



# CORNELL UNIVERSITY AMERICAN INDIAN PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2007



## NOVEMBER "NATIVE HERITAGE MONTH" EVENT



As Indigenous Peoples, we acknowledge our heritage every month of the year. But the AIP is taking the opportunity provided by nationally-designated "Native Heritage Month" to present a special event.

On **Tuesday, November 13th from 4:30-6:30 pm** at the AD White House-Guerlach Room, we will screen *Guarding the Family Silver* (2005, 46 min.), a film from Aotearoa/New Zealand, directed by Moana Maniapoto (Te Arawa/Ngati Tuwharetoa) and Toby Mills (Ngati Raukawa/Ngati te Rangi) Featured film last year at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, the film takes a look at Maori singer/songwriter Maniapoto's shocking experience with the intellectual property rights system and the appropriation of traditional symbols, images and words in the global marketplace. Immediately after the film, we'll present a Roundtable Discussion on Cultural Heritage, Intellectual Property and Indigenous Peoples, featuring:

- Mililani Trask (Kanaka Maoli) - Native Hawai'ian attorney, leading sovereignty activist and former member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (see her bio to the right)
- Leigh Kuwanwisiwma (Hopi) - Director, Cultural Preservation Office, Hopi Tribe
- Audra Simpson (Kahnawake Mohawk) - Assistant Professor of Anthropology and American Indian Program, Cornell University

We urge the entire AIP community (students, staff, faculty and friends) to come see the film, meet the guests and voice your opinions during the roundtable discussion! We also encourage the broader Cornell community to join us on November 13th.

## AIP RECRUITMENT ROUND UP

BY SCOTT TEMPLIN

October has been an active recruitment month for future American Indian Cornellians. The month started off with the annual Native American Hosting Weekend (NAHW) which saw 33 Native high school seniors from over 20 tribal Nations visit campus to experience what being a Cornellian is like. The weekend included a dinner for the prospects, followed by a Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Social where bleary-eyed prospects and current students dance into the night. The prospects also visited classes, attended application and financial aid workshops, and explored campus during their visit.

*Continued on pg. 4*

p. 607.255.6587

e. [aipoffice-mailbox@cornell.edu](mailto:aipoffice-mailbox@cornell.edu)

f. 607.255.6246

w. [aip.cornell.edu](http://aip.cornell.edu)

## SPECIAL GUEST IN NOVEMBER: MILILANI TRASK



Mililani Trask (Kanaka Maoli) is a Native Hawaiian attorney with an extensive background on Native Hawaiian land trusts, resources and legal entitlements. Her work has been cited by the Hawaii Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and published by Cultural Survival and IWGIA Magazines on issues relating to native people and human and civil rights.

In October 1993, Ms. Trask was invited to become a member of the prestigious Indigenous Initiative for Peace (IIP), a global body of indigenous leaders convened by Nobel Laureate Rigoberta Menchu-Tum, the United Nations Goodwill Ambassador to the UN Decade on Indigenous Peoples. Since that time, Ms. Trask has worked in the global arena for passage of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In this respect, Ms. Trask attended and participated in the United National Global Consultations in Cairo, Beijing, Copenhagen and Vienna as a Pacific Delegate to the indigenous caucus.

*Continued on pg. 4*

### In this issue:

News from Faculty & Staff pg. 2

News from Akwe:kon pg. 3

Internship Opportunities pg. 5

In The News pg. 6

Upcoming Events pg. 7

# News from Faculty & Staff

## HOW SENECA LIVE IN GENEVA, FROM 1688 TO 1779

By Hilary Smith,  
*Originally printed on Mon Oct 22, 2007, 04:13 PM EDT, in the Daily Messenger*



Photo by Submitted/Elizabeth Dysert  
Student excavate a ridge top at the Townley-  
Read/New Ganachestage Project site in Geneva  
in 1999.

2

Geneva, N.Y. -

Today, Geneva's New York State Agricultural Experiment Station is a hotbed of botanical and horticultural research. But from about 1754 to 1779, about 500 Seneca Indians were living on the site at a settlement known as Kanadesaga.

Kanadesaga was the third Seneca settlement near Geneva between the years of 1688 — just after the French Marquis de Denonville had razed Indian settlements across the region — and 1779, when General John Sullivan's campaign during the American Revolution again burned the Indians' homes and food stores.

Kurt Jordan, assistant professor of anthropology and American Indian studies at Cornell University, has been studying the settlement areas since 1998, digging for building foundations, animal bones, artifacts and anything else that might give clues as to what life was like for the Senecas. Jordan summarized his findings in a lecture last week at the station.

Studying past societies requires more than just digging, said Jordan. In addition to archaeological digs, he studied historical documents and maps, oral traditions and accounts from early scholars and historians like George Stillwell Conover and Charles Foster Wray.

The spatial distribution of artifacts is also important, said Jordan.

Anthropologists can draw conclusions about Indians' daily lives — where, how and what they cooked, for instance, or how they defended themselves — based on the location of structure foundations, animal bones and artifacts. Where things are found can be just as important as what was found, he said.

From about 1688 to 1715, there was a Seneca settlement in the Geneva area called White Springs. During this period, the Iroquois Confederacy — which included the Senecas — was often in conflict with Western tribes. It was also an era of political and economic uncertainty.

Only preliminary excavation has taken place at White Springs, but Jordan suspects future work will confirm the Senecas residing there lived in long, multi-family houses in a densely-populated, easily defendable hilltop village that was far away from their agricultural fields.

From about 1715 to 1754, the Geneva-area Senecas settled at a patchwork of sites known as the New Ganachestage Complex. It was, according to historical reports, a time of relative peace.

Structure remnants indicate that New Ganachestage was on a downslope, with the Senecas living in smaller neighborhoods of 250 to 500 people each. It was a less defensible setting than White Springs, but the relative peace of the time meant that defense wasn't a paramount concern.

New Ganachestage also "represented a change in the use of domestic space," said Jordan — houses were smaller and slightly farther apart, on larger lots. This created yards which allowed Seneca women to do some of their cooking and messier work outside. The men didn't have to go far to hunt; deer were plentiful and close by, and abundant species like the passenger pigeon and American eel served as sources of food.

It was, said Jordan, "a relatively convenient daily life."

In about 1754, the Senecas moved north to a settlement that would become known as Kanadesaga — a site that Jordan says is "historically, the best known, but archaeologically, the least." The Senecas' time at Kanadesaga included the Seven Years War and Pontiac's Rebellion, and the 1779 Sullivan Campaign brought it abruptly to an end.

Archaeological findings suggest that Kanadesaga combined elements of the two previous settlements. Again, it was located on a hilltop for defense purposes. But houses were still smaller — and housing lots larger — than at White Springs.

One general trend Jordan found was that the Iroquois, wherever they lived, initiated "long term, intentional changes in the environment" through agriculture and practices such as controlled burns. And because they didn't travel far when they moved from settlement to settlement — only about five miles each time, on average — their cumulative impact on the environment was intense.

Though the digs revealed a lot about the Seneca settlements between 1688 and 1779, there is still much to discover, said Jordan — particularly about Kanadesaga.

*Hilary Smith can be reached at (585) 394-0770, Ext. 343, or at [hsmith@mpnewsletters.com](mailto:hsmith@mpnewsletters.com).*

**SENIORS, GRADS: LOOKING FOR JOBS?** Check out this job opening listing: <http://ncal.org/Employment.16.0.html>



# News from Akwe:kon SHE:KON!



REIOSTA HALL  
AKWE:KON DIRECTOR

## NATIVE AMERICAN HOSTING WEEKEND

As part of its recruitment initiative, the American Indian Program provides prospective students from across the country with the opportunity to visit Cornell during Native American Hosting Weekend. This year's Hosting Weekend fell on November 29th-October 1st and invited 33 students to experience the many great opportunities that Cornell has to offer. Venessa Cooke, A participant from New York says, "Coming from a small area, I am the only Native American and through this program, I met other students just like me. It was so much fun and Cornell campus is absolutely gorgeous. I suggest to anyone to participate not only for the campus/college experience but also for the friendships." Students were hosted on campus, a majority of them within Akwe:kon, the Native program house. Hosts from Akwe:kon also had similar valuable experiences during the program. Fred Gonzales commented, "Hosting is a great way to learn about other communities, Native and non-Native, outside of our city and campus. I enjoy hosting because it gives me the opportunity to not only learn about other cultures, but it also allows for the building of friendships and mentoring relationships if the student chooses Cornell." Overall, Native American Hosting Weekend is an important part of reaching out to students both future and present, encouraging them to explore their options and make new friendships.



## AKWE: KON HOUSE RETREAT

The Akwe:kon Program house strives to create an educational and inclusive community environment. At the start of every academic year, Akwe:kon house staff members plan a house retreat for residents and out of house members. Although this year's retreat was later in the semester than usual, students still came together and had fun at the Cayuga Share Farm, helping make apple cider and pick fresh raspberries. The Cayuga Share Farm is the first land base for the Cayuga nation and marks the beginning of an ongoing disputed land claims settlement over the unjust seizing of Cayuga territory. Students observed history in the making as nine Cayuga Chiefs and Faithkeepers came together on Cayuga soil for the first time in over 50 years. Then later in the evening, in spirit of the Halloween season, students experienced "Fright Night at the Fair" for some spooky fun filled haunted houses.

## FACULTY FELLOW DINNER!

*EVERY TUESDAY  
FROM 5:30 TO 6:30-ISH  
AT THE ROBERT PURCELL  
COMMUNITY CENTER.*

*COME AND ENJOY  
GOOD FOOD,  
GOOD CONVERSATION,  
AND GOOD COMPANY!*

*TELL THEM YOU'RE WITH  
AKWE:KON!*

*ALL ARE WELCOME!*

## ROUND UP CONTINUED FROM PG. 1

AIP has also been actively recruiting in New York State among the Six Nations. AIP has visited the Seneca, Onondaga, Oneida and St. Regis Mohawk during the month. Each visit encountered many interested students seeking information about Cornell and AIP. Cornell and AIP have historically had strong ties with the Six Nations, and our recruitment continues that commitment.

October has also seen AIP participation in two national conferences. Scott Templin, AIP Student Development Specialist, attended the National Johnson-O'Malley Conference in Niagara Falls at the Seneca Niagara Casino & Hotel. Johnson-O'Malley is a federal K-12 education program, and the conference supplied an opportunity to meet with administrators and teachers from across Indian Country who work with prospective Cornellians. Following the conference, Scott escorted Shawn Secatero (Tohajiilee Navajo) from the American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC) in Albuquerque, NM to a number of high schools and tribal education offices in the Six Nations to discuss scholarship opportunities available through AIGC.

Also in October, Kakwireiosta Hall, Akwe:kon Residence Hall Director, and Dr. Angela Gonzales (Development Sociology) attended the National Indian Education Conference in Hawai'i and were able to meet with students, faculty, and administrators from across Indian Country.

Finally, in early November, Scott Templin will travel to Arizona to conduct recruitment trips to the Navajo and Hopi Nations prior to representing AIP at the American Indian Science and Engineering Society's (AISES) National Conference in Phoenix, along with six members from the CU AISES chapter. Additionally, Scott will visit Diné College in the Navajo Nation to recruit prospective transfer students as part of a new Tribal College transfer initiative.



## GETTING TO KNOW... CONTINUED FROM PG. 1

In 1995, Ms. Trask was elected the second Vice Chair of the General Assembly of Nations of the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organizations (UNPO), an international body comprised of the unrecognized nations of the world. UNPO was founded in 1991 by his holiness, the Dalai Lama, as an alternative forum to the United Nations. Ms. Trask assumed the position vacated by Ken Sarowira, the Ogoni human rights' advocate, who was killed by the Nigerian Government.

She is a founding member of the Indigenous Women's Network, a coalition of Native American Women whose work includes community based economic development, social justice, human rights, housing and health. An acknowledged Peace advocate, she has studied and worked for seven years with Mother Theresa of Calcutta.

Ms. Trask is the Convener for a Native Hawaiian NGO entitled Na Koa Ikaika o Ka Lahui Hawaii and the Director of an NGO ECO-SOC, Indigenous World Association, which has worked in the international arena on the Draft Declaration for Indigenous Peoples and the World Conference on Racism for 18 years.

From 1987-1998, Ms. Trask served as the Interim and elected Kia'aina (Governor/Prime Minister) of Ka Lahui Hawaii, the Native Hawaiian Nation, with a citizenry of over 20,000 Hawaiians. From 1998 – 2000, Ms. Trask was elected to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs as Trustee at Large.

Ms. Trask has served as the Executive Director of the Gibson Foundation from 1987 to present, a private, non-profit dedicated to assisting Native Hawaiians with housing issues, and housing programs.

In 2001, Ms. Trask was nominated and appointed as the Pacific representative to UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, on which she served a three-year term. Ms. Trask is currently considered an indigenous expert to the UN in international and human rights law.

## Public Policy & International Affairs Fellows (PPIA)

5

The Public Policy and International Affairs Program (PPIA) is a national program that prepares young adults for an advanced degree and ultimately for careers and influential roles serving the public good. PPIA has an outreach focus on students from groups who are under-represented in leadership positions in government, nonprofits, international organizations and other institutional settings. This focus stems from a core belief that our citizens are best served by public managers, policy makers and community leaders who represent diverse backgrounds and perspectives. Furthermore, international affairs are increasingly mixed with local concerns. Addressing such global issues make diversity a critical goal in professional public service. For over 20 years PPIA has been at the forefront of promoting diversity in public service and nurturing the full potential of students as active citizens, public servants and agents of change.

So what is PPIA?

- \* A fellowship program that provides student training and financial support for graduate school and facilitates ongoing professional development.
- \* A consortium of the top public and international affairs graduate programs in the nation.
- \* An outreach program that seeks to educate and inspire young people of all ages and from all backgrounds about public service.
- \* An alumni association of approximately 3,000 PPIA Fellows from all across the nation.

Application Deadline: November 1, 2007

<http://www.ppiaprogram.org/>

## Morris K. Udall Scholarship Program

The Morris K. Udall Scholarship Program was created to honor Congressman Morris K. Udall and his legacy of public service. The scholarship covers eligible expenses for tuition, fees, books, and room and board, up to a maximum of \$5,000. Juniors are eligible for one year of support; sophomores may be renominated during their junior year and compete for a second year of support. Approximately 75-80 scholarships are awarded each year.

Awards are made to outstanding sophomores and juniors who fall into one of two groups: 1) Those who intend to pursue careers in environmental public policy; and 2) Native American and Alaska Native students who intend to pursue careers in health care or tribal public policy. Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents, have a minimum GPA of 3.0, and be in the top quarter of their class.

Applicants first submit their materials to a campus committee for review in February. Cornell chooses six students as nominees to the national Udall Scholarship competition. The campus committee offers the six nominees advice on how to improve their materials for final submission. In late February, nominees submit the final version of their applications to the national competition.

Campus Application Deadline: February 11, 2008

## Research Experience and Graduate School Preparation in Aquatic and Watershed Ecology

Buffalo State College will initiate a new, NSF-funded undergraduate research and training program in Fall 2008 for minority students. This is a 2-yr program of study for students interested in graduate careers in aquatic and watershed ecology. Students accepted into the program will conduct research with faculty members in our Watershed Institute on topics such as nutrient biogeochemistry, impacts of combined sewer overflows, population genetics, fisheries, aquatic invasive species, and food web dynamics. Students will also attend classes, workshops, and professional meeting as a cohort. Undergraduates with between 40 and 60 completed credits in Biology, Geology/Earth Sciences, Geography, or related discipline are encouraged to apply. Only U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible. The annual stipend is \$12,000, plus summer dorm housing and travel to professional meetings are provided.

Benefits of Buffalo State College for Native students include:

- housing in a Native American student suite
- active Native American Student Organization
- faculty mentors of Native descent

Interested student should visit our website for detailed information on the Program, qualifications, and opportunities. Further information also can be obtained from:

Dr. Chris Pennuto, URM Program Director

Buffalo State College

(716) 878-4105

[pennutcm@buffalostate.edu](mailto:pennutcm@buffalostate.edu)

Application deadline: April 1, 2008 at <http://www.buffalostate.edu/biology/urm.xml>

# IN THE NEWS

## THE DISPLACED TRIBES IN THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA

-NINA HAPNER

As of this morning La Jolla, Rincon, San Pasqual and Barona have fires on them. I have not heard about Pauma or Pala, but since they are in the Valley Center area like La Jolla, Rincon and San Pasqual, I am sure they are being evacuated. People who were at the Pala Hotel have moved down to the Pechanga Hotel in Temecula. In the Barona area, Wildcat Canyon in Ramona is currently burning.

Parts of Santa Ysabel and Mesa Grande burned last night. Los Coyotes in the Warner Springs area is still okay, but if the winds shift, they may be looking at evacuation. FEMA is putting a trailer in Lakeside. The Harris Fire is moving north and there are concerns it could merge with the Witch Creek Fire. Jamul Indian Village and the surrounding community of Jamul has been evacuated and I've not had any contact with anyone there and I have tried to call.

Interstate 8 out by Campo is closed because of high winds (70mph+). The Harris Fire is to the west of Campo, La Posta, and Manzanita. I know that Viejas is okay and just upper management staff is working. I wasn't able to get a hold of anyone at Ewiaapaayp or Sycuan.

There are strong winds around Santa Rosa, Ramona or Cahuilla, and the highways near them were closed temporarily because of high winds. Per Theresa Dodson there are no fires in their area.

As for San Manuel and any fires near them, I believe they are okay at the moment.

I do not know how Santa Ynez Chumash are being affected by the fires in the Los Angeles/Santa Barbara area.

NAEPC is set up to receive donations that people want to go directly to the tribes. You would like to donate money via a wire transfer, just call us for the information. If you would like to make a donation by check you may mail it to: NAEPC, 42-143 Avenida Alvarado, Unit 2A, Temecula CA 92590.

### NIKE UNVEILS SHOE JUST FOR AMERICAN INDIANS



Read this story online at:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/20980046>

### ELLSBURY IS RED SOX'S EXCITING NATIVE AMERICAN



Read the story online at:

<http://www.newsday.com/sports/columnists/ny-spgerg-155375853sep15,0,684253.column>

### AMERICAN INDIAN MOVEMENT LEADER VERNON BELLECOURT DEAD AT 75



Read the story online at:

<http://www.ww4report.com/node/4575>

# Upcomming Events

OCTOBER 25

PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

AKWE:KON

OCTOBER 30, NOVEMBER 6 & 20

AKWE:KON DISCUSSION NIGHTS

AKWE:KON COMMUNITY ROOM

OCTOBER 31

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



NOVEMBER 2

ONEIDA SOCIAL AND POTLUCK

NOVEMBER 11

CANANDAIGUA TREATY DAY-213TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION ACTIVITIES & SOCIAL, CANANDAIGUA, NY

NOVEMBER 12

HARVEST CELEBRATION-PRESENTATION: CORN & ITS CULTURAL MEANINGS

LEIGH KUWANWISIWMA (HOPI)-DIRECTOR PRESERVATION OFFICE, HOPI TRIBE

JANE MT. PLEASANT (TUSCARORA)-DIRECTOR, AMERICAN INDAN PROGRAM

AKWE:KON

NOVEMBER 17

BEADING WORKSHOP (\$5.00/PERSON FOR BEADING KIT)

AKWE:KON, 11:00AM-4:00PM

WRITING WORKSHOP WEDNESDAY

EVERY WEDNESDAY, AKWE:KON LIBRARY, 4:30-6:00PM

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH DARLENE EVANS (DME27)