From The Chair

Greetings!

Summer is speeding along rapidly and it is a good time to remember the spring and look forward to the fall.

We had another wonderful graduation ceremony in the Payne Family Native American Center in May. Graduates and their families reminded us all of the reason the university exists – to provide a quality education to our students. We are quite proud of this year’s class of graduates. We also presented an award to a distinguished alum, Arlan Edwards, in our second annual such recognition.

Our first year in the new building saw some challenges (such as a burst pipe in January) and many rewarding experiences. We are happy to see students from all walks of life utilizing the facility for classes, for study, and for social interactions.

Fall semester is right around the corner and we are looking forward to another wonderful and dynamic school year. If you are on campus, please stop by to see us. There is always a pot of coffee on in the student lounge, and there are always friendly faces to welcome you to our wonderful facility.

We lost a valued faculty member this year when Angelica Lawson accepted an offer from the University of Minnesota. We wish her all the best. In her place for a one-year replacement is Dr. Heather Cahoon. If you are on campus, please help us welcome her. The rest of the faculty members are spending their summers conducting research and preparing for next year’s courses.

Sincerely,

Dave Beck
Chair, Native American Studies
The Native American Student Scholarship program awarded $99,310 in scholarships for the 2010-2011 Academic Year. The Native American Student Scholarships are open to all majors at both The University of Montana-Missoula and Missoula College of Technology.

As the scholarship recipients stated in their own words......

Michel Kohl
"The scholarship has provided invaluable assistance in allowing me to continue my graduate degree and I thank all the generous donors for their support"

Tori Boggs
"My scholarship has not only helped me, but it has helped my babies. Without the funding, there is no way I could have afforded childcare while pursuing my higher education. Without my education I wouldn’t be able to provide my babies the life they deserve. Thank You."

Myron Lee Gardipee
"The scholarships that I receive from the Native American Center help me continue my education and help with numerous costs, too many to list! Without them I would not be able to focus on just my studies and for that I am truly thankful!"

Chelsea Niewald
"The funds I received have helped me in having to pay out-of-state tuition. Without the scholarship, I wouldn't be at the University of Montana."

Maegan Hopkins
"Because I began my second year of graduate school with a two month year old daughter, this scholarship has helped me to continue by education and help me balance the two roles of being a student and a new mom."

For the 2011 / 2012 year, the Native American Studies Department awarded $76,240 in scholarships. 37 students will receive scholarships for the 2011 / 2012 school year.

For more information on available scholarships, visit www.cas.umt.edu/nas/scholarship.cfm

Summer 2011 NAS Courses

Summer sessions saw a variety of classes offered through NAS. The first session ran from May 23 to June 24, with the second session running from June 27 through to July 29.

Summer 2011 Courses that were offered....

Dr Wade Davies  NASX 100  Introduction to Native American Studies  NASX 464X  History of Indian Affairs to 1776
Dr Angelica Lawson  NAS 344  Native Americans & Film  Dr David Beck  NAS 301E  American Indian Religion & Philosophy  NAS 395  Religion & Customs of Otomi, Mexico  NAS 395  Sustainable Development in Mexican Indigenous Communities
Dr Rich Clow  NASX 303E  Ecological Perspectives in Native American Traditions  Heather Cahoon  NAS 202X  Native American Oral & Written Tradition  Rosalyn La Pier  NAS 301E  American Indian Religion & Philosophy

Fall 2011 Courses running....

NASX 105H&X  Introduction to Native American Studies  NASX 141  Elementary Blackfoot I  NASX 201X  Indian Culture as Expressed through Language  NASX 235X  Oral & Written Traditions of Native Americans  NASX 260 *NEW*  Sustainable Indigenous Community Development  NASX 280W  Native American Studies Research Theories & Methods  NASX 291 *NEW*  Special Topics: Fundraising  NASX 303E&X  Ecological Perspectives in Native American Traditions  NASX 304E&X  Native American Beliefs & Philosophy  NASX 306X  Contemporary Issues of American Indians  NASX 340  Native American Literature  NASX 464X  History of Indian Affairs to 1776  NASX 466X  History of Indian Affairs from 1890
This year’s Kyi-Yo Pow Wow ran over the weekend of April 15-16, and was a huge success, thanks to our sponsors, club members and a number of volunteers who helped plan and produce it. Attendance was relatively high, and it seemed that a good time was had by all.

The club is planning to remain active, and is considering a few different options for spending a portion of the surplus revenue from the pow wow, with possibilities including a Kyi-Yo scholarship, a youth conference or one of the other events the club has traditionally sponsored.

The Kyi-yo club is excited about the fundraising, and the class that is being offered by NAS through the fall (NASX 291), and is certain that it will be a great help in producing another excellent pow wow.

Special thanks to Adam Sings In The Timber for the photos! Check out more of Adam’s excellent work at www.singsinthetimber.com

Dean’s List (Honor Roll)

Congratulations to our NAS Honor Roll students!

To qualify for the Dean’s List, students must:

- Be undergraduates
- Earn a semester grade average of 3.50 or higher, and
- Receive grades of A or B in at least 9 credits.

Fall 2010 NAS Majors making it to the Deans List were:

Emma Davidson
Abby Atkinson
Willie Brown
Warren Clark
Brian Dumontier
Devena First Rider
Ray Kingfisher.

Spring 2011 NAS Majors making it on the Deans List were:

Abby Askinson
Willie Brown
Eean Grimshaw
Ray Kingfisher
Louise McMillan
Wabusk Ragged Robe.
2011 Graduation

Eleven graduates, representing eight different tribes participated in the Native American Studies Graduation Ceremony this spring. The 2011 graduation ceremony was held in the Bonnie HeavyRunner Gathering Place located in The Payne Family Native American Center. This is the second year that the NAS Graduation Ceremony was held in the new center. Louie Adams, Salish elder, began the ceremony with an opening prayer and Kevin Kicking Women, along with several members of the Rawhide singers, sang an honor song. The NAS department faculty and staff congratulate the graduates and their families on a great accomplishment! Please keep us posted on all of your future endeavors!

Salish elder Louie Adams presides over the opening protocols and prayers for the 2011 Graduation celebrations.

Arlan Edwards, Kevin Kicking Woman, and Everett Armstrong present an honor song

Graduating class of 2011

Brian Connelly  Francis McKay  Jody Ground

Holly Fisher  Brian Dumontier  Kevin Kicking Woman

Tara TopSky  Devena First Rider  Robert Hall

Mary Sampson

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www.cas.umt.edu/nas

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