



AISES members Anthony, Derrick, Courtney and Adele participate in AISES conference activities.

AISES Regional Conference

The Colorado State University chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) attended the AISES regional conference in Durango this March, which was hosted by Fort Lewis College. The mission of the AISES group is to increase representation of American Indian and Alaska Natives in fields related to engineering, science and technology by

providing programs, financial, academic and cultural support to students. The AISES organization includes members from middle school through graduate school.

The CSU AISES chapter belongs to region three, which includes Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Arizona. More than seventy individual chapters are members of

this region. Seven CSU students attended the regional conference, which was held March 26-27. The conference also coincided with Hozhoni Days, Navajo for Day of Beauty. Highlighting the cultures of many different tribes, the event included food, dancing and the Hozhoni Days Powwow.

The regional conference allowed students to attend workshops, hear

keynote speakers and network with students and professionals. "It was good to meet all the different chapters, see what they have been doing, and bounce ideas off them. It was good," said CSU AISES chapter president Tiffani Kelly. CSU will host the regional conference next year. The AISES 2010 National Conference will be hosted in Albuquerque, New Mexico in November.

Visit

itunes.colostate.edu to listen to podcasts featuring Native students and view the 2010 Celebration of Graduates Video.



CSU AISES members prepare to attend a keynote speaker at the regional conference.



The CSU AISES group travels to Durango from the AISES regional conference.



Courtney Woolsey and Tiffani Kelly take a break from the conference to pose for a picture.

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The John and Sophie Ottens Foundation

John and Sophie Ottens initially began their support of Native American higher education by providing a scholarship to a graduate student attending Northern Arizona University in 1990. As the number of scholarships increased, so did their interest in supporting a wider variety of programs. In March 1998, the John and Sophie Ottens Foundation was estab-

lished and incorporated as a charitable foundation in Sedona, Arizona. The Ottens decided to start a foundation, rather than give directly to various schools, so fund distribution would ensure that programs that receive resources serve the maximum number of Native students possible. The foundation funds programs at a number of universities, especially programs that focus

on the recruitment and retention of Native American students. John and Sophie Ottens traveled much of the world focusing on archaeology and indigenous peoples. Sophie passed away in 2000, and John passed away in 2001. Their foundation continues to provide much needed support. Here at Colorado State University, the Native American Cultural Center is very fortunate to

receive and utilize funding from the John and Sophie Ottens Foundation to provide a variety of programs which focus on student retention and graduation. Their support was instrumental in the development of the following programs; All Nations Leadership Retreat, Eagle Feather Tutoring, North Star Peer Mentoring, K-12 Outreach, and Native Women's Circle.

Native Students to Travel to Costa Rica for Summer Internship

This summer two members of the NACC community will travel to Costa Rica as part of an internship program sponsored by the Organization for Tropical Studies. Nicole Kenote, a sophomore biomedical science major, and Deidra Newbrough, a junior environmental health major will participate in the program June 7th through August 2nd. The Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) is a non-profit organization, founded in 1963 to provide leadership in education, research and the responsible use of natural resources with primary focus on the tropics. OTS has three primary research facilities in Costa Rica, Braulio Carrillo National Park, Palo Verde National Park and the Amistad

Biosphere Reserve respectively. The program includes room and board, travel costs and a stipend.

Nicole and Deidra will participate in the NAPIRE Program, which is designed specifically to expose Native American and Pacific Islander undergraduate students to the biodiversity of the tropics. They will work to increase general understanding of tropical biology and forest ecosystems, working with industry leaders to conduct hands-on research based on data gathered in the field. They will also have the opportunity to visit the Bri Bri Indians who are located in Talamanca. When asked about her upcoming trip Nicole commented, "I am super excited to get a chance to go to Costa Rica

and do something pertaining to my future goals."

The students will travel to different parts of Costa Rica to experience the rich biodiversity. Students will work with professors in designing, implementing and interpreting data to explore ecology and biology based on research models they develop during the course of the internship. At the end of the summer students will present the findings of their research with a formal research report and an oral presentation. The OTS program is especially interested in the promotion of minority students in the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) who are traditionally underrepresented, to

encourage diverse perspectives within the program and the wider field of study. The program will also include lectures, seminars and field activities with an emphasis on conservation biology, the effects of deforestation and island biogeography.

NACC Director Ty Smith recently traveled to Costa Rica to tour the OTS facilities. Ty will serve as a home mentor for Nicole and Deidra. In this role he will serve as primary contact for the students while they are away, providing general support, assistance during the application process and study abroad preparation support. He will also aid students with the processing of the experience when they return.



A variety of plant and animal life can be viewed in Costa Rica.



Beaches and ocean views are a common site in Costa Rica.



The negative effects of deforestation are being examined by the Organization for Tropical Studies.



Deidra and Nicole will use their research to work to protect tropical ecosystems.

Admitted Native Students 2010-2011

A total of 286 self-identified Native students have been admitted to CSU for the 2010-2011 school year. The students come from a wide variety of states with the majority, 153, from Colorado. The state with the next highest number of admitted students is California, with 33 admitted students. Of the admitted students, 16 are graduate students; the remaining 270

admitted students are seeking their undergraduate degrees. The states with the next highest number of admitted students are New Mexico, Texas, Arizona and Hawaii. The majority of admitted Native students are undeclared. The most common majors are chemistry, zoology, psychology and engineering

Spring Break Outreach Trip

Members of the NACC office, in partnership with Little Shop of Physics and the Alternative Spring Break program joined together to participate in an outreach trip to bring hands-on science experiments to reservations in the Four Corners area over spring break. Little Shop and NACC traditionally join forces during winter and spring break to visit schools with high populations of Native students, to promote an interest in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields as well as to

encourage the idea that college is within reach. Twenty five students and staff members from CSU participated in the trip, which took place March 14th through the 20th. The trip not only allows Native students an opportunity to learn more about science, the trip also allows CSU students the opportunity to learn more about the cultural richness of the region. The students were able to spend a day touring the Chaco Culture National Historical Park.

Celebration of Graduates 2010-2011

Saturday May 1st students, parents and faculty came together to honor the achievements of more than 80 diverse students, graduating from CSU at all levels. The Celebration of Graduates event was hosted by the Student Diversity Programs and Services offices in partnership with the Office of International Programs. This makes the second year the offices have joined forces to collaboratively recognize the achievements of students graduating in 2010. The event was hosted in the Fort Collins Marriott Ballroom from 1-3 PM in the afternoon.

Linda Ahuna-Hamill, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, welcomed students and parents to the event. Blanche Hughes, Vice President for Student Affairs, then spoke to those in attendance about the positive contributions that graduates had on CSU. Hughes then introduced CSU President Tony Frank who spoke about the importance of students getting their degrees and

working hard to realize their full potential. He stressed the importance of staying in school to achieve their dreams.

The graduates were then introduced individually by Linda Ahuna-Hamill, and given awards by the offices they were active in. A large group picture featuring all of the students as well as faculty and staff was taken while a

video was played featuring a variety of students from all of the offices. In the video students said “I am” followed by a statement they felt was an integral part of their personal identity to represent the diversity of all of the offices. The ceremony was followed by a reception. The event recognized the achievements of the graduates, their family, friends, and mentors who have supported their journey, and the richness of diversity they bring to Colorado State University.



Goldlin Wall, Ty Smith and Melody Jones show their support from the graduating class of 2010.

video was played featuring a variety of students from all of the

NACC Student Satisfaction Survey Results

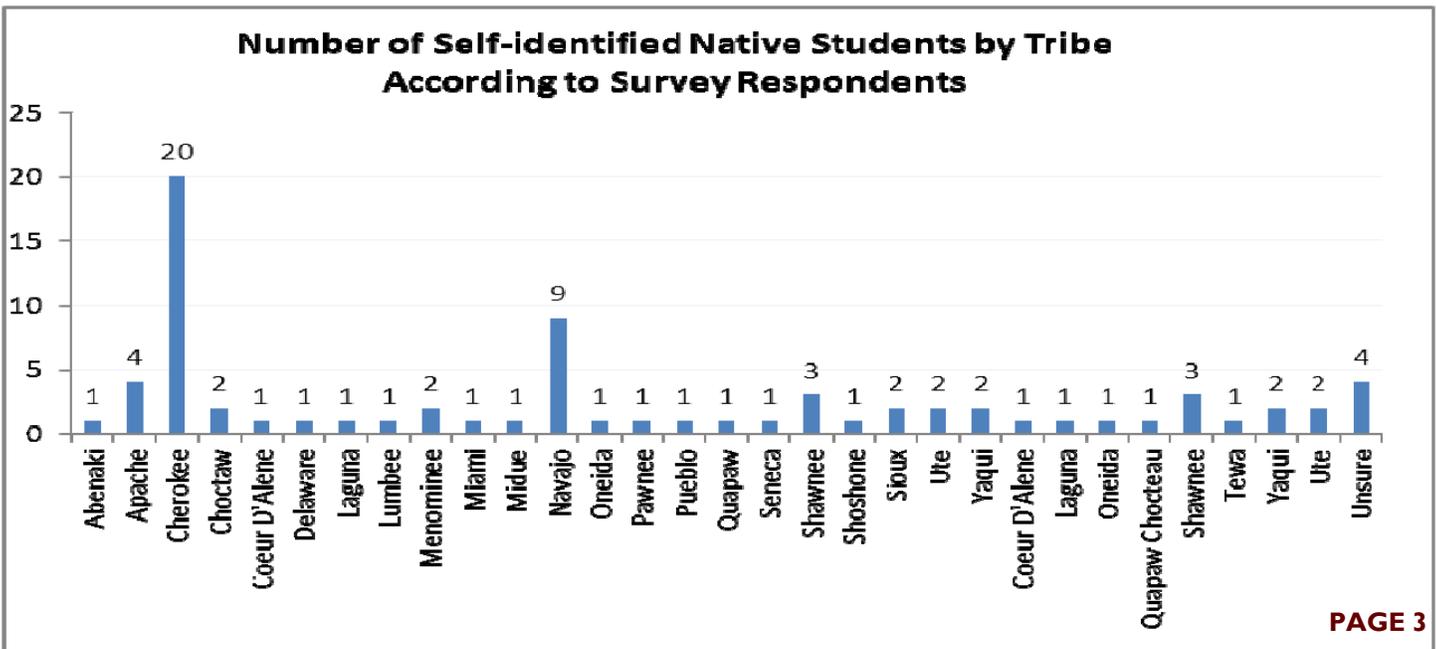
Results for a recent student satisfaction survey indicate that that 100 percent of the 64 students that completed the survey would recommend the Native American Cultural Center office to other students. Common reasons why they would recommend to others included, “It is a very friendly outgoing group of people who are

focused on the success of others, and it has great resources and is a place to go with people from similar cultures.”

When asked how they learned about the NACC office 56.6 percent of students reported that the primary way they learned about the office was correspondence from the NACC office and

emails. Primary reasons for visiting the office included using the computer, networking, studying, mentoring and participating in student organization meetings. Of the total number of students who participated in the survey, 92.5 percent of students reported being very satisfied with the friendliness of the reception staff.

When asked about the helpfulness of the office 100 percent of students indicated that they were either very or moderately satisfied. In addition, 99 percent of students who completed the survey were very or moderately satisfied with the resources and references available. The chart below represents the diversity of respondents to the survey.



Colorado State University

Native American Cultural Center

Colorado State University

218 Lory Student Center



Message From The Director

The spring semester has ended and all is quiet in the NACC. We have had another successful year thanks to the support of students, staff, faculty, alumni, community members and especially to the John and Sophie Ottens Foundation. This year marked the 30th anniversary of the office and we look forward to serving the next generations to come. We will continue to provide a place where all students can come to seek tutoring, study, meet with old friends or develop new friendships, learn about other cultures, hone leadership skills, and reach out to Native communities.

Congratulations to all graduating students. Greetings to prospective students. I hope you enjoy reading about our various events and programs in this issue of the Indigenous Reader.

Warm regards,

Ty Smith

Upcoming Events

- Fall Classes Begin.....August 23, 2010
- NACC Welcome Back BBQ, Rolland Moore Park, Fort Collins.....August 26, 2010
- All Nations Leadership Retreat, Estes Park.....September 17-19, 2010
- SACNAS National Conference, Anaheim, California.....September 30 - October 2, 2010

Please visit the NACC website calendar for additional event information: www.nacc.colostate.edu