

Message from the Director

Dear Students and Friends:

Welcome to fall semester 2012. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and productive summer. Join us for an Open House and Social with the McNair Scholar's program on Wednesday, August 29 from 4-6pm in the Whitman Hall Commons. you will learn about scholarships and fellowships available to American Indian students at this event. Light refreshments will be served.



The Center for Native American Studies identifies with the metaphor of a braid - three specific strands: 1) academics and research, 2) student empowerment, and 3) community outreach.

Academics and research:

- NAS offers a twenty-four credit minor,
- NAS also can help you build an individually created baccalaureate program,
- NAS has a concentration of courses as part of the Masters of Education Administration,
- Many NAS courses fulfill liberal studies and the world cultures requirements,
- The Decolonizing Diet Project is an exploratory study of the relationship between people and Indigenous foods of the Great Lakes Region. Special thanks to the NMU faculty grant and Keweenaw Bay Indian Community for support of this research project.

Student Empowerment:

- The Center will once again offer workshops and field trips as part of the Native American Student Empowerment Initiative. Special thanks to the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community for support of this initiative.
- Students are always welcomed to visit the Center for Native American Studies resource room as part of their studies. Special thanks to the NMU College of Arts and Sciences and the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community for support of our resource room.
- Our Center works closely with offices such as the Multicultural Education and Resource Center (MERC), Financial Aid, Housing and the Registrar to make sure students are getting the answers they need. We may not have all of the answers, but we know where to find them.

Community Outreach:

- The Center for Native American Studies and the Lac Vieux Desert Tribal Historic Preservation Office co-hosted the Creating and Learning Art in Native Settings or CLANS project this past July for middle and high school students to learn about traditional and contemporary arts, songs and dances. Visit our [FLICKR](#) page to see nearly 600 photos of this successful program. Special thanks to the National Endowment for the Arts and the NMU College of Arts and Sciences for their support of this project. Special thanks also go to the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission and the Hannahville School.

- The 7th Fire Project was a huge success last academic year. Aimee Cree Dunn, coordinator, had a goal of meeting with 100 students. She skyrocketed past that goal and met with over 700 students. Special thanks to the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, the Cedar Tree Institute and the Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition for their support of this project.
- The Center's anthology, "Voice on the Water: Great Lakes Native America Now" was featured as part of the summer 2012 Upper Peninsula book tour and will be distributed to nearly 700 of Michigan's public and tribal libraries this fall. Special thanks to the Michigan Humanities Council for supporting the creation, production and distribution of this anthology.

The Center for Native American Studies (Whitman Hall 112) is open from 8 am – 5 pm Monday-Friday. Stop by or make an appointment. The CNAS lounge area is for anyone to relax between classes.

The Native American Student Association (NASA) meets weekly at the Center. Amanda Weinert is once again the NASA Chair. NASA's e-mail is nasa@nmu.edu. Get involved! Consider being a part of NASA and *the Anishinaabe News*.

We do our best to post information on community events, [internship opportunities](#), [scholarships and grants](#), [conferences](#) and [cultural events](#), language lessons and [news bits](#) from around Indian Country. Visit our semester highlights page to see photos from a variety of events from previous years. Do you have news you would like to share? [E-mail us](#) at least two weeks prior to your event (PDFs work very well). Also, be sure to visit and LIKE us on [Facebook](#) and [Flickr](#).

I hope you all have a great semester!

April