12th annual UP Indian Education Conference
“Engaging American Indian Youth in the Classroom and Beyond”
Monday, September 29, 2008
University Center – NMU

THIS IS A FREE CONFERENCE. Register online by the end of the business day on Wednesday, September 24, 2008.

List of Presenters and Topics (this list is subject to change)

American Indian Education On-line Seminars
Presenter: Dr. Martin Reinhardt
This is an interactive session where participants will be engaged in four seminar samplers from the American Indian Education On-line seminar series. The seminars are provided in partnership between the Tribal Education Departments National Assembly (TEDNA), the Interwest equity Assistance Center, and School of Education at Colorado State University.

Health is Life in Balance
Presenters: Dr. Carolee Dodge Francis - Executive Director of the American Indian Research and Education Center, Dr. Lynn Aho, Dr. Mary Hindelang, and Ms. Stephanie Pinnow work with DETS team at Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College. Explore an innovative new health science curriculum that will help teachers meet instructional standards in culturally appropriate ways while encouraging interest in health science careers and promoting healthy lifestyles which can prevent type 2 diabetes. This session will present free science and health curriculum units featuring materials and classroom activities that are culturally appropriate for American Indian elementary students and their classmates of varied ethnic backgrounds.

Indinawemaaganidog (All my relatives) – An inter-active Anishinaabe language resource CD
Presenter: Jim St. Arnold from Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission
Indinawemaaganidog (All my relatives) and Gidakiiminaan (Our Earth), two inter-active Anishinaabe language CDs and the Anishinaabe Atlas will be presented. Participants will be able to explore the CDs and discuss ways in which they can be used in the classroom beyond teaching the Anishinaabe language. Target audience – Native language teachers.

Information Technology at Home and School: Access and Usage by Native American High School Students
Presenters: Dr. Abhi Jain/Computer Information Systems at NMU. Dr. Carol Bell/Mathematics Education at NMU.
How do Native American high school students use information technology compared to other high school students? We will inform educators about the implications and challenges of ensuring that Native American students have adequate and equitable access to information technology.

Math in a Cultural Context
Presenter: Richard Sgarlotti is the Projects Coordinator of the Hannahville Indian School and has also been the mathematics teacher for 15 years. He is also the author/editor of the book “Creating a Sacred Place for Students in Mathematics,” published by the National Indian School Boards Association.
Learn how to incorporated cultural connections with materials and activities available, which can be done in your classrooms. Participants will be shown ways to incorporate Culture Based Mathematics into any K-12 classroom, based on the following: American Indian Contributions to Mathematics, Mathematical Concepts in Traditional Culture, Mathematical Concepts in Present Day Cultural Activities, Mathematics in the Study of Indian People, American Indian Mathematicians/Scientists - Past and Present

Monopoly on the Rez
Presenters: Richard Sgarlotti is the Projects Coordinator of the Hannahville Indian School and worked with students to develop the game and curriculum. Four students who worked on the game will do most of the presentation. Staff and students from the NMU Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship will also assist.
Students from the Hannahville Indian School will present a PowerPoint slide school about the game and have participants actually play the game. Participants will learn how to develop the Monopoly on the Rez game for their own communities. This includes having students research the financial terms of Monopoly and playing the game.
Northern Michigan University’s Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship: A U.P. Wide Resource
Presenter: Dr. Tawni Ferrarini, Director
Learn about a variety of resources, ideas and description of services available in the Upper Peninsula to K-12 teachers and youth coordinators interested in advancing young peoples’ understanding of entrepreneurship, market economics, personal finance, and business ethics. Experienced based activities, classroom projects, youth camps, and after-school sessions are summarized. Opportunities to collaborate will be discussed.

Risk and Resiliency: Unpacking the Disproportionate Representation of American Indian/Alaska Native Students in Special Education Programs and Services
Presenter: Dr. Susan Faircloth, co-director of the Center for the Study of Leadership in American Indian Education.
A discussion of the cognitive, behavioral and contextual/environmental factors that contribute to the disproportionate representation of American Indian and Alaska Native students in special education programs and services. Emphasis will be placed on the role of administrator training, parent-school-community collaboration, and early childhood education/early intervention services in the development and delivery of culturally and linguistically appropriate services for students with special educational needs.

Saving the Mohawk Language: Akwesasne Freedom School
Presenter: Elvera Sargeant
The Akwesasne Freedom School was founded in 1979 by Mohawk parents concerned that their language and culture would die. The Mohawk "Thanksgiving Address," is used as a curriculum base. The Akwesasne Freedom School combines solid academics with a foundation in Mohawk culture. It is the only program of its kind in the US.

Storytelling Science with the Eagle Books: A Native American teaching style that suits all sorts of students
Presenters: Dr. Lynn Aho and Ms. Stephanie Pinnow
Explore storybook science with the vividly illustrated Eagle Books, in which a wise eagle reminds children of traditional ways to be healthy. The books and activities present a positive view of health that is culturally consistent for Native Americans, appealing to all children, and introduces key concepts in life sciences.