Institute of Global Indigeneity

Is proud to host the: ‘Global Solidarity: Harnessing the Strength of Indigenous Communities around the World’ symposium at U-Albany (SUNY) on November 7th 2016.

Introducing one of our presenters, Dr Alex Wilson:

Bio: Dr. Alex Wilson (Opaskwayak Cree Nation) is an Associate Professor and Academic Director of the Aboriginal Education Research Centre at the University of Saskatchewan. Her scholarship has greatly contributed to building and sharing knowledge about land based education; two-spirit identity, history, and teachings; indigenous research methodologies; anti-oppressive education; the prevention of violence in the lives of Indigenous peoples and the protection of land and water. Her research and “coming in” theory has lead to classroom and community practices that honour the contributions and lives of two-spirit people. Dr. Wilson is a recipient of a 2016 Nellie Award for human rights education and leadership and the 2016 Peter Corren Award for outstanding achievement in LGBTQ education and activism.

Coming In to Indigenous Sovereignty: Relationality and resurgence:

This presentation will share an understanding of Cree traditional law and discuss contemporary understandings of relationality and relational accountability. I will discuss how the global Indigenous social movement Idle No More has validated traditional understandings and practices that serve to protect land, water, sky and Indigenous bodies. The meaning and importance of body sovereignty and gender self-determination will be presented as necessary aspects of undoing systemic forms of oppression and revisioning as a positive ‘coming in’ process that supports both sovereignty and resurgence.

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Introducing: jessie little doe baird

jessie little doe baird is the Vice Chairwoman of the Mashpee
Wampanoag Tribe and Co-founder and lead linguist of the Wôpanâak
Language Reclamation Project which began in 1993. little doe received
her Master of Science in Linguistics from MIT in 2000 and in 2010 she
was named a MacArthur ‘Genius’ Award Fellow. She is a former
National Science Foundation Documenting Endangered Languages
Fellow, and was inducted to the American Antiquarian Society in 2011.

jessie has also served in an advisory capacity for past and current
Wampanoag cultural projects for various organizations and film
productions. She lectures for colleges and universities and advises
tribal communities and governments in the area of language project
policy and curriculum development. Her passions include Wampanoag
history and cooking, fishing, and traditional regalia craft and dance.
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Introducing: Professor Kelly Askew

Finding Hope Amidst Persecution: Coalition-Building By Maasai in Tanzania

Kelly Askew is Professor of Anthropology and Afroamerican/African Studies at the University of Michigan. She has worked for three decades in Tanzania and Kenya. Her current research and documentary film projects span: poetic and performing arts, African post-socialism and post-communism, land tenure and property rights, pastoralism, and indigenous political movements.
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Introducing our keynote speaker, Professor Martin Nakata:

Bio: Professor N.M Nakata is Pro-Vice Chancellor of the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Centre at James Cook University in North Queensland, Australia. He is one of the leading Indigenous academics in Australia, and has researched and published widely on the educational issues of Indigenous Australians, Indigenous knowledge systems, and the theorisation of colonial predicaments.

Indigenous Responses to Colonial Predicaments: Do we have it right?

Abstract: In this keynote session, Professor Nakata will address an area of our scholarly work that has remained largely under-explored. Indigenous responses to the colonial predicament in Australia will be used to highlight propositions for a brighter future that have as much to do with the poor outcomes for Indigenous communities. This reflection by Professor Nakata is not just timely for our scholarly engagements but it also will help situate context for the discussion at the symposium on the type of cross-national alliances that can benefit Indigenous students and Indigenous-related research and teaching areas.

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Introducing: Professor Patrik Lantto

From Political Reform to Legal Challenges: The Changing Strategies of the Sami Movement in Sweden

Patrik Lantto is a Professor of history, and the director for Vaartoe – the Centre for Sami Research at Umeå University, Sweden. In his research, professor Lantto has for more than 20 years focused on Sami and indigenous issues. The political mobilization of the Sami in Sweden and the Sami policy of the Swedish state during the last 150 years have been central themes, which has resulted in three books and a number of articles. Professor Lantto has also an interest in comparative research concerning indigenous issues, as well as indigenous education. He is involved in several research projects in both Sweden and Norway.
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Introducing: Yi-Chun Tricia Lin (林怡君)

Narratives from Aboriginal Taiwan: Harnessing the Strength and Solidarity for Indigenous Communities

A 17th-generation daughter of Taiwan, Yi-Chun Tricia Lin (林怡君) is Director and Professor of Women’s Studies at Southern Connecticut State University. She was President of National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA), from 2012-2014. Her recognitions include the Ingrid Washinawatok El-Issa O’Peqtaw Metaehmoh-Flying Eagle Woman Peace, Justice, and Sovereignty Award, established in memory of a Menominee sister warrior who gave her life for the cause of Indigenous peoples in 1999. Lin continues her the journey as a native daughter of Taiwan in her collaboration with Taiwan Indigenous feminists. She is also the editor of a special issue on transnational Indigenous feminisms for Lectora 22 (fall 2016). Lin holds a B.A. in English and American Literature, from National Taiwan Normal University; an M.A. in Western Languages and Literatures, from Tamkang University, Taiwan; and a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, from State University of New York, Stony Brook.