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October 2012: OFELIA ZEPEDA (Tohono O’odham), Poet and Regents’ Professor of Linguistics, University of Arizona.

“The foremost scholar of Tohono O’odham, Ofelia Zepeda is a leader in the movement to preserve Indian languages.” (A to Z of American Indian Women, p. 209)

March 2013: JAMES LUNA (Luiseno), Performance Artist, San Francisco, CA.

“Using his culture and experience as a base for his work, Luna’s performance art, mixed-media installations, photography, and video works combine fiction with autobiography in an effort to express the narratives of his personal life and a collective existence of contemporary Native American people.” (St. James Guide to Native North American Artists, p. 341)

Kevin Gover was born in Lawton, Oklahoma as a member of the Pawnee Tribe. Mr. Gover received his bachelor’s degree in 1978 from Princeton University in public and international affairs, and then earned his law degree from the University of New Mexico in 1981. President Clinton selected Gover to serve as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs under Interior Secretary and former Arizona Governor, Bruce Babbitt. Gover served in this position from 1997-2001. During his tenure Gover upgraded Indian law enforcement, rebuilt Indian schools, reformed trust services and overhauled the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ management systems. He won wide praise for his reform efforts, but also for his apology on behalf of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the nations’ Indian communities for the history of wrongs done to them.

Gover joined the faculty at Arizona State University as a professor of law at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law in 2003, serving also as the co-executive director of the American Indian Policy Institute and an affiliate professor in the American Indian Studies Program. In 2007 he was appointed the Director of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian.

The Kevin Gover Collection (LAB MSS-188) was donated to the Labriola Center by Kevin Gover on June 6, 2004. The Collection contains over 1600 photographs, daily calendars, news clippings, personal correspondence, programs, speeches, video recordings, awards, and framed photographs which were collected between January 1997 and January 2001 when Kevin Gover served as Assistant Secretary of the Interior under Secretary Bruce Babbitt.
Dr. Cathleen Cahill’s book *Federal Fathers and Mothers: A Social History of the United States Indian Service, 1869-1933* published by the University of North Carolina Press was selected as the winner of the 2011 Labriola Center American Indian National Book Award. The judging committee consisted of ASU History Department faculty Dr. Donald Fixico and Dr. Katherine Osburn and American Indian Studies faculty Dr. David Martinez.

Established in 1824, the United States Indian Service, now known as the Bureau of Indian Affairs, was the agency responsible for carrying out U.S. treaty and trust obligations to American Indians, but it also sought to "civilize" and assimilate them. In *Federal Fathers and Mothers*, Cathleen Cahill offers the first in-depth social history of the agency during the height of its assimilation efforts in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. [http://uncpress.unc.edu/browse/book_detail?title_id=1882](http://uncpress.unc.edu/browse/book_detail?title_id=1882)

Dr. Cahill is an assistant professor of history at the University of New Mexico. Dr. Catherine Cahill visited the Labriola Center at noon on April 16th to discuss her award winning book. For further information on the book award see [http://lib.asu.edu/labriola/bookaward](http://lib.asu.edu/labriola/bookaward)
I am an American Indian Studies major at Arizona State University, which gives me the opportunity to attend the Conferences of the American Indian Studies Association that is held every spring semester. This spring semester is the beginning of my senior year, and the Navajo language has always been an interest of mine. During recent times the Navajo language, although viewed as one of the strongest surviving Native languages, has become less used by younger generations. A contributing factor to the dwindling number of fluent speakers is the fact that so many Navajo families reside off reservations in the cities either for employment or for school. This is a challenge that has personally taken its toll on me. I have a son and am teaching him the language through song, the task is hard, but there are materials out there to assist in this effort. So far we have been doing a good job at working on Navajo language skills.

With this in mind, my co-worker, Jessica suggested that I attend the Weaving Generations Through Native Languages: UNDRIP and the United States Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act of 2006 panel forum presented by Royce K. Freeman. Ms. Freeman introduced herself and described her field of study as the revitalization of Uto-Aztecan languages. The work that she presented was very interesting and caught my attention. It hit home for me because she spoke to us about how she and a friend, Cedric Sunray, took the initiative to teach their own children their Native language on their own time and with their own materials. This type of self-sufficiency is an example that other Native American tribes should adhere to. Waiting on funding only hinders the process of teaching and learning a Native American language. Children want to learn and if parents and other adults are there to encourage them, then the task will not be arduous, but fun and exciting.
Third Annual Cal Seciwa Feast and Fest
By Teiyanknei Dale

On May April 9, 2012 the ASU American Indian Council, a student run ASU Coalition, hosted the Third Annual Cal Seciwa Feast and Fest Banquet. They brought together generations of community builders as they celebrated their achievements and honor the lifeworks of a former ASU leader, mentor and inspiration...Cal Seciwa.

Previously known as the Feast and Fest, in 2010 the American Indian Council renamed this event in honor of the late Cal Seciwa for his continued commitment to student involvement and leadership development at ASU.

It is said that it was Cal Seciwa, a former Director of American Indian Institute (now called American Indian Student Support Services), who first encouraged the American Indian Council to take leadership of the annual Feast and Fest and encouraged a hands-on learning environment that has led us to where we are today.

Each year, ASU students nominate a fellow student and faculty member who embody Cal Seciwa’s commitment to leadership development within the ASU Native American Community.

This year’s awardee for The Cal Seciwa Outstanding Student Leadership Award was Diedra Vasquez a junior majoring in American Indian Studies and the 2011-2012 N.A.T.I.O.N.S President. The Cal Seciwa Outstanding Faculty Award was presented to Ms. Annabell Bowen an ASU Alumni and current Coordinator for ASU Office of the President, Advisor to the President on Native American Initiatives Office. The Cal Seciwa Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Mr. Michael Begaye the current Director of the American Indian Student Support Services.

Recognition was also given to the sixteen student-run Native American Student Organizations, with representation from Tempe, West and Downtown campuses.

Together the 16 student organizations nominated one organization that went above and beyond this school year and The Outstanding Student Organization Award was presented to AISES (American Indian Science and Engineering Society).

Labriola National American Indian Data Center:
Staff and Student Workers

“...We work hard every day to bring you the resources and services you need.”
The Labriola National American Indian Data Center was officially dedicated on April 1, 1993. The Center was made possible by the vision of Frank and Mary Labriola, whose generous endowment gift supports its work. It is their wish that "the Labriola Center be a source of education and pride for all Native Americans."

The Labriola National American Indian Data Center, part of the ASU Libraries, is a research collection international in scope that brings together in one location current and historic information on government, culture, religion and world view, social life and customs, tribal history, and information on individuals from the United States, Canada, Sonora, and Chihuahua, Mexico.