

udall center update

No. 28
October 2005

News from the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at the University of Arizona

Udall Center Initiates Pilot Program in Immigration Policy

Building on the Center's experience with multi-stakeholder policy dialogues

The Udall Center recently launched a new university-based program focused on immigration policy that aims to illuminate the complexities of immigration in a global economy.

“By working at the intersection of academic research and public policy,” said Judith Gans, the program’s manager, “our goal is to promote reasoned dialogue on immigration, dialogue that avoids simplistic answers and looks at the bigger picture of U.S. immigration in the context of global conditions.”

Enforceable immigration policy, according to Gans, must balance a range of interests and issues.

“When laws are fundamentally at odds with overwhelming political and economic realities, they are doomed to fail,” she said.

To identify the key elements of an enforceable system, Gans plans to convene—over the course of the next year or so—expert researchers, policymakers and government officials, leaders in the business and labor communities, representatives from the media, and other

stakeholders in a series of interactive policy dialogues and educational forums.

Working with Gans to host these meetings are a consortium of other academic institutions, the Communica-



Judith Gans, program manager of the Udall Center's emerging Immigration Policy Program

tions Institute of Pasadena, Calif., and the Hon. Romano L. Mazzoli (D-KY, ret.), who was co-author with Senator Alan Simpson (R-WY, ret.) of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

In advance of the meetings, Gans and graduate research associate Sandra Holland are preparing a background document, *Understanding Immigration: A Policy Primer on Immigration in the United States*, to be published early in 2006.

The primer will present the best available data to portray the economic, cultural, and legal context in which immigration to the United States takes place.

The data will look at various aspects of immigration, such as trends in the numbers and countries of origins of immigrants to the United States, migration in a global economy, issues of socialization and incorporation, the economic contributions of immigrants and their use of social services, and the phenomenon of and varied responses to illegal immigration.

Gans has prepared two papers on aspects of immigration policy (see box below); both papers are available for free on the program’s Web site.

For more information, contact Judith Gans at gans@u.arizona.edu.

Udall Center Immigration Policy Working Papers

Citizenship in the Context of Globalization

by Judith Gans (June 2005, 15 pp.)

Lays out a conceptual framework for the tensions between citizenship and globalization in its current manifestations and contrasts the impact of globalization on citizenship in the United States today as compared to globalization during the last great wave of immigration to the United States at the turn of the 20th century.

Then and Now: Today's Echos of the Progressive Era

by Judith Gans (June 2005, 17 pp.)

Discusses the major forces shaping the politics of immigration control during the period between the late 1800s and 1928, when the national origins quota system was adopted, with comparisons to the forces shaping present-day immigration politics.

Available at: www.udallcenter.arizona.edu/programs/immigration/working_papers_index.html

policy research and outreach for decisionmaking

RESEARCH

Teaching by learning from students' families

Reporting on an ethnographic study of an immigrant family in Tucson, Ariz., Anne Browning-Aiken describes how teachers with multicultural students might extract from ethnographic interviews and participant observation a clearer understanding of their students' cultural backgrounds, including the families' educational philosophies, which might inspire relevant curriculum design.

Browning-Aiken asserts that educational institutions could develop policies to utilize better the cultural resources available

through students' families to facilitate learning experiences that help restructure and expand students' knowledge.

In her study, she applied the information gathered in her ethnographic study to develop a curriculum module focused on the geology of the region, mining, local history, and relevant ecological issues.

SOURCE: Browning-Aiken, Anne. 2005. Border Crossings: Funds of Knowledge within an Immigrant Household. In N. Gonzalez, L.C. Moll, and C. Amanti, eds., *Funds of Knowledge: Theorizing Practices in Households, Communities, and Classrooms*, Erlbaum Associates: Mahwah, NJ, pp. 167-81.

Connecting indigenous decisionmaking and social welfare

Based on a speech delivered at the National Forum on Indigenous Health and the Treaty Debate held in September 2004 at the University of New South Wales in Australia, Stephen Cornell argues that if national governments want significant and sustainable improvement in the daily lives of indigenous communities, that the only effective policy orientation is to place substantive decisionmaking power directly in the hands of indigenous citizens or governments.

Cornell cites a number of success stories across North America, such as: the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and the effective prioritization and provision of health care services; the development of well-run housing programs among Native Alaskan villages; the sustainable management of natural resources by Sandia Pueblo and the Jicarilla

Apache Tribe, both in New Mexico; the development of innovative and responsive courts and public safety programs by the Gila River Indian Community in Arizona and the Navajo Nation of Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah; and thriving economic enterprises by the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and Cochiti Pueblo of New Mexico.

Cornell suggests three important outcomes that occur when indigenous nations gain control over their own affairs: indigenous priorities replace federal bureaucratic priorities; decisions begin to take on a local character, reflecting local knowledge and culture; and community decisions and their consequences to those communities become linked.

SOURCE: Cornell, Stephen. 2005. Indigenous Jurisdiction and Daily Life: Evidence from North America, in *Balayi: Culture, Law and Colonialism*, 7:145-53.

Assessing water policy and science interactions in North American watersheds

The Hydrology for the Environment, Life and Policy initiative, or HELP, is a joint venture of UNESCO and the World Meteorological Organization.

HELP aims to engage water-law and policy experts, water resources managers, and scientists to work together on selected basins worldwide to establish linkages, share information and methodologies, and encourage dialogue related to sustainable use of water resources and the maintenance of ecological integrity in the basins.

Investigators from five of the 11 North American HELP basins describe the key water management issues, institutional framework, and scientific character for their basins: Willamette River (Oregon), Luquillo Mountains (Puerto Rico), Upper San Pedro River (Arizona and Sonora), Lake Champlain (Vermont, New York, and Quebec), and Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River (New York, Ontario, and Quebec).

SOURCE: Goodrich, D.C., E.Z. Stakhiv, A. Browning-Aiken, K. Vache, J.R. Ortiz-Zayas, J.F. Blanco, F.N. Scatena, R.G. Varady, W.B. Bowden, and W. Howland. 2005. The HELP (Hydrology for the Environment, Life and Policy) Experience in North America. In *Proceedings of the EWRI (ASCE Environmental and Water Resources Institute) Watershed Management Conference*, Williamsburg, VA (July 2005), 12 pp.

Making business enterprises successful for First Nations

What does it take to make First Nations' enterprises successful? Stephen Cornell answers by citing more than two decades of research findings from the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development and the Native Nations Institute that point to several keys to success.

These have to do with (1) the clarity of enterprise goals; (2) the effectiveness of managing the politics-business connection; (3) the purpose, power, and composition of enterprise boards; (4) mechanisms for the independent resolution of disputes; and (5) educating the community about enterprise goals and activity.

SOURCE: Cornell, Stephen. 2005. What Makes First Nations Enterprises Successful? Lessons from the Harvard Project. In Dwight Dorey and Joseph Magnet, eds., *Legal Aspects of Aboriginal Business Development*, LexisNexis Canada: Toronto, pp. 51-65.

Udall Center Names Winner of 2005 Lillian S. Fisher Prize

Annual Award in Environmental Law and Policy

The Udall Center named Lauren Whattam Lester, a recent graduate of the University of Arizona's (UA) James E. Rogers College of Law, as the winner of the 2005 Lillian S. Fisher Prize in Environmental Law and Public Policy.

Lester's award-winning essay, "Protecting the Fish and Eating Them, Too: The Unintended Impacts of the Endangered Species Act's Critical Habitat Designation on Tribal Consumptive Water Use," was chosen by UA faculty reviewers as the best submission in this year's competition.

"Lauren Lester's paper is an important piece of work and takes up a critical aspect of tribal water rights and use," said Udall Center Director Stephen Cornell.

"She shows how the peculiarities of federal environmental law sometimes combine with patterns of non-Indian development to place limits on tribal development prospects," he said.

The paper looks at the disproportionate burden that tribes must bear, compared to other water consumers in the West, to set aside portions of their water allocations for endangered-species protection.

"In the West, the development of dams has rendered most rivers and streams unsuitable for native fishes," said Robert Glennon, UA Morris K. Udall Professor of Law and Public Policy and an expert on water law, "and, as a result, most of the suitable habitat needed to protect these endangered species exists on tribal reservations."

"The ironic and perverse result is that we expect tribes to forego economic development in order to save endangered species that, for the most part, the tribes had no hand in rendering endangered," he added.

The prize, awarded annually by the Udall Center to a student at the Rogers College of Law, is made possible by an endowment from retired Pima County Superior Court Judge Lillian S. Fisher. The prize comes with a \$1000 stipend.

As a UA law student, Lester developed an expertise on the intersection of Indian law and environmental law, specifically water law.

The Udall Center will publish Lester's paper in its monograph series later this year.

For more information, contact Kim Abraham at (520) 626.4393 or kabraham@u.arizona.edu.

research on the web

global water initiatives (GWIs)

The aim of the Udall Center's Global Water Initiatives Project is to redress the paucity of research on global water initiatives—institutions whose fundamental purpose is to advance the knowledge base regarding the world's inland water and its management.

The process will help answer key questions on the genesis, operation, and influence of the most significant initiatives, and yield better understanding of the nature of their interactions.

The GWIs Web site contains a description of the purpose and activities of the project; a collection of working papers, PowerPoint presentations, and a bibliography; and links to more than 60 GWIs (professional societies, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations, designated time periods, and events).

udallcenter.arizona.edu/programs/gwis/index.html

nni research report

The Native Nations Institute provides, via the quarterly *NNI Research Report*, a free, electronic, information service that highlights recent research on indigenous governance, development, and policy conducted by NNI and others. The report also interprets the results of research projects worldwide whose findings, though not necessarily focused on indigenous nations, would nonetheless be relevant.

NNI Research Report No. 3 (October 2005) is now available, as is an archive of previous issues.

nni.arizona.edu/researchreport.html

jopna

A new publication in the Joint Occasional Papers in Native Affairs (JOPNA) series is available: *Seizing the Future: Why Some Native Nations Do and Others Don't* (by S. Cornell, M. Jorgensen, J.P. Kalt, and K.A. Spilde, JOPNA 2005-01).

This study examines the question of why some Native nations seize upon the nation building strategy and take effective control of their futures while others do not. The authors find that change arises when the external and internal conditions a people face interact with their interpretations of their situation, producing a new, shared "story" of what is possible, and how it can be achieved.

jopna.net

OUTREACH

Native American Youth Entrepreneur Camp

The Native Nations Institute held the ninth Native American Youth Entrepreneur Camp (NAYEC) in July 2005. The events are the brainchild of Joan Timeche, assistant director of the Native Nations Institute (see back page).

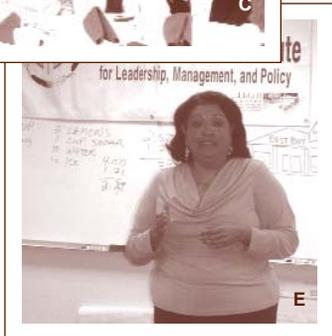
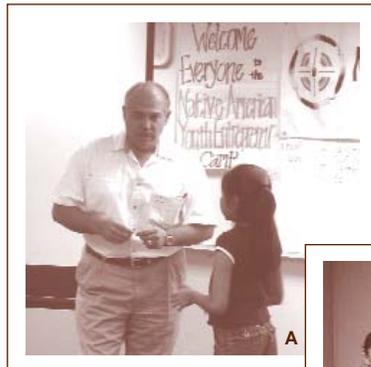
The innovative camps are intended to encourage private-sector development in Indian Country.

This past year's camp brought together 14 high-school students from five indigenous groups to the University of Arizona's campus to learn the basics of economics, computer skills, strategies for success, and business-plan preparation.

Students represented the Gila River Indian Community, Navajo Nation, Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and Tohono O'odham Nation.

Winners in this year's Business Plan Showcase competition were: Samantha Johnson, Casa Grande High School, Gila River Indian Community (first place); Harlyn Jackson, Westwood High School, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (second place); and Jessica Garcia, Tucson Magnet High School, Pascua Yaqui Tribe (third place).

For more information, contact Joan Timeche at timechej@u.arizona.edu.



- A. David Jacome, Tohono O'odham Nation Economic Development Department, and Morgan Timeche, guest
- B. Amanda Nuñez (seated), camp participant and Carrie Hansen, camp assistant
- C. NAYEC group at the Business Plan Showcase
- D. Students playing the game of Guesstures (left to right): Alexine Morales, Amber Mix, Amanda Nuñez, Victoria Martinez, Eugenia Tashquinth
- E. Sheila Morago, Arizona Indian Gaming Association
- F. Students selling at the Youth Marketplace at the Pascua Yaqui Tribe's Administration Building: Victoria Martinez (standing, left) and Alethea Juan (seated, left)
- G. Students playing the Tower of Power Game (clockwise from lower left) Samantha Johnson, Eugenia Tashquinth, Harlyn Jackson, and Raynetta Antone

Photos by NAYEC Staff

GUEST SPEAKERS

Jason Coochwytewa, Alternatives ◦ Sylvia Dawavendewa, UA American Indian Studies Program ◦ Ivan Eagletail, University of New Mexico
 Lucinda Hughes-Juan, Tohono O'odham Nation ◦ David Jacome, Tohono O'odham Nation Economic Development Department ◦ Matt Kisto, VMK Enterprises, Inc.
 Sally Martinez, Gila River Economic Development Department ◦ Sheila Morago, Arizona Indian Gaming Association ◦ June Shorthair, Gila River Casinos
 Shawneen Stevenson, Maricopa County FSA Office

JUDGES

Rick Harshman, Desert Diamond Casino ◦ Susan Parcels, Desert Diamond Casino ◦ Stuart Williams, Pima County Treasurer's Office

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 Salt River Materials Group, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community ◦ Tucson Unified School District
 UA American Indian Studies Program ◦ Jessica Wade-Murphy

NAYEC STAFF

Joan Timeche, NNI Assistant Director/Camp Director ◦ Rose Chischillie, NNI Office Specialist/Camp Assistant
 Monica Nichols, NNI Administrative Associate/Camp Assistant ◦ Fronia Jones, Camp Coordinator
 Carrie Hansen, Camp Assistant ◦ Theran Tallsalt, Camp Assistant

Expert Cites Telecommunications Needs in Indian Country

In the rapidly changing realm of telecommunications, Indian Country is at a critical juncture.

“The adoption and use of information technology could significantly advance the sovereignty of Native nations” said Kade Twist, vice president for policy and development at the Washington, D.C.-based Native Networking Policy Center, at a recent lecture hosted by the Native Nations Institute.

According to Twist, the greatest potentials from information technology can be realized in the areas health care, education, government services, and micro-enterprises or home-based businesses.

But, for that to occur, Twist said several conditions need to be in place.

First, tribal leaders need to understand that information technology is an integral component of, not separate from, tribal economic and community development. Tribal leaders need to commit to developing an effective telecommunications and information technology infrastructure.

In addition, to complement the development of technology, tribal citizens will need to develop through educa-

tion a higher level of “information literacy” to exploit technology most successfully and to access and develop content that is most appropriate to their needs.

Finally, federal policies supportive of Native nations’ interests, such as the Native American Connectivity Act (S. 535) introduced this past year in Congress, need to be adopted and implemented.



Kade Twist, vice president for policy and development at the Native Networking Policy Center

In that vein, Twist stated that it is critical that the Community Broadband Act of 2005 (S. 1254), a bill that would revise the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, include provisions to allow tribes to regulate telecommunications on their lands.

Twist also indicated that the paucity of data—about the use of computers, the

availability of broadband telecommunications, or other aspects of access and use of the technology in Indian Country—impedes the development of effective public policy.

“Except for statistics on telephone availability, little else is known. Because of the lack of data, we don't even have the capability to identify or define the problems, let alone develop strategies and policies to deal with a problem,” said Twist.

The aim of the Native Networking Policy Center—a coalition of tribes, intertribal organizations, American Indian organizations, tribal colleges and universities, and public interest groups—is to advance public dialogue on these topics and to facilitate problem solving among tribes, federal and state governments, utilities, and other stakeholders.

For more information about the Native Networking Policy Center, including reports and policy papers, see www.nativenetworking.org.

Support for the presentation by Kade Twist was provided by the Morris K. Udall Foundation.

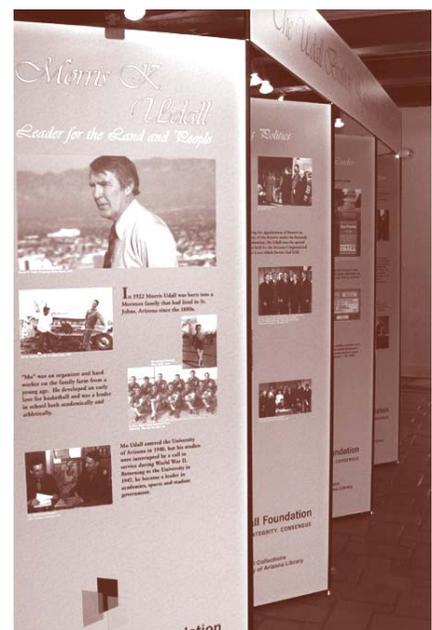
Udall Brothers: Voices for the Environment a traveling exhibit

Honoring the late Morris K. Udall, U.S. Representative from southern Arizona for 30 years, and Stewart L. Udall, former Secretary of the Interior, a new traveling exhibit prepared by the University of Arizona Library Special Collections depicts the decades of public-service contributions of the two Udall brothers in the area of environmental public policy.

The exhibit was featured recently in a ceremony celebrating the Udall brothers held at the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C., where the exhibit was on display from May through July. The venues of current and upcoming exhibits include the Arizona Capitol Museum (through December 2005), the University of Arizona Law Library (January-May 2006), and then the Udalls' birthplace, St. Johns, Ariz., from June through August 2006.

Support for the exhibit's creation came via the Udall Center's annual workplan funded by the Morris K. Udall Foundation.

For more information on the exhibit's availability for loan, including dimensions and shipping details, contact Amara Edwards at edwardsamara@u.library.arizona.edu.



Evon Photography

connections

news from affiliated programs and organizations

Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development

Study Examines Large Foundations' Giving to Native America

Since 2000, the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development has been creating a historical database of large foundations' investments in Native America.

Using data obtained from Internal Revenue Service records as reported by the Foundation Center, a private philanthropy-tracking organization, the database compiles grantmaking information from the approximately 900 largest private, corporate, community, and operating foundations in the United States.

"We found that the real dollar value of giving to Native American causes and concerns is increasing," said Miriam Jorgensen, a co-author of the Harvard Project study and associate director for research with the Native Nations Institute.

For example, the number of grants to Native America rose from 301 in 1989 to 504 in 2002, and the combined annual grantmaking rose from \$32.9 million to \$91.9 million (in 2002 dollars).

The study also found that over the past 14 years, 25 foundations contributed more than 78 percent of the total resources captured in the analysis. Ten foundations contributed 61 percent of the funding.

Funding also tended to concentrate in certain areas, including Indian education; arts, culture, and humanities; community improvement and development; and health issues. These four areas accounted for 60 percent of the funds tracked by the study.

While the study didn't capture all philanthropy to Native America—namely, small grants, grants to broader causes that might also benefit Native Americans, or grants by Native American corporations or governments—it does provide a comprehensive picture of trends within the non-Native, formal philanthropic sector.

For more information, contact Miriam Jorgensen at miriam_jorgensen@harvard.edu.

SOURCE

Hicks, S., and M. Jorgensen. 2005. *Large Foundations' Giving to Native America*, Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development: Cambridge, MA, 20 pp. <hpaied.jfk.harvard.edu>

Morris K. Udall Foundation

Udall Scholars Orientation

In August, the Udall Foundation welcomed this year's 81 Udall Scholars to Tucson with an orientation about the mission of the foundation and the life and legacy of Morris K. Udall.

The scholars heard presentations by Udall Foundation Executive Director Chris Helms and Chairman of the Board Terry Bracy; Don Carson, author of *Mo: The Life and Times of Morris K. Udall*; and by Mo's daughter, Anne Udall, interviewing his sister, Elma, about growing up in St. Johns, Ariz.

Other speakers included Robert Glennon, Kathy Jacobs, and Robert Williams of the University of Arizona; Vernon Masayesva, former chair of the Hopi Tribe; and Brad Udall, Mo's son and director of the Western Water Assessment Center for Science and Technology Policy Research at the University of Colorado.

For more information, contact Melissa Millage at (520) 670-5542 or millage@udall.gov.

U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution

National Advisory Committee Report

The National Environmental Conflict Resolution Advisory Committee to the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution recently issued a report, based on a two-year study, recommending how the institute might further promote resolution of environmental conflicts involving federal agencies and to help the federal government implement Section 101 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The aim of the committee's study was to increase federal-agency use of collaborative and conflict-resolution processes related to environmental or natural resource issues, to enhance the ability of affected parties to participate in such processes, and to advance the institute's role as a leader in assisting federal agencies with such conflicts.

In that regard, the committee offered a range of suggestions the institute might want to pursue, such as developing a "toolkit" of management approaches to help federal agencies improve the way they think about and deal with environmental conflicts, or organizing ways to facilitate cross-agency training, collaboration, and communication that might support environmental conflict resolution.

To view a copy of the report, see www.ecr.gov/necrac/reports.htm.

Institute for the Study of Planet Earth (ISPE)

Climate of the Southwest (CLIMAS) Newsletter

Beginning with the Fall 2005 issue, the *CLIMAS Update*, a biannual newsletter about the research and outreach activities of the NOAA-funded Climate Assessment for the Southwest (CLIMAS) project at the University of Arizona, is moving to an "electronic-only" format available at www.ispe.arizona.edu/climas/pubs.html#newsletter.

For more information or to receive e-mail notices of new issues, contact Niina Haas at niina@email.arizona.edu.

STAFF NEWS

For those planning on participating in the 5th Annual Roger Willie/NNI Charity Golf Tournament (in April 2006), be advised: NNI Director **Manley Begay** recently hit a hole in one at We-Ko-Pa Golf Club at the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Ft. McDowell, Ariz. (hole number 14, 159 yards, using a 5 iron).

In late June, Begay and **Ian Record**, NNI's curriculum development manager, traveled to New Zealand to take part in Te Ara Matariki: Pathway to New Beginnings, a conference on indigenous sustainable development co-sponsored by the Center for Māori Innovation and Development, the University of Auckland Business School, and the Auckland University of Technology. Begay delivered a presentation on "The Responsibilities and Challenges Facing Indigenous Leaders: Pathways and Insights from Native America for Aotearoa," while Record presented his recent research on indigenous fisheries with his talk "Casting the Box Aside: Innovation and What's Driving It Among Indigenous Fisheries in the United States and Canada."

In October, Begay and Udall Center Director **Stephen Cornell** presented an executive education session on "Nation Building: Leadership, Governance, and Economic Policy" to the Circumpolar Indigenous Leadership Symposium organized by the College of Rural Alaska, Uni-

versity of Alaska Fairbanks. The day-long session was attended by graduate and undergraduate students from a number of Alaska Native tribes and villages, most of whom are adult learners working in local government and in Alaska Native affairs.

In mid-August, Udall Center Deputy Director **Robert Varady** met in Mexico City with César Herrera, Secretary General of the Fourth World Water Forum, to take place in Mexico City in March 2005; and in Cuernavaca with officials at IMTA, the Mexican national water research institute, including Alvaro Aldama, Director General.

Later that month, Varady participated in two sessions at UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in Paris, including planning meetings for the HELP (Hydrology for the Environment, Life and Policy) Initiative.

Stephen Corral, a graduate research associate for the Native Nations Institute and a doctoral student in sociology, presented a paper, "Effects of Social Movements on State-level Policy Regimes for Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgender Individuals" at the American Sociological Association Meetings in Philadelphia in August.

In August, **Josh Pitre**, a master's degree student in American Indian studies, joined the Udall Center as a graduate research assistant for the Native Nations Institute.

VISITING SCHOLAR

Metta Young is visiting at the Udall Center through the early part of December as part of an Australian Fulbright professional scholarship that she was awarded this past spring.

She has come to Tucson to pursue research on how non-indigenous organizations work with Native peoples in North America, through partnerships that enhance both self-determination and cross-cultural relations.

Young is a senior researcher at the Centre for Appropriate Technology in Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia, and leads a number of research projects for the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre in the areas of effective education services, collaborative research methodologies, and settlement viability.

She has worked in the fields of welfare, youth issues, and education, and has 14 years' experience in Indigenous education in New South Wales and the Northern Territory, much of it working with remote Aboriginal communities.

She has worked extensively with at-risk youth, using innovative music and multimedia programs and focusing on the transition of "street kids" back to school.

Young is a graduate in psychology and anthropology from the Australian National University and has a master's degree from the University of South Australia.

She has a fourteen-year old daughter, Samara, who is with her in Tucson. It is the first visit to the United States for both of them. We welcome them both!

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The Udall Center conducts applied policy research and outreach in the areas of governance and economic development among indigenous nations; environmental policy and conflict resolution in the southwestern U.S.; and U.S.-Mexico border environmental policy.
udallcenter.arizona.edu

The Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy (NNI) - founded by the Morris K. Udall Foundation and the University of Arizona, and housed at the Udall Center - serves as a self-determination, self-governance, and development resource for indigenous nations in the United States, Canada, and elsewhere.
nni.arizona.edu

OUT THERE

Helping Youthful Dreams become Economic Reality

As she has for the past six years, Joan Timeche, assistant director of the Native Nations Institute, once again convened this summer the Native American Youth Entrepreneur Camp (see page 4), a program to teach students how to start and manage businesses in Indian Country.

“Economic conditions on many of our Indian reservations are bleak, with a minimal or nonexistent private sector,” said Timeche, a citizen of the Hopi Tribe.

“By exposing our Native youth to the world of entrepreneurship, we offer them a chance to expand the business sector on reservations and to improve economic conditions in the future,” Timeche added.

Timeche initiated the camps while working for eight years at Northern Arizona University’s Center for American Indian Economic Development.

In her capacity with NNI, she focuses on strategic economic development training and outreach programs. In addition, Timeche serves on the Economic Development Commission for the Tohono O’odham Nation.

This year’s camp, or NAYEC, took place at the University of Arizona (UA) in Tucson, July 17-22, bringing together fourteen Native American high-school juniors and seniors representing the Gila

River Indian Community, Navajo Nation, Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and Tohono O’odham Nation.

Under Timeche’s guidance, the students resided, ate meals, and attended classes on the UA campus. They met with Native American business profes-



Joan Timeche (left), director of the Native American Youth Entrepreneur Camp (NAYEC) and assistant director of the Native Nations Institute, with Alex Amarillas, a citizen of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and a winner in NAYEC’s 2004 Business Plan Showcase.

sionals and visited nearby Native-owned enterprises.

And they learned about basic economics, finances, retail and marketing, the use of computer software, and business-plan preparation from Timeche, who holds an MBA degree, and other instructors.

Timeche said a highlight of each camp is the Youth Marketplace, where

students run their own “mock” businesses by selling products or services.

The camps end with the Business Plan Showcase, where students present their ideas to a panel of “venture-capital” judges.

This year’s winner, Samantha Johnson, a citizen of the Gila River Indian Community and a senior at Casa Grande High School in Arizona, received a one-hundred-dollar first prize for her plan to create Samantha’s Tutoring.

Timeche wants to cultivate students, such as Samantha and the others, to become part of “the few and the brave”—business owners who realize that establishing a tribal-citizen-owned business is a sure way to create jobs and improve the standard of living on the reservation.

She sees the camp, and the tuition support that comes from tribal and private-sector sponsors, as a small investment that can have a tremendous benefit to Native communities.

“These kids have such great ideas and enthusiasm,” said Timeche. “All we are doing is giving them the tools and the confidence to help their business dreams grow into an economic reality.”

For more information, including sponsorship opportunities, contact Joan Timeche at timechej@u.arizona.edu or



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