On January 23, 2004, the newly evolving San Pedro Binational Watershed Alliance met in Naco, Arizona. Facilitated by the Udall Center, the meeting brought together the Cananea Municipal Water Commission, the Instituto del Medio Ambiente y el Desarrollo Sustentable (IMADES), and the Comisión de Agua Potable y Alcantarillado del Estado de Sonora (COAPAES) in Mexico, and the Upper San Pedro Partnership and Water Wise in the U.S. to develop a watershed-based conservation plan for the Upper San Pedro Basin.

The purpose of the Alliance is to establish a holistic, ecosystem-based approach to natural resources conservation and environmental planning. By providing a broad context for coordinated watershed conservation efforts as well as a valuable conservation-planning tool, the Alliance hopes to empower local organizations to direct their limited resources more efficiently into the most urgently needed projects and solutions. For more information about the San Pedro Binational Watershed Alliance, contact Anne Browning-Aiken at 520.884.4393 or <browning@u.arizona.edu>. Information about past and future Alliance meetings is available at <udallcenter.arizona.edu/sanpedro/dialogues/>.

The third annual Native Nations Institute/Roger Willie Golf Tournament will take place at Starr Pass Resort on April 30 and May 1, 2004. Last year more than 80 participants hit the course at Starr Pass to raise money for the NNI/Roger Willie Endowment Fund. The Fund allows NNI to address the challenges of nation-building through leadership and management programs, research and policy analysis, collaborative relationships, endowed chairs and directorships, and a policy fellows program.

For sponsorship information or to register for the fundraising tournament, contact Ina Holm at 520.884.4393 or <holm@u.arizona.edu>. Actor Roger Willie is currently a graduate student in the UA’s American Indian Studies department and is a member of the Navajo Nation.
The Native Nations Institute’s Native American Youth Entrepreneur Camp (NAYEC) will be held on the University of Arizona campus on July 11–16, 2004.

NAYEC is intended to teach high school juniors, seniors, and recent graduates the basics of economics, computer skills, and business plan preparation through activities that lead to personal and professional development. Students will also have the opportunity to meet and seek advice from Native American business professionals through classroom visits and field trips to nearby native-owned businesses. At the culminating event of the camp, the Youth Marketplace, students will get a taste of what it’s like to run their own businesses using what they learned in the classroom.

NNI is currently seeking interested sponsors and students for this year’s youth entrepreneur camp. For more information, contact Rose Chischillie at 520.884.4393 or <rchischi@u.arizona.edu>. NAYEC was created to foster skills that will encourage private-sector development on reservations.

NNI Strengthens International Ties

At the invitation of the government of the Northern Territory and Reconciliation Australia, Native Nations Institute Director Manley Begay and Udall Center Director Stephen Cornell spent nearly three weeks in Australia during October and November 2003. Reconciliation Australia is a quasi-governmental organization that works closely with indigenous groups across the country on economic, political, and social welfare issues. Joined by Git’ksan leader Neil Sterritt from British Columbia, Begay and Cornell visited several indigenous communities in various parts of the Northern Territory to discuss governance and development challenges with community leaders and government officials.

The trip culminated in a major conference on “Building Effective Indigenous Governance,” held at Jabiru in Kakadu National Park. Begay and Cornell were featured presenters at the conference, where they discussed the steps that indigenous nations in the United States are taking to assert self-governing powers and create sustainable economies. Conference presentations by Begay and Cornell can be found at <www.nt.gov.au/cdsca/indigenous_conference/web/html/papers.html>.
Elusive Identity: Lessons from an NGO on Mexico’s Northern Border
by Emily M. Brott and Anne Browning-Aiken
Presents the results of a survey of members of the Asociación Regional Ambiental Sonora-Arizona (Sonora-Arizona Regional Environmental Association, or ARASA), a young Mexican environmental grassroots group that has faced substantial threats to its survival and efficacy. The research assesses strategies for strengthening the group and offers potentially useful suggestions for other organizations facing similar issues.

“Moving Borders from the Periphery to the Center: River Basins, Political Boundaries, and Water Management Policy”
Negotiating science and policy water interests across borders, particularly international ones, is a significant challenge for scientists and policymakers. The authors discuss the background and key institutional forms of these crucial crossborder collaborations, describe complicating factors, and examine current trends.

Many of the Udall Center publications are offered free in PDF at <udallcenter.arizona.edu>. To order print copies, contact Kim Leeder at 520.884.4393 or <leederk@u.arizona.edu>.
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The Joint Occasional Papers in Native Affairs (JOPNA)

The Native Nations Institute and the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development have joined forces to distribute research on Native American policy and economic development. The four JOPNA papers below are presently available, and several additional papers are planned for 2004.

Alaska Native Self-Government and Service Delivery: What Works?
by Stephen Cornell and Joseph P. Kalt
Reviews examples of Native self-governance initiatives underway in Alaska, and examines the applicability to Alaska of research on indigenous self-governance in the lower forty-eight states and Canada.

Reloading the Dice: Improving the Chances for Economic Development on American Indian Reservations
by Stephen Cornell and Joseph P. Kalt
(from What Can Tribes Do? by Cornell and Kalt, 1992)
Reviews the obstacles that Indian nations face as they pursue their development goals, and suggests ways that newly empowered tribal governments can improve their tribes' chances of achieving self-determined development success.

Sovereignty and Nation-Building: The Development Challenge in Indian Country Today
by Stephen Cornell and Joseph P. Kalt
The authors review two different approaches to reservation economic development: the "jobs and income" approach and the "nation building" approach.

Social and Economic Consequences of Indian Gaming in Oklahoma
by Kenneth W. Grant II, Katherine A. Spilde, and Jonathan B. Taylor
This study of Class II gaming operations in Oklahoma finds that tribal governments are successfully translating revenues and employment opportunities from gaming into positive social investment, offering a striking example of gaming operations accomplishing their principal intent.

PDFs of these papers are online at <udallcenter.arizona.edu/publications/pubs_jopna.htm>. For print copies, contact Kim Leeder at 520.884.4393 or <leederk@u.arizona.edu>.