Welcome to The Indigenous Reader!

CONNECT WITH THE NATIVE CSU COMMUNITY

The Indigenous Reader is the official newsletter produced by the Native American Cultural Center at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado. The Welcome Back Edition of The Indigenous Reader is a series dedicated to providing reliable information and support for the upcoming fall 2020 semester.

The Native American Cultural Center’s mission is to provide the support students need to be academically successful while celebrating and encouraging Native culture and tradition. In this newsletter, you can find helpful information concerning your educational career and provided links to other helpful resources. The focus of the Welcome Back Issue is to discuss what is happening in the NACC office during the fall semester.

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Our office embraces and encourages a supportive environment based on traditions and cultures of Native American peoples.

Welcome from the Director!

Warm greetings from the Native American Cultural Center Office! On behalf of our office I would like to extend a welcome to new and returning students. Like your family and friends, we are very proud of you! Please know that even in these unprecedented times, we are here to support you. Our office has undergone changes in response to the COVID-19 recovery. The office floor space has been redesigned physically to insure social distancing as well as other safety steps as recommended from the CSU Pandemic Preparedness Team. All our programming is being offered virtually. This issue of the Indigenous Reader highlights what changes will be made in the office, the services provided, and ways to become involved through student involvement programs. Please join us for the Virtual Open House on September 3rd! I hope you enjoy the Welcome Back issue.

Warm regards, Ty Smith

What is the Native American Cultural Center?

The Native American Cultural Center, sometimes referred to as “NACC,” was established in 1979. We focus on four primary areas that include recruitment, retention, graduation and community outreach. Our office embraces and encourages a supportive environment based on traditions and cultures of Native American peoples. Our center is a physical space where students can seek academic, social and cultural support and has served as a “home away from home” for many current students and alumni. Our office staff often serve as advocates for students seeking support and we have many personalized connections with different offices and services across campus. Although our support efforts are focused on Native students, our programs and services are inclusive and open to all students to utilize.
The Office Is Back!

Here's What You Need To Know

The Office Has New Hours!

Open 8AM-5PM Everyday

Monday .......... In Person
Tuesday .......... Virtual
Wednesday .. In Person
Thursday ..... In Person
Friday .......... Virtual

The office will be physically open from 8AM-5PM on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The office will be providing computer use and free printing with social distancing guidelines in place. Masks are required!

Keep our communities safe!
Updated Information About Office Programs

Eagle Feather Tutoring Program

Colorado State has various tutoring programs available to students across campus for additional support in courses. One of those is the Eagle Feather tutoring program run through the NACC. Our tutoring program generally focuses on AUCC courses, including many STEM courses that students take. It is not as widely utilized as other free tutoring programs so students are able to receive more individualized personal time with our tutors. This can be a nice compliment to some of the group tutoring programs that are available on campus. Tutoring will be virtual this fall, and the schedule will be sent out soon! It will also be accessible on our website.

North Star Peer Mentoring Program

The NACC office employs a group of stellar upperclass students that are waiting to connect with incoming first year, transfer and graduate students. Students are automatically included in this group if you self-identified as being “Native American” or “Original Peoples” on the CSU admissions application and will be assigned a mentor. You can expect a welcome email during the first few weeks of the semester introducing themselves. Our peer mentors are trained weekly on various resources offered on campus, contemporary Native issues, paraprofessional counseling skills, and academic support programs. They are really an extra resource for students of NACC to utilize. You are welcome to reach out to your mentor if you are experiencing any difficulties with the transition to CSU or if you would just like to meet someone new and have a conversation.

Questions About Fall Semester?

There are a lot of questions about what Fall semester will look like for students and families, due to the current COVID 19 outbreak. President Joyce McConnell has released statement of plans for the fall and that will help to answer some questions. Here is a link to that statement: https://safety.colostate.edu/fall-2020-framework/. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.
Women's Circle

Native Women's Circle is a social cultural group that meets weekly. This group was created to enhance social, group, individual and cultural support for the women of the Native American Cultural Center. In the past the Native Women's Circle has participated in social and cultural events together, and will continue to do this virtually this fall. Meetings are weekly on Tuesday's from 5:30-7:00 p.m. with the first meeting on September 1st. This group is open to students regardless of their gender identity.

American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES)

AISES is one of the major student organizations for Native students at CSU. Even though the national organization is geared towards those that are in STEM focused majors, we welcome students of all majors to join. The organization hosts on a variety of academic and culturally based programming, including the annual pow wow for Native American Heritage Month. The first meeting will be shared soon, so look out for that!

Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS)

Another CSU student organization, SACNAS is an inclusive organization dedicated to fostering the success of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans, from college students to professionals, in attaining advanced degrees, careers, and positions of leadership in STEM. Fall meetings TBD.
Check Out Other SDPS Offices!

NACC is just one office in a cluster of seven Student Diversity Programs and Services (SDPS) that serves students at CSU. With aims to try and holistically serve our students we want to highlight some of the other offices in our cluster that students may want to engage in. Please note our offices are all inclusive and open for all CSU students to utilize.

- Asian Pacific American Cultural Center
- Black/African American Cultural Center
- El Centro
- Pride Resource Center
- Student Disability Center
- Women and Gender Advocacy Center

NACC Welcome Back Virtual Open House

In lieu of the NACC Welcome Back BBQ, usually held the 2nd Thursday of classes, we will be hosting a Virtual Open House to greet you all. Feel free to drop in at any time during the two hours to meet NACC staff, other Native students, and community members.

SEPT. 3RD
4:30pm - 6:30pm
JOIN ZOOM MEETING:
https://zoom.us/j/94159954926

Website: https://nacc.colostate.edu/
Instagram: @nacc.csu