Labriola Exhibits and Events

- The Labriola Center is currently featuring an exhibit on American Indian Jewelry, including pieces worn by the current Miss Indian ASU in previous pageants.
- The Labriola Center will participate in the American Indian Summer Institute Information Fair held on the ASU Campus June 14th.

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Labriola Exhibits and Events

The Labriola Center Curator Patricia Etter will retire June 30th. She will be greatly missed both personally and professionally by students, staff and faculty across the Arizona State University campus. Patricia will maintain close ties with ASU through her membership in the Emeritus College as well as by serving on the board of the University Club. Patricia will continue to serve on the Southwest Books of the Year selection committee and is working on another book of her own examining a diary of an overland trail journey.

A retirement party was held for Patricia May 3rd. The Center was filled to capacity with American Indian faculty, staff, students, former student employees, current and retired fellow librarians, friends and family to celebrate Patricia’s illustrious career. She was honored with speeches and gifts from members of her department, the Dean of the Library, American Indian faculty, the Arizona Historical Foundation, and a former student employee. Her gifts included a Navajo rug and turquoise pin from American Indian faculty members and a well deserved spa gift certificate from the Department of Archives and Special Collections and Arizona Historical Foundation.

Patricia Etter worked for ASU Libraries’ Department of Archives and Special Collections for 18 years, serving the last 13 years as curator of the Labriola National American Indian Data Center. A tremendous advocate of the Labriola Center both within the ASU community and beyond, she accomplished much during her tenure as curator.

Patricia created a stellar collection of both primary and secondary resources to support students and faculty on campus while always reaching out to the wider community. Always willing to use new technology to promote the Center and provide access to its material, Patricia oversaw the creation of the first Department web page. She also acquired manuscript collections from artist Rosemary Lonewolf, Regents’ Professor Peter Iverson, former Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs and current ASU professor of law Kevin Gover, former President of the Navajo Nation and adviser to the ASU President on American Indian Affairs, Peterson Zah, and University records from ASU’s American Indian Institute. Patricia Etter’s accomplishments are many, and her positive effects on the Labriola Center will remain evident long into the future.

www.asu.edu/lib/archives/labriola.htm
Patricia Mariella to Run Policy Center

Dr. Patricia Mariella is the first Director of the American Indian Policy and Leadership Development Center at ASU. Dr. Mariella comes to the University from the Gila River Indian Community, where she directed one of the largest and most successful tribal environmental regulatory programs in the country. Before her service at Gila River, she worked for the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona on a variety of projects.

The Center’s Mission is to develop creative policy options and provide technical assistance to solve long-standing and emerging problems in Indian Affairs at the tribal, national, state, and local levels; and to prepare American Indian students for leadership positions.

Among the many activities, the Center will provide technical assistance to tribal governments in the development of effective policies, law, and structure; to state, local, and federal policy makers concerning Indian policy; and to ASU administration to develop policy concerning Indian tribal governments in Arizona and surrounding states.

The Center’s plans include preparation of American Indian undergraduate and graduate students for leadership positions, and provide training and certification programs for tribal, state, and federal officials for effective provision of services in Indian Communities.

Dr. Eddie Brown, Director of American Indian Studies and Kevin Gover, Professor of Law in the Sandra Day O’Connor ASU College of Law will be active as Co-Executive Directors.

Dr. Mariella can be reached at Pat.mariella@asu.edu

American Indian Convocation May 13, 2006

Parents, relatives, and friends proudly crowded Frank Lloyd Wright’s beautiful Grady Gammage Auditorium on the ASU campus for a ceremony honouring a record number of Native American graduates. Three PhDs were awarded along with 20 Masters and 126 Bachelor degrees.

Degrees were awarded in journalism, justice studies, art, construction, engineering, social work, education, psychology, American Indian Studies, Policy Studies, bio-engineering, and more.

Each student received a hug and handshake from Counsellor to the President, on American Indian Affairs, Dr. Peterson Zah, and a photo with Dr. Alan F. J. Artibise, ASU Divisional Dean, Social Sciences. Reception and luncheon followed the ceremony in the Student Services patio at ASU.

New Subject Guides Online

The Labriola Center has seven new subject guides on our web page highlighting material in our collection.

American Indian Architecture
American Indian Child Welfare Act
American Indian Environmental Issues

American Indian Theatre
Carlos Montezuma
Cherokee Phoenix and Indians’ Advocate
The Five Southeastern Tribes

To view come in to the Center or check out our web page at http://www.asu.edu/lib/archives/labriola.htm and click on “Publications.”
Labriola Center Intern Melanie Toledo, M.L.S.

My name is Melanie Toledo and I began working as a Library Aide IV in the Labriola Center September 2005. Upon successful completion of my internship in May 2006, I graduated from the School of Information Resources and Library Science (SIRLS), University of Arizona. My library internship was a great opportunity offered by Curator Patricia Etter.

My initial internship plan was to research, write and publish a comprehensive annotated bibliography and assist in processing a photograph collection. I completed two subject guides: American Indian Theatre and American Indian Environmental Issues. I assisted in processing the Ramsey Collection and learned how to handle photographs and created an inventory for the photographs using individual accession numbers. In addition to my internship plan, I processed the Carolyn Niethammer Collection. The collection contained research material to support her publication, I'll Go and Do More: Annie Dodge Wauneka Navajo Leader and Activist.

“I am grateful and honored that I was able to complete my internship under Patricia Etter…”

Under the close supervision of Patricia Etter, I was able to arrange the collection in five series and create a finding guide to be utilized by ASU students and the public. Overall, the internship was a great opportunity to deal with archival material and it gave me “hands on” experience in processing a manuscript collection donated to the Center by the author.

I am grateful and honored that I was able to complete my internship under Patricia Etter before her retirement from ASU Libraries.

By Melanie Toledo, M.L.S.

Kevin Gover Video Available for Viewing

On September 8, 2000, at the Ceremony Acknowledging the 175th anniversary of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, then Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs, Kevin Gover, gave a speech apologizing for the past treatment of American Indians by the Agency. Indian Country Today reported on September 20, 2002 that Gover’s “heartfelt, genuine comments captured the attention of everyone in the room. He took the audience on a historical journey beginning with the days when the BIA was part of the Department of War and a time when may tribes were relocated, decimated and wiped from the earth in the name of the United States.” Kevin Gover is currently a professor in the Sandra Day O’Connor ASU School of Law.

Gover’s speech is available in the Labriola Center in print and on video.

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Lake Mohonk Conference of Friends of the Indian

Donated to the Labriola Center by Regent’s Professor Peter Iverson, the Labriola Center has volumes 3-35 (1885-1929) of the Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Lake Mohonk Conference, produced by the Indian Rights Association. The Indian Rights Association was a humanitarian group dedicated to influencing federal U.S. Indian policy.

The early leaders of the IRA had a twofold purpose: to protect the interests and general welfare and to oppose government legislation or policies meant to Christianize, assimilate, or educate American Indians by Western methods.

The Labriola Center has recently had two long distance reference requests for copies from the Proceedings.

To view the Proceedings of the Annual Meetings please visit us in the Labriola Center and request call number E 93.L19.
Dr. Loreine Roy Elected 2006-2007 American Library Association (ALA) President

Loreine Roy, is Professor in both the School of Information the Center for Women’s and Gender Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. She is Anishinabe (Ojibwe), enrolled on the White Earth Reservation, and is a member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (Pembina Band). She was born in Cloquet, Minnesota and raised near the Fond du Lac Reservation. The University of Illinois awarded her PhD in 1987, and she received her M.L.S. (Master of Library Science) from the University of Arizona in 1980.

Her professional work focuses on library services for indigenous populations and since 1999 has served as director and co-founder of the program, “If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything,” a promotional program for schools on or near reservations. At this time, there are 24 sites located in 9 states. Arizona sites are located at the Blackwater Community School, Sacaton Elementary School, and St. Peters Indian Mission School on the Gila River Reservation just south of Phoenix, and Red Mesa High School and Rock Point Community School on the Navajo Reservation.

“If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything” is organized to encourage Native children to read for pleasure; provide the Indian community with opportunities to engage in and communicate about reading and to thematically explore reading and reading-related activities; to promote library usage at Native schools; to increase reading skills among Native children and community members; and to improve Native school library collections.

On June 27, during the American Library Association Annual Conference in New Orleans, Loreine Roy will receive the 2006 Equality Award, which recognizes her commitment to advance literacy and librarianship among Native Americans.

Visit the American Library Association web site to learn more about the profession http://www.ala.org/Visit the American Indian Library Association web site at http://www.nativeculturelinks.com/aila.html

Candida Woodis-Rucker (Navajo) Takes Prize for Book Collection


Ms. Woods-Rucker is the first Native American to enter the yearly contest, which is open to both graduate and undergraduate students. Prizes were awarded during the Libraries’ Annual Donor Reception on April 6.

The Library awards 8 prizes for Best Collection First,

Second, Third Place, and Honourable Mention. These books must be collected by the student; they can be rare, paperback, hard cover books, pamphlets, but must deal with a subject of interest and be owned by the student.

Four prizes are awarded in each category for the best essay. These are evaluated by a panel of judges on the extent to which the collection represents a well-defined field of interest, either focused on the works of one author, or on a particular subject. The students are also judged during an interview.
Labriola Center Provides Reading Material to Native Prisoners

From time to time, the Center receives letters from Native people incarcerated in prisons in California, Texas, Arizona, and others in the United States. These men are interested in searching their ancestry, reading more about their tribe and learning its language.

If we happen to have a book that is duplicated elsewhere and on that particular tribe, we will send it. Otherwise, we photocopy items for the men and advise on material relatives might find for them in local libraries.

We also provide tribal phone numbers and addresses, and individuals they might contact since the material we have is not likely to be found in prison libraries. Sometimes we print material from the Internet.

These individuals are so grateful, since they have written many libraries, receiving no response.

One writes: “I thank you for the information about my tribe (Miwok), I have tried to find out as much as I could but being in here (Prison) it is very hard to get anything from anybody. What you sent me is very helpful and much appreciated, if you find anything more that would help me please keep me in mind. Again I thank you very much for what you sent me, I’m writing every address that you sent me...”

Thank You to All from Curator Patricia Etter

The Labriola National American Indian Data Center has been my home in the ASU Libraries since it was dedicated in 1993. Now it is time for me to move on to the next chapter in my book of life. Of course, in some ways, it is hard to leave, simply because it has been such a joy to work with our students and faculty. I am grateful for the opportunity to have served.

The Center was made possible by the vision of Frank and Mary Labriola whose generous endowment has allowed us to build a very fine collection of books and research materials dealing with the aboriginal peoples of North America and Alaska. The Labriolas wanted the Center to be a source of education and pride for all Native Americans, and we have kept that in mind as we created an attractive atmosphere, where students could feel comfortable reading a current issue of Indian Country Today, get assistance with research projects, meeting for group study sessions, or watching videos or DVDs in our classroom.

I have been grateful for the support of the many Indian programs at ASU: The American Indian Studies Program; Center for Indian Education; the new American Indian Policy Center; the American Indian Institute (now American Indian Student Support Services); ASUs Department of History; and of course, Dr. Peterson Zah, Advisor to the President on American Indian Affairs.

In addition to the education of the students, a major focus is on retention of Native students and seeing them through to graduation. We try to assist in this area with bibliographic instruction, individual help and an attractive location.

We measure our success by our students. One recently wrote that she “did not expect to see so many Native American articles or for that matter, the art that decorated the walls. As a Native American woman I felt very honored and had a strong sense of pride to see that there is a special area for Native Americans in one specific location. I was very surprised and touched to see that the Labriola had language tapes that were of the Blackfoot/Blackfeet tribes. . .”

My thanks to the students, Indian programs, and my co-workers who contributed to the success of the Labriola Center.
Dr. Peterson Zah Honored

Dr. Zah, Arizona State University’s Counsellor to the President on American Indian Affairs, has been named the National Center on American Indian Enterprise Development’s First American Public Advocate Award. A banquet will be held in his honor June 16th, 2006.

The First American Leadership Awards (FALA) Banquet is an annual fundraising event presented by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development. FALA acknowledges accomplishments and contributions made by American Indians and those who support their economic and business development endeavors.

Introducing the Acting Labriola Center Curator

It pleases me enormously to announce that Ms. Joyce Martin, M.A., will serve as Acting Curator of the Labriola Center beginning July 1, 2006, thus ensuring that the Center’s services to our students and faculty will continue until a permanent Curator is appointed. Ms. Martin has been with ASU since 1997, and with the Labriola Center since 1999.

Ms. Martin graduated Magna Cum Laude from Drake University, Iowa, with a Bachelor of Arts, Sociology, which included a minor in Political Science. Arizona State University awarded her Master of Arts, Anthropology in 1997, along with Certification in Museum Studies. Her thesis “To Be our Own Authors . . .” examined Navajo weavers’ speeches at an academic conference, for which she coordinated activities for an exhibit at the National Museum of the American Indian, New York. As Adjunct Faculty at Mesa Community College, she has taught Buried Cities/Lost Tribes (Intro to Archaeology) and Women in Other Cultures.

She is a 1998 graduate of the Arizona State University Supervisory Academy, and in 2000, received Certification in Archives Management from the Modern Archives Institute - National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC. She is presently enrolled in the School of Information and Library Science at the University of Arizona. Ms. Martin is Phi Beta Kappa, and holds memberships in the Arizona Library Association and the Society of Southwestern Archivists. She can be reached at joyce.martin@asu.edu.

Patricia A. Etter, M.L.S., Curator, Emerita, Labriola Center.

Labriola Mailing List

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, or if your address has changed, please email us at archives@mainex1.asu.edu and we will be happy to make any necessary additions or corrections.