

UDALL CENTER UPDATE

Notices from the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at The University of Arizona • Number 16 • December 2001

Native Nations Institute Receives Federal Funds

In October, through the efforts of Morris K. Udall Foundation Chair Terrence Bracey and University of Arizona President Peter Likins, Congress authorized the Foundation—a federal agency—to transfer up to \$1 million of its funds to the Udall Center for support of the Native Nations Institute (NNI). Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii, chairman of the Senate's Committee on Indian Affairs, was particularly helpful in obtaining the authorization. These funds—the actual transfer is \$940,000—will be spread over three years and will provide necessary core funding for NNI personnel and operations. Small amounts also will go



through NNI to other university units, in particular American Indian Studies and the new Indigenous Law and Policy Program at the Rogers College of Law, that are working in various ways with indigenous nations. Along with funds from the Ford Foundation, the Peter C. Cornell Trust, and other sources, these federal monies will allow NNI to expand executive education, research, and other programs that to date have been largely in the planning or pilot stages.

For more information on the Native Nations Institute, visit its Web site at <http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/nativenations/home.html> or contact NNI Director Manley Begay at the Udall Center.

CONFERENCE ON BUILDING NATIVE NATIONS

There is still time to register for the “Building Native Nations: Environment, Natural Resources, and Governance” conference to be held December 11-13 in Tucson. This event is being hosted and organized by the Udall Center's Native Nations Institute and the Morris K. Udall Foundation, with additional support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Over 300 participants are expected at the event, which will explore natural-resources and environmental co-management issues; science, data, and traditional knowledge; and building tribal institutional capacities. Confirmed speakers include Donald Antone Jr., governor of Gila River Indian Community; Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI); Regis Pecos, governor of Cochiti Pueblo; Sophie Pierre, chief of St. Mary's First Nation; and Charles Wilkinson, professor of The University of Colorado at Boulder School of Law.

Those interested in registering (\$275; \$200 for students with proof of full-time registration) for the event can mail or fax in the registration form available under the “Building Native Nations Conference” link on the Center's Web site, udallcenter.arizona.edu/conference/bnn2.htm, or by calling (520) 884-4393.

ECOSTART GRANT TO FACILITATE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ALONG THE U.S.-MEXICO BORDER

Postdoctoral fellow Anne Browning-Aiken and research associate Denise Moreno received a grant in August from Border PACT to promote science and environmental education in Arizona and Sonora schools along the San Pedro River.

Border PACT—Border Partners in Action—is part of the Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration (CONAHEC) at The University of Arizona. The grant provides funds to train teachers from Sonoran border towns in environmental curriculum development through the GLOBE environmental education program at The University of Arizona and through workshops with regional environmental organizations such as La Red Fronteriza de Salud y Ambiente, the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Huachuca Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, and WaterWise.



Teachers have been learning how to integrate ecosystem principles and the hydrologic cycle into their existing curricula and to help second-, third-, and eighth-grade students set up weather stations, construct bird houses, develop clean-up and recycling campaigns within their communities, and implement water conservation measures in their homes.

The project will culminate with a Hands Across the Border/Manos a Traves de la Frontera exchange in the spring of 2002. Mexican students and teachers from Cananea and Naco, Sonora, and Arizonans from Sierra Vista will participate in two daylong exchanges, where they will share their environmental projects and take a field trip to the San Pedro River. For more information on this project, contact Anne Browning-Aiken at browning@u.arizona.edu or at (520) 884-4393.

Read All About It: *AuroraNet News*

The Udall Center invites those interested in geographic information and decision-support tools to subscribe to *AuroraNet News*, a weekly online newsletter issued by the Center for the Aurora Partnership. The Partnership is a public/private collaboration to develop tools, services, and systems for place-based decisionmaking and management. The Aurora Partnership includes both the developers and users of GIS and SDSS and has held three national conferences since its founding in 1998.

Presented in a user-friendly format, *AuroraNet News* summarizes research articles, evaluates Web sites, and describes events related to the use of geographic information systems (GIS) or spatial decision-support systems (SDSS). *AuroraNet News* has some 400 subscribers.

GIS is computerized mapping software that allows users to look at multiple layers of planning information within a given area. Researchers and planners apply the software to real-life situations to enhance their decisionmaking abilities. SDSS involves the use of GIS with other models (i.e. economic, hydrologic, ecologic) to develop multiple scenarios or outcomes for particular places.

The newsletter employs two undergraduate student writers: Matthew Lensch (English major) and Jennifer Hoff (anthropology major and UA/NASA Space Grant Intern), supervised by editors Robert Merideth and Kathleen Veslany.

For a free subscription to *AuroraNet News*, visit the Aurora Partnership's Web site at <http://www.aurorapartnership.org/AuroraNet.html> or contact Robert Merideth at merideth@u.arizona.edu.

Recent Udall Center Publications...

PAPER ADDRESSES ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION IN LOWER COLORADO RIVER BASIN AND DELTA

In the fall of 2000, the Udall Center and UC-MEXUS (the University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States) hosted a binational public symposium and workshop to address questions about management and policy in the Lower Colorado River watershed, the Colorado River Delta, and the Upper Sea of Cortés.

In a recent issue of *Journal of Arid Environments* (September 2001), the Udall Center's Robert Varady and Robert Merideth, along with former graduate associate Katherine Hankins, Andrea Kaus of UC-MEXUS, and Emily Young of The San Diego Foundation summarize observations and analyses raised at that event in **...to the Sea of Cortés: nature, water, culture, and livelihood on the Lower Colorado River basin and delta—an overview of issues, policies, and approaches to environmental restoration.**

The paper reiterates stakeholder discussions on the perceived problems and their solutions regarding topics relevant to Basin and Delta environmental restoration.

Among those subjects are historical policy and legal matters; the ecological connectivity of the Colorado River, its Delta, and Upper Sea of Cortés; the allocation and valuation of the Colorado River waters; community and cultural concerns in the Delta region; water quality; wildlife conservation; and future directions for the watershed.

TO REQUEST A COPY OR REPRINT OF ANY OF THESE PUBLICATIONS

contact Kathleen Vesany at 520.884.4392 or at vesany@mail.arizona.edu. The charges listed below cover reproduction, reprint costs, and in-gate postage. Checks can be made out to The University of Arizona Udall Center.

- **Managing Hazardous Material Along the U.S.-Mexico Border** 11pp 4.00
- **Public-private partnerships as catalysts for community-based water infrastructure development: the Border Water Works program in Texas and New Mexico colonias** 15pp 4.00
- **to the Sea of Cortés: nature, water, culture and livelihood on the Lower Colorado River basin and delta: an overview of issues, policies and approaches to environmental restoration** 11pp 4.00

ALTERNATIVES TO PUBLIC-SERVICE PROVISION OF WATER

A paper forthcoming in *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy* considers the effectiveness and desirability of an alternative approach to public-service provision of water and wastewater services.

The article **Public-private partnerships as catalysts for community-based water infrastructure development: the Border WaterWorks program in Texas and New Mexico colonias**, written by the Udall Center's Maria Carmen Lemos, Robert Merideth, and Robert Varady, and Diane Austin of the UA Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology, focuses on the Border WaterWorks program, a nongovernmental organization that has helped to deliver water-related services to *colonias*, or economically disadvantaged communities, along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The authors examine both the issues that emerge when nonprofit organizations take on functions of governments and service providers, and the conditions under which nonprofit organizations can advance water and wastewater infrastructure. The paper concludes that nonprofit providers achieve the most success when they serve as catalysts that assist the public sector, rather than when they deliver public-service infrastructure on their own.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ON U.S.-MEXICO BORDER

An article forthcoming in the December 2001 issue of *Environment* discusses how hazardous materials are produced, transported, and disposed of near the U.S.-Mexico border—as well as how they affect the environment and human health—against the backdrop of a host of transboundary issues.

In **Managing Hazardous Materials Along the U.S.-Mexico Border**, Udall Center deputy director, Robert Varady, former graduate associate Katherine Hankins, and Patricia Romero Lankao of the Departamento de Política y Cultura, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Xochimilco, Mexico, detail hazardous-material conditions on the U.S. and Mexican sides of the border, and analyze hazardous-material management and recent and current governmental policies in both countries.

The authors conclude by identifying two discernible trends concerning hazardous materials on the border: While the United States, diverted by recent courts and under more conservative leadership, will likely hesitate in initiating innovative, new policies, Mexico, under pressure to deliver on its promises for reform, can be expected to show more bold and progressive actions.

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- American Indian Policy/Indigenous Nations Policy
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- U.S.-Mexico Border Policy
- Environmental Conflict Resolution
- Publications & Events

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Udall Center Update is published periodically by the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at The University of Arizona. The Center's areas of focus are environmental conflict resolution, U.S.-Mexico border environmental issues, environmental policy in the Southwest, and American Indian economic development and self-governance policy.

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