Labriola National American Indian Data Center Newsletter

Edited By Joyce Martin, Curator

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Labriola Center
Spring Services

Please welcome two new student workers to the Labriola Center Reference Desk

- Jessica Antonio
- Fiona Teller

Look for an article by business administration major Fiona Teller on page 3

Inside this issue:

The Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community

“The Resurgence of Traditional Ways of Being: Indigenous Paths of Action and Freedom” at the Heard Museum Steele Auditorium at 7PM with a reception and book signing to follow at 8PM.

The Labriola National American Indian Data Center will host a reception on the ASU Tempe Campus from 3:00-4:00PM in the Labriola Center, Hayden Library room 209. All events are free and open to the public.

Gerald Taiaiake Alfred is an author, educator and activist who is committed to Indigenous peoples’ dignity, freedom and nationhood.

Taiaiake is a Professor of Indigenous Governance at the University of Victoria and is known for his leadership and groundbreaking research in the fields of Indigenous governance, philosophy and history, and also for his incisive social and political criticism.

He is one of the most prominent Indigenous intellectuals in North America, and has been awarded a Canada Research Chair, a National Aboriginal Achievement Award in the field of education, and the Native American Journalists Association Award for best column writing. (www.taiaiake.com/about-gta)

For more information or to download a flyer please see the web page http://english.clas.asu.edu/indigenous/

The information can also be accessed from the Labriola Center home page at http://lib.asu.edu/labriola

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The third installment of the ASU Indigenous speaker series, the Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community will take place Monday March 23rd, 2009.

Professor of Indigenous Governance at the University of Victoria, Gerald Taiaiake Alfred, will deliver a lecture entitled “Resurgence of Traditional Ways of Being: Indigenous Paths of Action and Freedom.”

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Labriola Center Internship by Brenna Klassen

I was ecstatic to learn of the Labriola National American Indian Data Center as my father had grown up in Ganado, Arizona on the Navajo Reservation and it was there he met my mother, teaching. I had taken a Navajo history class with Peter Iverson here at ASU in which I was introduced to the Labriola Center.

Then during the fall semester of 2008, I became an intern in the Labriola Center, both working on the reference desk and processing an incoming collection. This was perfect since after graduation I plan to go on to graduate school to receive a Masters degree in Library Science.

I feel this internship has given me much needed experience for becoming a librarian. During my time at Labriola I not only learned basic archiving skills but I learned the ins and outs of organizing and processing an incoming collection.

Going through the medical papers of the Gordon Jensen Collection also taught me a lot about the Indian Health Service and the many of the hard times they faced as well as about the healthcare industry itself.

Working on the reference desk was also a very new experience for me. As a history major I’ve done some sort of extensive research project each semester, however only for myself. This was my first foray into helping others research and I feel it gave me essential skills I’ll need when going to graduate school and eventually for becoming a librarian.

While I worked in the Labriola Center I had an opportunity to meet great people and do small research projects on my own. I am eternally grateful to Joyce Martin and Ann Leonard for guiding me through my internship and answering all of my questions.

Although I no longer work in Labriola, I hold it and the lessons I learned there in high esteem and I will miss it fondly.
My College Experience This Far by Fiona Teller

When I first arrived as a freshman, I did not stop to think that attending college would be one of the most rewarding learning experiences. I entered with the impression that I just needed to get through these years and then move onto my career.

I have met so many wonderful people and had many fun experiences and feel that college is worth so much more. Although one of my better learning experiences has been my job at the Labriola National American Indian Data Center.

Working here has taught me so much about American Indian history and has also given me the privilege of meeting many diverse individuals as well as distinguished faculty members.

I have been assigned to finalize the Gordon Jensen Phoenix Indian Health Services documents. These documents contain so much information from the budgeting of the hospitals to letters from the President of the United States.

While working on this project, I have not only learned about the Indian Health Services in the West but also about the process of creating a collection. It has been an awesome learning experience! I am still finishing this project and am looking forward to all the rewarding information to be gained from my future projects.

This far in my academic career, I am very content with my occupation as a library assistant and extremely grateful for my colleagues and my assignments. I could not have a better job than assisting researchers and in doing so I also get the privilege of learning something new about American Indians every day.

It is awesome!!

Digitizing Endangered Apache Language Material

The Labriola National American Indian Data Center was the successful recipient of a 2008 Arizona Historical Records Advisory Board Grant for the project entitled Digital Preservation of Apache Language and Culture Videotapes.

In 2006 linguist Dr. Elizabeth Brandt, Professor with the School of Human Evolution and Social Change at Arizona State University, donated a collection of research materials to the Labriola National American Indian Data Center. This historic collection of primary sources collected during Dr. Brandt’s years of research and work with American Indian tribes in Arizona include 15 U-matic and 2 VHS tapes of Apache language and culture recorded by John Cutter and Bob Key in the early 1980s.

These tapes include John Cutter in the Globe area, San Carlos Apache, and Tonto National Monument. Bob Key videotapes include pans of Pinal Peak and traditional Western Apache songs. The videos also include such scenes as making tulapai or traditional corn beer, Sunrise Saturday, Sunday Grain Dances, cooking, and food exchange.

The tapes include both Apache and English, but all the traditional songs are sung in Apache.

The Digital Preservation of Apache Language and Culture Videotapes project proposes to digitize and create metadata for all 17 of the above videotapes, thus preserving and providing access to currently endangered and inaccessible primary source material which is significant to the state of Arizona.
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.

**Battle of the Bands—by Stephen Robbins**

For those of you who attended the ASU/U of A football game last fall you know how intense the competition is between the schools! A lesser known event happens every morning of the game... Battle of the Bands! This is when the ASU Marching Band and the University of Arizona Marching Band meet up to play their show music for each other and an audience. I myself am a part of the band as a trumpet player. This was my first ASU/U of A football game so I really didn’t know what to expect although my high school band teacher went to school at ASU and she told me various stories about the game!

The ASU Band left for Tucson early in the morning to arrive at Tucson High School. We got set up to play and warmed up as usual, the ASU Band was the first to play. The stands at the local high school were filled with U of A and ASU fans alike. We played our show (The Who) and the audience loved us! (Yes even the U of A’ers... Actually I liked U of A’s band, they were pretty cool too!!)

Every year the bands join forces and create one big band! I’ve been told that the ASU Band is really loud!! (However, I honestly don’t know how loud we really are because I am behind the wall of sound!) Now imagine two university bands! We rehearse a song that we play together at halftime during the game. We had to get 500+ band members on the same musical page.

The rest of the game was a blur and in spite of ASU’s loss, I though it was nice to see that professionalism still exists in the world of music, even in the midst of one of the fiercest rivalries!