PM

Grown From Our Own Hearts: Community Curriculum Development

Speaker: Lyla June Johnston

Parkes Hall 122, Lake Michigan

The goal is to inspire the audience to think outside of the colonial box of what we are told "education" is supposed to be. It is supposed to give the audience a glimpse into the power we all have as every day Indigenous people to educate, inspire and take care of the next generation.

Building Strong Foundations for Native Students

Speakers: Alissa Baker-Oglesbee, Forrest Bruce

Parkes Hall 213, Salmon

There exists a notion that students in STEM require professional mentorship for successful career development. This notion often leads family and community (especially those with lower educational attainment or those who don't work in STEM) to undervalue their contributions to their student's career development. Data suggests that support from family and community actually plays a more critical role than mentorship in career development for Native American STEM students. This session will feature a presentation and a discussion on the critical role that family and community plays in career development for Native American students.

Unsettling Perspectives of Our Ancestral Lands

Speaker: Janie Pochel

Parkes Hall 214, Beaver

This presentation will tell Chicago's history through an indigenous lens by addressing settler colonialism. Participants will take away a deeper understanding of how to engage in community building practices and work toward creating an unsettling game plan.

Claiming Indigenous Space within the Urban Classroom

Speaker: Fawn Pochel

Parkes Hall 215, Wild Rice

Within this workshop we will discuss the problematic definition of 'neo-indigenous' while emphasizing Emdin's culturally relevant strategies for classroom engagement. Within this workshop we intend to engage in leveraging social cultural capital to further our solidarity work between universities, schools and communities.

The American Indian Identity and Who Has Claim

Speaker: James Flores

Parkes Hall 223, Maple

Are you born Native or is it a choice? We will discuss blood quantum and how tribes define citizenship. Looking at different data, policies, approaches, and teachings we will objectively look at the factors that make up the American Indian Identity. Discussing this issue is imperative for future generations of American Indians. Just as our ancestors had to tackle issues on preserving our land we are now charged with preserving our identity.

Partnership between Urban and Reservation Communities

Speakers: Pamala Silas

Parkes Hall 224, Thunderbird

Session will cover the steps that led to the formation of an exemplary relationship between an urban and reservation communities - the Menominee Community Center of Chicago (MCCC) and the Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin. Years before the formation of MCCC, two Chicago area Menominee women, both of whom came from foster and adoptive homes organized to create an information network in the City of Chicago with the goal of fostering kinship and connections among local Menominee families as well as reconnection with the Menominee Nation of Wisconsin. The effort received a Harvard "Honoring of Nations" top award in 2004 and continues albeit with ups and downs to exist. This session will outline the key ingredients that led to the success of the program and share some of the outcomes it has produced to strengthen both the reservation and urban community. It is a solid example of how tribal identity, kinship, and belonging are achievable despite distance, differences and family dysfunction.