

American Indian Resource Center



SPRING 2011

NEWSLETTER

Calendar of Events Spring 2011

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
January 10	All Day	First Day of Classes	BSU
January 17	All Day	Martin Luther King Day - No Classes	BSU
February		CIS Soup & Frybread Fundraiser	AIRC
March 2	9:30 - 1:30	Campus Preview	BSU
March 7-11	All Week	Spring Break	AIRC
March 18	All Day	Deadline to apply for AIRC scholarships	AIRC
March 30	9:30 - 1:30	Campus Preview	AIRC
April 6		Student Achievement Day	BSU
April 9 & 10	1 - 10:00 pm	CIS Traditinoal Pow Wow	Fieldhouse
April 14	6 - 8:30 pm	American Indian Awards Banquet	Beaux Arts
April 29 - May 5	All Day	Final Exams	BSU
May 2	12 - 8 pm	MnSCU American Indian Summit	Brainerd
May 3	8 am - 1 pm	MnSCU American Indian Summit	Brainerd

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Aaniin,

Bimibattoo-mashtag indizhinikaaz. Gaawaabaabiganikaag indoonjibaa. I am honored to be asked to share a little about myself. First, I want to welcome you all to campus for this spring semester and hope that your winter break was good.

I am an Assistant Professor in the Psychology Department here on campus and a graduate of BSU in 1999. I received my PhD from the University of North Dakota in Clinical Psychology in 2005. This is my third year teaching at BSU and was previously at the University of Alaska Fairbanks for three years.

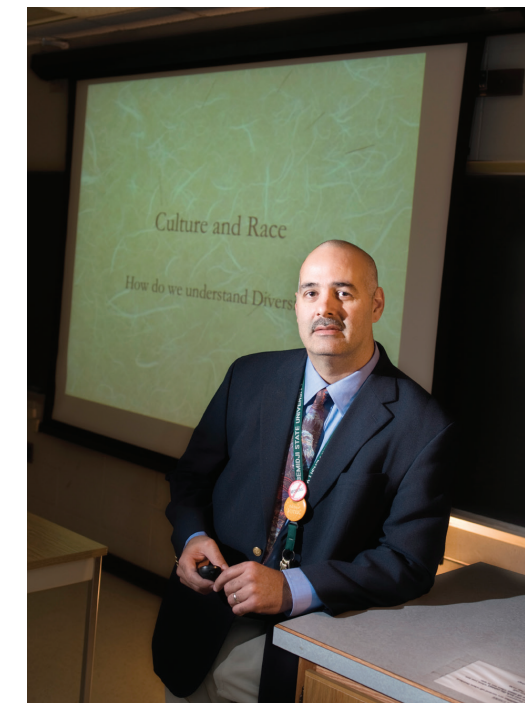
My professional interests are in cultural psychology, which attempts to understand people as cultural beings through their own indigenous psychological perspectives; multicultural psychology, which takes into account the peoples cultural, historical, and sociopolitical contexts; and community psychology, which actively works to enhance the strengths and quality of life in communities.

From within those frameworks, I am interested in understanding how the strengths and identities of individuals and communities can be utilized to develop community and culturally based prevention programs to improve the behavioral health of Native peoples.

Most recently, I worked on understanding some of the cultural pathways to success for Native students at BSU. I will be presenting the results of the project this spring at BSU, so please plan to attend, once the date is announced.

I am looking forward to another great semester and want to wish you all success!

John Gonzalez, Ph.D.



John Gonzalez, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Psychology



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BSU COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING ARRO 01-2011

Director's Corner

Boozhoo. Welcome to spring semester at BSU. Lots of good things happening that I would like to share with you. American Indian student enrollment at BSU hit 267 fall semester. The highest it's been in quite a few years. Thanks to Tori Dahlke and her Campus Preview Days and to the AIRC Student Ambassadors who make wonderful tour guides and recruiters for BSU as we host high schools, community colleges and tribal colleges visiting campus. BSU has always had a good reputation serving American Indian students, but it has expanded even more the past couple of years by hiring some outstanding American Indian faculty (Dr. John Gonzalez, Dr. Leah Carpenter, Mary Fairbanks, Dr. Ben Burgess and Dr. Tony Treuer). These faculty draw in lots of American Indian students to BSU and their respective departments (Psychology, Accounting, Nursing, Indian Studies and Ojibwe Language).

The BSU American Indian Alumni Chapter is re-organizing and establishing new goals and objectives. BSU has graduated hundreds of American Indians with Bachelor's and Master's Degrees over the years and many of these alumni are anxious to volunteer their time and efforts for students and the institution. The more successful this Chapter is the more successful our students will become.

We have rolled out a new AIRC website. We will be adding our newsletters to the website, as well as current faculty & staff, upcoming activities & events, student highlights, scholarship information, alumni activities and much more. Links to the Indian Studies Department, Ojibwe Language Program and other academic departments and student life programs will be accessible.

With the unemployment rate hovering around 9%-10%, this is a good time to be attending college. BSU is educating and training students for exciting careers in

many areas and for jobs that have not even been created yet. For all you students out there – take advantage of all the things colleges and universities offer and enjoy your time as a student. Believe it or not, your college career will go fast. I hope to see you around campus.

Donald R. Day
Donald R. Day



American Indian Summit

Bemidji State University, along with Saint Cloud State University, Lake Superior College, Central Lakes College and other MnSCU institutions are collaborating with MnSCU Office of Diversity and Multiculturalism staff in Saint Paul to facilitate an American Indian Summit titled "Indian Education – A Call To Action" scheduled to be held at Grandview Lodge in Brainerd on May 2 & 3, 2011. This summit will be a springboard for institutions of higher education and for secondary schools to review their support services for American Indian students and refine or radically change the way they plan to retain American Indian students through to graduation. It takes a lot of resources (financial and human) to recruit students, so it is in the best interest of all secondary and post-secondary schools to do whatever they can for all students to academically succeed and ultimately graduate. This summit will be a reality check on where we are and where we need to go. Contact Don Day at Bemidji State University (755-2032) or Mary Sam at Central Lakes College (855-8159) for more information.

AIRC Campus Previews & Academic Fair

Tori Dahlke

The first two AIRC Campus Previews held on November 3 and December 1, 2010 were successful. We hosted 65 high school students ranging from grades 10-12. One more Campus Preview is scheduled for March 30th; we already have two High Schools scheduled. On March 2nd will be the AIRC's first Academic Fair where we will host transfer students from the area Tribal and Community Colleges. The fair will begin at 1:00 PM at the AIRC Gathering Place and will end at 4:30 PM. Tours and refreshments will also be offered during the Academic Fair in the afternoon.

This year the American Indian volunteer Ambassador Tour Guides are: Gabe Wakanabo, Fawn Belgarde, Anna Goldtooth, Krysta King and Vince Graves. They are doing a remarkable job representing BSU.

American Indian Awards Banquet

The 27th Annual American Indian Awards Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, April 14, 2011 in the Beaux Arts Ballroom. Pre-registration for this banquet is appreciated, although tickets will be on sale at the door. On-site registration will begin at 5:45 PM with a pipe ceremony at 6:15 PM. A buffet dinner will be served at 6:30 PM with the program to begin at 7:00 PM and conclude by 8:30 PM.

The American Indian Awards Banquet is designed to recognize our academically excelling American Indian students and our graduating seniors. Stoles with beautiful Ojibwe floral designs will be given to all the 2010-2011 BSU graduates. The soles are paid for by BSU American Indian alumni. This awards dinner is one of the highlights for our students. Your participation and support is much appreciated.



Tori Dahlke – Retention Counselor Aaniin! Signs of an ending semester were evident in the AIRC student lounge and computer lab as students worked steadily to get ready for finals. With fervent anticipation, so close, yet still two or three finals away from a well deserved break. Not surprising after an amazing fall semester that again was full of events and activities that the AIRC staff and the Council of Indian Students (CIS) planned. The semester began at the AIRC with the Day of Welcome where more than 50 new and returning students attended to meet faculty and staff and to access information and services available.

The CIS kicked off the semester with a potluck and elections of officers and continued with weekly meetings in the AIRC lounge to brainstorm idea's and plan events. To name a few, a Film Festival took place during Native American Heritage month that featured films such as: Smoke Signals, Four Sheets to the Wind, Dance Me Outside and Dreamkeeper. The CIS also organized an overnight Cultural awareness lock in for Girl Scouts where the girls had the opportunity to earn a Native American Heritage badge. The frybread taco fundraiser was very successful and profited \$550.00. The next fundraiser hosted by the CIS will be a soup and frybread meal scheduled for February, date and time TBA.

The computer lab has been quite successful as well by providing access to 235 student users since monitoring sign-in began late last spring. That is good news especially when individual log-ins has added up to over 4800. There will be no doubt that the two new additional computers will be staying.

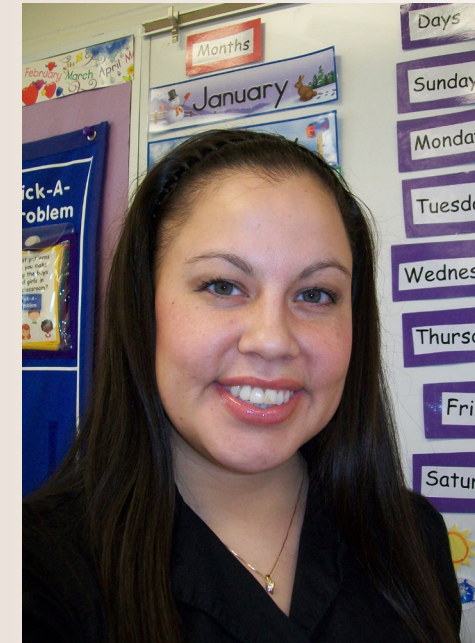
Spring semester begins on January 10th and the AIRC will begin the semester with a pipe ceremony in the Gathering Place. The Awards Banquet is scheduled for April 14th and the CIS will host a Native American Fashion show during the evening. Many other events will occur, such as the spring potluck and the Thursday night drum and dance (sponsored by the Mino-Biimaadiziwin Club) will continue throughout the semester.

Looking forward to another wonderful semester! Remember my door is always open. Giigawaabamin.



BSU Graduate Spotlight - Delana Smith

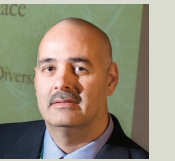
Since graduating from Bemidji State University in May 2009, I started teaching for the Red Lake School District. I taught Kindergarten for one year. The school district developed the Early Learner Literacy Intervention Program, which is a pre-school program. I teach the 4 year-olds in the program in Red Lake. We use creative curriculum. We use guided instruction helping the children develop through play. I also work with the ECFE (Early Childhood Family Education) and the Help Me Grow: Red Lake Nation programs. I plan on continuing my education working towards my master's degree. I love working with our youth. I will continue working with our youth across the country helping them to believe in and achieve their dreams.



Get To Know Our Staff



Dr. Donald Day
Executive Director, AIRC



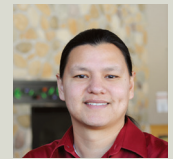
Dr. John Gonzalez
Assistant Professor
of Psychology



Colette "Tori" Dahlke, M.S.
Retention Counselor



Dr. Anton Treuer
Professor of Ojibwe



Dr. Ben Burgess
Assistant Professor
of Indian Studies



Stephanie Hendricks
OAS Intermediate



Dr. Leah Carpenter
Chair of Accounting