Navajo Nation Presidential Debate

During a planning meeting of American Indian Programs at ASU in September 2006 the possibility of ASU hosting a debate between the top two candidates in the then upcoming November 7th Navajo Nation election was proposed. Right away Associate Dean Dr. John Howard saw an opportunity for the Library to get involved; he suggested the Labriola Center could house the DVD of the debate and offer the debate on the ASU Libraries web site as a streaming video.

Due to scheduling conflicts, the debate was cancelled and then much to our surprise was on just five days before the event was to occur. By this time the PBS crew scheduled to film the debate were already obligated to other events, so the Labriola Center and the University Library offered to record the event. With the technical expertise of Matthew Harp, Matt Trobaugh, and Rob Fidler, assisted by the College of Law Instructional Technology department, the library was able to produce a professional quality recording of this historic event, which will now be archived in digital and hard copy form in the ASU University Library.

On Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2006 the two Navajo Nation presidential candidates – President Joe Shirley, Jr., and Lynda Lovejoy – participated in a moderated discussion with questions from four panelist and additional audience questions.

The debate was held in Armstrong Hall at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law and hosted by the Phoenix Indian Center, Arizona State University American Indian Policy and Leadership Development Center, and the Indian Legal Program, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law. Patricia Hibbeler, CEO of the Phoenix Indian Center, moderated the event.

You are invited to view the Navajo Nation Presidential Debate on the ASU Library Channel.

http://www.asu.edu/lib/librarychannel/

All videos are in the Quicktime format and will require the latest installed version.

A DVD of the event is available for viewing in the Labriola National American Indian Data Center on the second floor of Hayden Library on the ASU Tempe campus from 11AM - 5PM Monday - Friday.
Podcast on the ASU Library Channel—Native Voices: Native American Language Materials in the Labriola Center

In November, Joyce Martin, Acting Curator of the Labriola Center was interviewed by Fred McIlvain the host of the ASU Library Channel’s podcasts regarding the special handmade book, Cherokee Phoenix, Advent of a Newspaper: the Print Shop of the Cherokee Nation 1828-1834 by Frank Brannon previously featured in the Labriola Fall Newsletter. Cherokee Phoenix, Advent of a Newspaper focuses on the technical aspects and history of the newspaper and Cherokee printing. Fred and Joyce discuss printed examples of the Cherokee syllabary and other Cherokee materials held by the Labriola Center including language videos, coloring books, bibles, and popular comic books written in Cherokee and English.

They also spoke about other native language materials held by the Center, when Native American languages began to be written, a project to preserve and provide access to endangered language materials, and a traveling exhibit in the works for spring 2007.

The entire run of the Cherokee Phoenix newspaper is available on microfilm in the Labriola Center using the call number E99 .C5 C56 FILM

You can read more about the handmade book in the Labriola Fall 2006 Newsletter available on the Labriola Website http://www.asu.edu/lib/archives/labriola.htm

Check out the podcast on The Library Channel at http://www.asu.edu/lib/librarychannel/

8th Annual American Indian Studies Conference

The 8th Annual American Indian Studies Conference will be held this February 8th and 9th on the ASU Tempe Campus.

The Labriola Center will host a Poetry and Short Story Reading and Reception Thursday evening immediately following the conference sessions.

A tentative Conference agenda and registration form can be found on the ASU American Indian Studies website at http://www.asu.edu/clas/americindian/events.htm

The keynote speakers for the event are Simon J. Ortiz, Acoma Pueblo, an ASU professor in American Indian Studies and Department of English.

Dr. Ortiz is a poet and writer whose work focuses on the struggles of Indigenous Americans of North, Central, and South America to decolonize.

He is the author of numerous books, including Woven Stone, From Sand Creek, After and Before the Lightening, Men on the Moon, The People Shall Continue, and Earth Power Coming. His latest are Out There Somewhere, Beyond the Reach of Time and Change and The Good Rainbow Road. His current work in progress is a co-authored book entitled Children of Fire, Children of Water. Professor Ortiz is founder and coordinator of “What We Are: A Speaker Series.”

Dr. Elizabeth Cook-Lynn, Crow Creek Sioux, is Professor Emeriti of English and Native American Studies at Eastern Washington University.

Her work has been published in numerous journals including Prairie Schooner, Sun Tracks, Pembroke, Greenfield Review, Ethnic Studies Review, American Indian Quarterly, CCCC, and Wicazo Sa Review.

She is a popular visiting professor for the ASU American Indian Studies program.
Preparing to write a preservation and access grant to further protect our oral histories and language material, the Labriola Center conducted a survey of our audio visual resources. The following is a summary of our results.

Oral History: The Labriola Center holds 37 audio cassettes in three non-commercial oral history collections, covering such topics as urban education, WWII, family, termination and restoration status.

Ephemera: The Labriola Center holds 125 non-commercial tapes in our LAB AT audio cassette collection including such topics as education, government and the law, alcohol, ceremonies, the Yaqui, speeches given at Indian Day events, powwow, employment, and code talkers.

Manuscripts: The Labriola Center holds 80 audio cassettes and 55 reel to reel audio in 5 manuscript collections covering such topics as tribal politics, education, and ethnographic interviews.

Video: The Labriola Center holds 481 VHS tapes and 139 Beta and U-matic tapes and 4 Sony V-30H reels from 6 manuscript collections. The topics include education, the BIA, Navajo Nation politics, Apache oral histories on the Roosevelt Dam project, Apache songs, and the installation of a pottery and glass exhibit at the Heard Museum.

New Manuscript Collections

The Labriola Center acquired two new manuscript collections from ASU donors this last semester. Dr. Elizabeth Brandt donated 20 linear feet of material including studies, reports, research materials and 3 audio tapes on the Navajo Dropout Study; Apache language materials, including 27 videos on Apache language and Roosevelt Dam; Reverend Uppleger sermons; and Pueblo News 1975-1982.

The American Indian Institute (now American Indian Student Support Services) donated their historical and business records including conference packets and three ring binders, pamphlets, information booklets, books and magazines, ASU promotional material, self-studies, reports and publications, and AAI business files kept by director Cal Seciwa from 1989-2006.

ASU American Indian Programs’ Strategic Planning Retreat

In September 2006 the American Indian Policy and Leadership Development Center convened a meeting with the other ASU American Indian Programs including the Labriola Center to discuss how best to meet various needs on the ASU campus. Responding to President Crow’s 2002 American Indian Initiative which states in part: Arizona State University will gather and empower a large cohort of scholars focused on American Indian culture, social and economic issues. The cohort will lay the groundwork for positioning Arizona State University as the leading academic institution in the nation in the heretofore undeveloped intellectual discourse in matters related to American Indian culture and its implications in the context of the broader American culture... The initiative will encourage scholars from a spectrum of disciplines to offer differing perspectives... The American Indian initiative will prove transformational in the development of the field, and confirm the University’s commitment to programs that are socially relevant.

The group met to discuss two guiding questions: What needs should ASU American Indian Programs be trying to meet? How can we collaborate to generate additional resources to meet the most important needs? While the answers to these questions are complex and varied, ASU American Indian Programs will continue to work to support the ASU American Indian students and the larger American Indian community. Stay tuned for the results of our future collaborations.
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.

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ASU Libraries
Arizona State University

Labriola Center at ASU Homecoming 2006

October homecoming at ASU is always a good time for everyone with a full week of events including the lantern walk, battle of the bands, parade and the block party.

The lantern walk is a long standing tradition at ASU. This event is the Homecoming signature event as it allows students to retrace the steps of previous students up “A” Mountain in a ceremony celebrating ASU Pride.

The Battle of the Bands brings bands from the ASU community to compete against one another for up to $2000 in prize money and a chance to play at the Tempe music festival.

The annual parade invites the ASU community to show their accomplishments.

However, the block party is the biggest party of the year for the ASU Community. During the block party, various ASU departments host tables where they can meet with members of the ASU community and the public and describe their programs.

The Labriola Center presented a poster session at the American Indian Programs tent. The American Indian Programs all gathered together near the new Fulton Center to meet the public and share information about our programs with all who joined the block party. Food and fun was had by all.