Scott Templin Joins AIP as Student Services Associate

This past June, Scott Templin (Miccosukee) joined the American Indian Program as its Student Services Associate. Scott holds a Master of Theological Studies (MTS) from Harvard University and a BA in Native American and Religious Studies from the University of Oklahoma.

When asked what he predicts is going to be most challenging, Templin explains, “It is challenging to navigate the maze that is Cornell at first, but I am quickly learning what opportunities and services I can point Native students towards.” Explaining the unique challenges that face Native-students, Scott says “Native-students are not simply members of a marginalized group, but nationalities: they are citizens of sovereign governments.” (continued pg 3)
Dear AIP Community,

We have had a busy summer at AIP, welcoming a new staff member and a new faculty. Scott Templin, Student Development Specialist, arrived in June and has been putting in many busy days tracking down our new class of entering students and getting acquainted with the complexities of Cornell with its seven undergraduate colleges and four professional schools. You can find Scott most days in his office in Caldwell and you can also meet him at our welcome back reception on Thursday, September 6th at Akwe:kon.

Karim-Aly Kassam, jointly appointed to the American Indian Program and the Department of Natural Resources, came in July with his family. He specializes in the intersection of indigenous knowledge and environmental issues and brings a wealth of experience and insights that shape both his research agenda and his teaching. He has office space in Fernow Hall (8a and b). Although he is leaving for a research trip to Afghanistan August 25, he will return later in September when we will organize a time for students and staff to meet him more formally.

Many of our faculty have been busy with research and scholarship projects across the hemisphere while others have stayed close to Ithaca, teaching summer session courses, writing, or revamping courses, or preparing new ones. Several Native students were also on campus, taking courses, engaging in research, and/or working for the AIP office. Our graduate students and faculty attended conferences where they presented papers and participated on panels. A number of our of our faculty, staff, and graduate students have been very active in outreach, finalizing a federally funded project around water education in the Cayuga Lake watershed that includes strong participation from the Cayuga Nation, local stakeholders, and Cornell University.

Our staff have attended conferences and spent considerable time with recruitment efforts as well as developing strategies and practices that will improve our recruitment and retention of Native students. The web page has been updated, new equipment purchased, and new policies put in place to enable us to be more efficient and strategic with our resources. We have also been planning for a retreat that will take place on Monday October 8th during Fall Break. We intend this retreat to lay the foundation for strategic planning for AIP for the next five years. Working groups to address specific areas of AIP’s mission have been formed and facilitators for each have been identified. Our intention is to use the working groups to accomplish significant preparatory work before the retreat itself and provide opportunities for input and participation by those who cannot attend the retreat. Look for an email communication from one or more of the of the working group facilitators inviting your suggestions and ideas.

The fall semester comes with a unique sense of anticipation and excitement. We welcome new students and connect again with those whom we haven’t seen in several months. Some faces are at once familiar and yet we recognize change, growth, and new potentials. There is a feeling of starting anew, encountering new passions and paths that we hadn’t considered before. Although students often feel this most intensely, I know that staff and faculty also thrive in this atmosphere of engagement and activity. As members of a Native American community, we are especially attuned to the responsibilities and opportunities that await us as the new semester begins. We are all both learners and teachers and the possibilities for doing both abound at Cornell and within AIP. I hope that you will plan to attend at least some of the many intellectual, social, and cultural events that members of our community have planned for the semester. You can also stop in to chat with us in Caldwell Hall, as your busy schedules permit.

I can’t wait for the semester to begin!

-Jane Mt. Pleasant
While at Harvard he provided academic counseling and other support services as a Resident Proctor, served on the Powwow Committee, as the Alumni Liaison for the Native American Program (HUNAP), and was co-founder of Native American Alumni of Harvard University (NAAHU). At the University of Oklahoma he was active in the American Indian Student Association, the Racial Awareness Program and is a founder of Sigma Nu Alpha Gamma: The Society of Native American Gentlemen, which provides academic, social, and personal support for male Native students.

“My experience as a student has motivated me to work with students. If I hadn’t had strong Native role models I would have never finished my degrees,” Templin explains, “I want to honor those faculty and student services people that supported me by supporting other students. I want to pass it on.”

Grounded in his Miccosukee traditional practices, he has academic interests that include the intersection of Indigenous and Christian traditions, American Indian education, and general Native studies.

He has valuable insights on working collaboratively across cultures to support the resilience and knowledge inherent in our communities. He also brings to AIP an appreciation for the need to carry out recruitment and retention plans that respect local Native protocols and cultivate relationships with communities, families and students.

When asked about his experience with AIP so far, he said “It’s been great! Everyone here has really welcomed me into the AIP family and made me feel right at home.”

**Green Guerrillas Media Tech Training Program 2007**

**Article by Kyrie Ransom ’09, Green Guerrillas Intern**

Summer 2007 marks the first anniversary of the inception of a revolutionary program dubbed the Green Guerrillas. With the conclusion of the 6-week job-training program for six Ithaca area youth, the second video installment of the Green Guerrillas will be shown in a free screening at the Cinemapolis Movie Theatre in Center Ithaca on August 17th, 2007 at 5:30pm.

Clothing, shelter, community and food are the topics covered in Volume 2 of the Green Guerrillas. In this segment, the Green Guerrillas travel as far as Philadelphia in order to bring you their take on the world today. These teens entered into the program with little to no knowledge about film editing, organic foods, and sustainable energy, and leave with a wealth of experience.

With the help of dedicated volunteers, like founders Jason Corwin (Ph.D. Candidate in Natural Resources, with a minor in American Indian Studies) and Leslie Jones, the accomplishment made this summer by the crew of the Green Guerrillas is monumental. Please join the Green Guerrillas as they showcase the talent who made this program a wonderful success.

**Taffe Wins Tuttle Prize**

Susan Taffe (Lenape/Nanticoke) was recently awarded the 2007 T. Temple Tuttle Prize for her paper “Hear Us Sing: Music and the Eastern Lenape Struggle for Survival.” The award is given to the presenter of the best student paper at the annual meeting of the Niagara Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology. Susan is a Ph. D. student in musicology, who is focusing in ethnomusicology and doing a minor in American Indian Studies at Cornell. Her research interests include aspects of Native American music, particularly of the Lenape and other northeastern tribes.

**Boiardi Scholarship is Awarded to De Hoyos**

Christian DeHoyos (Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe of San Gabriel) was the recipient of the first Boiardi Scholarship from the American Indian Program to attend a three credit archaeological fieldwork course offered during Cornell’s three-week Summer Session. DeHoyos will be a freshman this fall at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Taught by Assistant Professor Kurt Jordan, Anthropology/Archaeology 220 “Field Course in Iroquois Archaeology,” the class offered hands-on training in archaeological field methods through survey and excavation at a site occupied from about 1688-1715 by up to 2,000 Senecas. Field methods for the site were developed in consultation with Haudenosaunee representatives, with high priority given to leaving existing burial grounds undisturbed.

The majority of class time was spent engaged in supervised fieldwork, supplemented by lectures introducing archaeological methods and Haudenosaunee history and material culture. Excavation gathered data on residential architecture and domestic activities. Students learned field procedures, record-keeping, and interpretation of field data; studied Haudenosaunee material culture; and wrote a short research paper (7-10 pages) using data generated by the project.
New Community Assistants

Desiree Gentile, Class of 2008
Animal Sciences

“I became a CA in order to be more involved with the American Indian Program and to help mentor first year students with their experiences transitioning into Cornell. This is my 3rd year living in Akwe:kon, and my 2nd as a CA.”

Fred Gonzales III, Class of 2010
Human Biology, Health, and Society

“I became a CA in Akwe:kon so that I may serve as a mentor for freshmen and to contribute to a dorm where residents feel like family.”

Mary La France, Class of 2009
Natural Resources

“I became a CA because community is important for healthy success at Cornell. I want to provide support for freshmen.”

News from Akwe:kon

She:kon!

Reiosta Hall, Akwe:kon Director

Akwe:kon extends a warm welcome to all of our 2007-08 residents!

Aayush Tapuria • Aisha Omorodion • Alexis Rivera • Alia Jones • Anthony Bonilla • Ashley Zydel • Aviva Horowitz • Ben Pachito • Bradley Carrier • Candice Gant • Carissa Jones • Cecily Blackwater • Christopher Bergerson • Desirée Gentile • Elizabeth Annalett • Emily Feliberty • Emily Jones • Frances Kim • Fred Gonzales • Jacqueline Blas • Jake Swamp • Jason Thomason • Jerrel Peterson • Justin Anderson • Katarina Chang • Kyle Coulon • Kyu Seob Kim • Leah Thomason • Linda Mohammadian • Mary Katherine LaFrance • Rebecca Gillette • Richard Buck Elk Thunder • Samuel Rose • Walter Hinds • Zachary Bartosik

New Akwe:kon Faculty Fellows

Come and meet them! Free food every Tuesday evening at Robert Purcell Dinning Hall. 5:30 - 6:30 ish, beginning Sept. 4th

Angela Gonzales
Development Sociology and American Inidan Studies

Troy Richardson
Education and American Inidan Studies
Aviva Horowitz, Class of 2010
Development Sociology and American Indian Studies
Intern, Tuscarora Environmental Program, Tuscarora Nation

“This summer I have been working as an intern with the Tuscarora Environmental Program, and it has been a great opportunity to work for the betterment of a community that I love.”

Mary LaFrance, Class of 2009
Natural Resources and American Indian Studies
Water Resources Intern, Environment Division, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

“As a lifelong resident of Akwesasne, I am passionate about maintaining the health of the environment for the people and the culture of the area.”

Matthew Ricchiazzi, Class of 2008
Urban & Regional Studies
Public Policy & International Affairs Fellow, Princeton University

As a PPIA Fellow, I engaged in real-world policy projects by serving on consulting teams. We ended up making reform recommendations to the New Jersey Attorney General. I hope I can apply the practical skills that I’ve learned to different contexts.

Joe Fedor, MBA Class of 2008
Johnson Graduate School of Management
Equity Analyst, Copal Partners, Delhi, India

“I was thrown head-first into one of the world’s fastest developing economies as I arrived ready to report for duty at research firm Copal Partners in Delhi, India. By day, I conducted equity research on the Indian construction materials and oil & gas industry. By night, I struggled through knots of people in chaotic super markets in search of lentils and curds. My summer was one of many unmatchable opportunities that Cornell’s MBA program has afforded me.”
CHEYFITZ ASKS, “WHAT IS A JUST SOCIETY?”

This summer, Eric Cheyfitz offered a six-week seminar at the School for Criticism and Theory: “What Is A Just Society? Native American Philosophies and the Limits of Capitalism’s Imagination.” The School, held at Cornell, attracts advanced graduate students and faculty from around the world.

The seminar shares its title with Professor Cheyfitz’s forthcoming book. What Is A Just Society is a response to the linked social and environmental crisis that the world is facing: rampant poverty and the degradation of the ecosphere. Cheyfitz argues, “Many of us view this crisis as a result of global capitalism, while others claim that it can be solved with market mechanisms. I argue that the market is the origin of it.” The project looks, then, to various Native philosophies as ways of rethinking the problem of social and environmental justice.

Professor Cheyfitz—since testifying on behalf of Ward Churchill before the Privilege and Tenure Committee of the University of Colorado—has been working on the ongoing academic freedom case. Churchill’s firing by the Regents of CU is now going before state court. Cheyfitz’s analysis of the case has broad support, arguing that the research misconduct and plagiarism charges brought against Churchill are fundamentally groundless.

This, he argues, has been the University’s way of prosecuting him for his political views, under the cover of upholding academic integrity. “The firing of Churchill is part of a pattern across the country of attacking progressive academics for their politics, then using academic protocols as an alibi,” Cheyfitz explains, “far from upholding academic integrity, these cases are undermining it and the institution of tenure which supports it.”

Prof. Cheyfitz gave expert testimony in a freedom of expression case involving Mohawk students in the Salmon River School District near Akwesasne, NY. The school board prohibited broadcasting the Mohawk “Thanksgiving Address” over the school PA system, arguing that such a broadcast violated the separation clause of the First Amendment. Cheyfitz—along with other expert witnesses, most of whom were Mohawk scholars in Native studies—asserted that the Address was cultural rather than religious expression. The plaintiffs lost at the federal District court level and an appeal has not yet been filed.

Asked what motivates his intellectual interests, Cheyfitz explains, “My work, as always, continues to link my research and teaching to activism for social justice in Indian Country.” Prof. Cheyfitz continues to write occasional opinion pieces for Indian Country Today.

Eric Cheyfitz is the Ernest I. White Professor of American Studies and Humane Letters. He holds appointments in the Department of English and the American Indian Studies Program, as well as having taught at the Law School.

FAREWELL & GOOD LUCK, JUSTIN MC HORSE

Article by Kyrie Ransom

Justin McHorse, a wonderful asset within the Diversity Programs in Engineering office, as well as the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, Cornell University Chapter (AISES-CU) Advisor, left Cornell at the end of July. His presence here at Cornell University has been a strong one, especially this past year in guiding AISES-CU in its redevelopment. He has been a constant source of support to not only the American Indian community within engineering, but also to any other student who wandered into his office. He is going to be greatly missed here at Cornell.

Please join the American Indian Program and AISES-CU in wishing Justin and his wife Genesis good luck as they relocate back to the Southwest where they will be closer to their family.
Audra Simpson has been busy. Her book, *To the Reserve and Back Again: Kahnawake Mohawk Narratives of Self, Home and Nation*, is under contract with Duke University Press. Her work has recently appeared in *American Quarterly* and is forthcoming in press in *American Quarterly* and *Junctures: A Journal of Thematic Dialogue*. As always, she has additional works under review and in preparation.

This last spring, she’s taught “Anthropology of Colonialism” (the graduate-seminar), “Critical Approaches to American Indian Studies,” as well as “Introduction to American Indian Studies II” and “Governmentality, Citizenship and Indigenous Political Theory.”

She has recently presented her research at several meetings and symposia: Northeast American Studies (Portland, ME), American Anthropological Association (San Jose, CA), American Studies (Oakland, CA), Whiteness Studies (Sydney, AUS), “Indigenous Movements and Their Intellectuals” (Boston, MA), “What’s Next for Indigenous and Native American Studies” (Norman, OK), “The International Indigenous Citizenship Conference” (Syracuse, NY), “Canadian Anthropology and Sociology Association/ American Ethnology Association” (Toronto, ONT), “Colonialism and White Supremacy: What’s Sex Got To Do With It?” (Ann Arbor, MICH), The Fifth International Indigenous Women’s Conference (Kahnawake Mohawk Territory), and “Cultural Studies Now” (London, ENG). She acted in an advisory role and presented work at the Aboriginal Governance Colloque (Saskatoon, SASK) and was honored to give a Franz Boas Seminar at Columbia University. Prof. Simpson continues to anchor her work in Indigenous contexts, particularly Iroquoian, and remains interested in the theoretical, empirical and methodological issues that emanate from colonialism, nationhood, citizenship, borders, and questions of political subjectivity and action.

Audra Simpson is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology and American Indian Studies.

In November 2006 – after months of organizing – the Cornell Law School joined with AIP, the Water Resources Institute, and the Cayuga Nation to present the Conference on Native Water Law, Sovereignty and Cultural Survival. Among the perspectives offered to the 200 + participants were the keynote and featured addresses by F. Henry Lickers, Scientific Co-Chair, Haudenosaunee Environmental Task Force; Joyce King, Director, Haudenosaunee Environmental Task Force; and Robert Odawi Porter, the first Attorney General of the Seneca Nation, founding director of the Center for Indigenous Law, Governance & Citizenship, and Professor of Law and Dean’s Research Scholar of Indigenous Nations Law, Syracuse University College of Law. Four of the six Haudenosaunee Nations were represented.

TIWP will pursue water wellness and awareness through three organizational components: Law (including a Native Water Law Clinic); Education (K-12 as well as university and adult levels); and Cultural Encounters (emphasizing collaborations with Native communities in northeastern US). In practical terms, AIP now has a 3-year grant from USDA to work with the Cayuga Nation to better understand and integrate diverse avenues for improving the water quality of Cayuga Lake. Most of this effort is educational and blends traditional and non-traditional knowledge about the watershed that the Cayuga, Cornell, and others share. If successful, classroom and service learning will extend to other watersheds in the Finger Lakes and Great Lakes in the future.

AIP outreach involves teaching and research as well as two-way learning with watershed communities. We have internships, volunteer opportunities, diverse research needs, and lots of transboundary learning ahead of us. Contact Chuck Geisler (Director of Outreach) for further information. If you are interested in the presentations from the November 2006 conference, these were recorded by AIP graduate student Jason Corwin --contact Kathy Halbig at AIP for DVD information.
Mt. Pleasant, Kalafatic On Steering Committee, Symposium on Sustaining Bio-Cultural Diversity

Jane Mt. Pleasant (AIP Director) and Carol Kalafatic (AIP Associate Director) traveled to the American Museum of Natural History on June 26th to participate in a meeting of the Steering Committee for the Museum’s spring 2008 symposium. The four-day symposium, entitled “Sustaining Bio-cultural Diversity in a Rapidly Changing World: Lessons for Global Policy,” will gather academics, scientists, conservation experts and representatives of indigenous peoples’ organizations to discuss the state of biological and cultural diversity world wide. Participants will share information and case studies of on-the-ground projects taking place in all continents, and will brainstorm about more effective strategies to combine biodiversity conservation with support for cultural resilience in the face of intensified degradation of the environment, climate change and other forces. The symposium results will include a set of policy recommendations to be forwarded to the World Conservation Congress, the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant international processes.

As members of the Steering Committee, Jane and Carol* are advocating for the symposium format and agenda to give due attention to indigenous peoples’ enormous contributions to the world’s biodiversity and the culturally-based, dynamic resource and landscape management systems that sustain it. They also stress that the symposium should address indigenous peoples’ concerns and priorities with respect to sovereignty over their lands, territories and natural resources and the policies that impact their sovereignty.

*Carol agreed to serve on the Steering Committee if the Museum would ensure more broad and effective participation by indigenous peoples in the Committee.

Kalafatic Contributes to Core Training For Heifer International

From June 4-8, Carol Kalafatic (AIP Associate Director) participated with fellow members of the Heifer International, Indigenous Peoples Initiative Advisory Council in a core training for Heifer’s North America Region program directors, managers and field coordinators. Heifer International works with diverse communities in 125 countries to end hunger and poverty, and to strengthen self-reliance and environmental stewardship. Heifer established the Indigenous Peoples Initiative in 2000 in Green Bay, WI as a “high-priority, organization-wide” set of activities to strengthen Heifer’s work with indigenous peoples.

The training took place on the White Earth Reservation in Minnesota. Its goal was to impart an understanding of indigenous peoples’ unique historical and present-day environmental, social, political and economic realities and worldviews. The training was the first of several gatherings to help Heifer decision makers – from headquarters to field staff – develop and support projects that meet the needs and expectations of indigenous Nations.

Fulbright Fellow in Anthropology and American Indian Studies

Marjo Lindroth graduated with a Master’s degree from the University of Lapland, Finland, with a major in international relations. Her thesis dealt with the establishment of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). In 2004, she continued with research at the Northern Institute of Environmental and Minority Law. The Finnish Foreign Ministry funded a research project on the situation of indigenous women. During this project, she participated in the sessions of the UNPFII for the first time. Since then, she has been working at the Arctic Centre, a research institute of the University of Lapland, doing research on her PhD project. She is in a research group that focuses on indigenous peoples as international political actors. Her involvement has included participating in the annual session of the UNPFII and spending six months as a visiting researcher in Canada. She will be at Cornell through February 2008.

As a student in international relations, her focus study was on the relationships between states. When she came across indigenous peoples’ organizations who were challenging the existing situation, she became interested in this movement and state-indigenous relations. The UN is the main arena for these relations internationally so it became the natural focus of her study. Studying the UNPFII and those who participate in it—the indigenous NGOs, states, UN agencies—is important in order to see if and how indigenous peoples are able to influence the other actors and to promote their interests.
Scholarship Leads

1) Bell Labs Fellowships for Underrepresented Minorities
   http://www.bell-labs.com/fellowships/CRFP/info.html
2) Student Inventors Scholarships
   http://www.invent.org/collegiate/
3) Student Video Scholarships
   http://www.christophers.org/vidcon2k.html
4) Coca-Cola Two Year College Scholarships
   http://www.coca-colascholars.org/programs.html
5) Holocaust Remembrance Scholarships
   http://holocaust.hklaw.com/
6) Ayn Rand Essay Scholarships
   http://www.aynrand.org/contests/
7) Brand Essay Competition
8) Gates Millennium Scholarships (major)
   http://www.gmsp.org/nominationmaterials/read.dbm?ID=3D12
9) Xerox Scholarships for Students
   http://www2.xerox.com/go/xrx/about_xerox/about_xerox_detail.jsp
10) Sports Scholarships and Internships
    http://www.ncaa.org/about/scholarships.html
11) National Assoc. of Black Journalists Scholarships (NABJ)
12) Saul T. Wilson Scholarships(Veterinary)
13) Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund
    http://www.thurgoodmarshallfund.org/sk_v6.cfm
14) FinAid: The Smart Students Guide to Financial Aid scholarships
    http://www.finaid.org/
15) Presidential Freedom Scholarships
    http://www.nationalservice.org/scholarships/
16) Microsoft Scholarship Program
    http://www.microsoft.com/college/scholarships/minority.asp
17) WiredScholar Free Scholarship Search
    http://www.wiredscholar.com/paying/scholarship_search/pay_scholarship_search.jsp
18) Hope Scholarships & Lifetime Credits
    http://www.ed.gov/lnits/hope/
19) William Randolph Hearst Endowed Scholarship for Minority Students
    http://www.apsanet.org/PS/grants/aspen3.cfm
20) Multiple List of Minority Scholarships
    http://gehon.ir.miami.edu/financial-assistance/Scholarship/black.html
21) Guaranteed Scholarships
    http://www.guaranteed-scholarships.com/
22) BOEING scholarships (some HBCU connects)
    http://www.boeing.com/company/offices/educationrelations/scholarships
23) Easley National Scholarship Program
    http://www.naas.org/senior.htm
24) Maryland Artists Scholarships
    http://www.maef.org/
25) Jacki Tuckfield Memorial Graduate Business Scholarship (for AA students in South Florida)
    http://www.jackituckfield.org/
Upcoming Events

AIP Orientation
AIP Conference Room, 400 Caldwell Hall
Tuesday, August 28, 2007, 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Indian Day at New York State Fair
Syracuse, NY
Friday, August 31, 2007
(Sign up with Akwe:kon)

Welcome Back Reception
Akwe:kon Community Room
Thursday, September 6, 2007, 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Tutelo Homecoming Festival
Saturday, September 22, 2007, 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Tutelo Park (West Hill, Bostwick Road across from the Ithaca City School District bus garage)

Native Hosting / "fly-in" Weekend
Akwe:kon
Saturday, September 29 - Monday, October 1

Student Employment Opportunities

Student Services Assistant, American Indian Program. Provides miscellaneous support for AIP’s Student Services Associate. Works on issues related to student recruitment and retention. For more information, contact Scott Templin, sat82@cornell.edu.

Interns, Ongweoweh Corp. Engage in marketing, sales, and logistics activities related to pallet management. Office is located near the Ithaca Airport, and hours are flexible around class schedules. Ongweoweh Corp. is Native owned and operated. Contact Tsiorasa Barreiro, tbarreiro@ongweoweh.com.