At its meeting on January 25-26, 2001, the Arizona Board of Regents, governing body of the state’s three universities, approved the creation of the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy (NNI) at The University of Arizona. NNI will be part of the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, succeeding the Center’s Native Nations Program.

The institute’s mission is to serve as a self-governance and development resource to indigenous nations in the United States and elsewhere through executive education, policy analysis, and other programs. Establishing NNI has been a Udall Center objective for the last three years. The strong endorsement of University President Peter Likins has helped move it forward quickly. The University is providing NNI with faculty and financial support, building on established programs at the Udall Center and elsewhere on campus, and is pursuing additional funds for NNI’s operations.

Joining the University in this effort is the Morris K. Udall Foundation, a federal agency dedicated to preserving and promoting the legacy of the late Morris K. Udall, an influential, 15-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Arizona. Active in environmental conflict resolution and American Indian education, the Foundation has been seeking additional ways to support Indian leadership.

In December 2000, as a first step to secure federal funding for NNI’s programs in the U.S., the Udall Foundation—with help from U.S. Senators John McCain and Daniel Inouye and U.S. Representatives Mark Udall, Tom Udall, Jim Kolbe, and Ed Pastor—obtained an authorization of $12.3 million in federal funding over five years. The authorization does not yet mean actual funding; each year the Foundation will have to seek specific appropriations for NNI.

In the meanwhile, the Ford Foundation has provided NNI with generous start-up funding. A $250,000 planning grant to the Udall Center in 1999 paid for extensive consultation with indigenous leaders, provided personnel support, and helped launch on-campus planning efforts. In January 2001, the Ford Foundation awarded the Center an additional $600,000 in support of NNI.

Much of the impetus for NNI has come from the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, a research program headquartered at Harvard University. NNI is largely an outgrowth of Harvard Project work on indigenous self-governance and nation-building, which has received widespread attention in Indian Country and in federal policy circles.

Udall Center director Stephen Cornell and NNI director Manley Begay are long-time Harvard Project co-directors, along with Harvard economist Joseph Kalt, and the Center has worked closely with the project since 1998. Most of NNI’s executive education curriculum is based on Harvard Project research. NNI and the Harvard Project will collaborate on a wide-ranging research agenda.

NNI’s development is being shaped as well by the guidance and advice of an international advisory council. Twenty-four indigenous leaders from the U.S. and Canada—including a number of past and present tribal chairs and First Nations chiefs—accepted President Likins’s invitation to join the council, which held its inaugural meeting in Tucson in early December.

Manley Begay, a citizen of the Navajo Nation with appointments in the university’s American Indian Studies Program and at the Udall Center, is NNI’s first director. For further information about NNI, contact Begay at mbegay@u.arizona.edu or at (520) 884-4393.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE

Building Native Nations II: Environment, Natural Resources, and Governance

December 11-13, 2001 - Tucson, Arizona

Institution Building - Co-management Issues - Traditional Knowledge/Western Science

Sponsored by the Udall Center and Morris K. Udall Foundation

For more information, visit the Udall Center Web site at <udallcenter.arizona.edu>.
In January 2001, the Udall Center welcomed Joan Timeche to its staff as assistant director of its recently-formed Native Nations Institute (NNI) (see related article on page 1).

Timeche, a member of the Hopi Tribe from the village of Old Oraibi, received a B.S. in social work and a M.B.A. from Northern Arizona University (NAU). For the past eight years, she served as program director of NAU’s Center for American Indian Economic Development (CAIED). Additionally, from 1992 to 1995 she was co-executive director of the National Executive Education Program for Native American Leadership, a joint project of CAIED and Harvard University. Prior to her CAIED appointment, she spent eight years as director of the Hopi Tribe’s Education Department.

Timeche is currently interim president of the American Indian/Alaska Native Tourism Association, has served as executive director of the Arizona Native American Economic Coalition, and is a board member of the Arizona American Indian Tourism Association. She is a regular speaker at both regional and national conferences on topics related to Indian economic development and tourism, and is a recognized expert on doing business on Indian lands.

For more information on this workshop, contact Manley Begay at mbegay@u.arizona.edu or at (520) 884-4393.

*The Sustainability of a Semi-Arid Hydrology and Riparian Areas Science and Technology Center is based at The University’s Department of Hydrology and Water Resources www.sahra.arizona.edu.
In fall 2000, the Udall Center conducted a stakeholder assessment of water issues in the Upper San Pedro River Basin in southeastern Arizona and northeastern Sonora, Mexico.

For the study, the Udall Center’s Ann Moote and Maria Gutiérrez reviewed earlier water-interests surveys and reports to identify water-resources issues and research gaps for this basin. The team then interviewed federal, state, and local agency scientists and engineers; elected officials; interest group representatives; and private water company managers on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border in November and December 2000. Finally, the researchers interviewed more than 300 residents of the Mexican portion of the basin about their perceptions of water-resource policy and management issues.

The study aimed to identify stakeholder perspectives and concerns regarding the water policy and water management in the basin for the use of both local governments and researchers at the new Sustainability of Semi-Arid Hydrology and Riparian Areas (SAHRA) Science and Technology Center, based at The University of Arizona (see related article, “Southwest Indian Water Issues,” on p. 2).

Local officials assisted with the development of survey questions, and teachers and students from the area were trained to administer the survey through oral interviews.

The survey found that while information regarding hydrologic and other water-resources conditions on the U.S. side of the basin is plentiful, corresponding data for the Mexican portion of the basin is needed. Major information needs identified by Mexican stakeholders include groundwater-hydrology and water-quality assessments. This binational basin also faces challenging water and land-management policy issues, and the need for information-sharing across the border.

For more information, contact Maria Gutiérrez at mgutierrez@u.arizona.edu or Ann Moote at moote@u.arizona.edu, or call the Udall Center at (520) 884-4393.

On February 2, the Western Governors’ Association, the Trust for Public Land, and National Cattlemen’s Beef Association issued a report, Purchase of Development Rights: Conserving Lands, Preserving Western Livelihoods. The report explains purchase-of-development-rights transactions and programs in Western states. Specifically, this publication was written to help western landowners, local communities, and state legislators understand PDR as a compensatory approach to conservation. The Udall Center facilitated this collaborative publication, incorporating the input of over 100 individuals who have been involved in land conservation and protection of working landscapes in the West. For more details on this report, contact Mette Brogden at metteb@u.arizona.edu or at (520) 884-4393.

In December 2000, the Core Working Group of the Roundtable met to discuss re-establishing dialogues between interest groups following the hotly contested growth and land-use ballot measures in the November 2000 elections. State trust-land policy was foremost on the agenda, following the defeat of Proposition 100. (Proposition 100, developed by the Governor’s Growing Smarter Commission, was legislation concerning state trust-lands).

This spring, the Roundtable’s Sustainable Ranching Study Committee will be meeting monthly to develop a framework for sustainable ranching in the arid Southwest. Fifteen participants with a variety of land-use interests are examining the economic, ecological and social aspects of sustainable ranching and will generate a report in early summer.

For more information on the Arizona Common Ground Roundtable, visit the Web site <udallcenter.arizona.edu/commonground>, or contact Mette Brogden at metteb@u.arizona.edu.
Collaborative Conservation in Theory and Practice: A Literature Review
by Alex Conley and Ann Moote
February 2001, 33pp., $10.00

This review presents a synthesis of the literature—more than 300 items—on collaborative and community-based approaches to natural resources management. Each section describes selected, representative literature for a particular topic to give the interested reader a beginning on which to base further investigations.

The first set of sections looks at the different theories that have informed the development of collaborative conservation: international experiences, democratic theory, public participation in planning, theories of collaboration, community dynamics and development, sense of place and community, devolution of federal powers, critiques of federal land management agencies, alternative dispute resolution, ecosystem management, and watershed management.

The second set includes literature that deals explicitly with collaborative conservation as practiced in the United States: overviews, how-to guides, case studies, catalogs and classification systems, criticism, evaluating collaborative conservation, and facilitating and inhibiting factors.

Creative Ventures:

Cecilia Granillo, an undergraduate student at the Center majoring in geography and regional development, is the author of three poems, “My Dad, Confucius,” “She Can Dance,” and “Club Sandwich” in the spring 2001 issue of the student-run journal Red Ink, published under the auspices of the American Indian Studies programs at the UA.


Reprints of Recent Publications by Center Staff


Reprints are available through the Center. For more information, contact Jen McCormack at jenmack@email.arizona.edu or at (520) 884-4393.

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