Studies In American Indian Literatures

Read the only journal in the United States to focus exclusively on American Indian literatures. This journal offers a wide variety of literatures, from poetry and short fiction to review essays and interviews.

We offer the opportunity to read our very affordable online version. One year gives you access to issues, old and new.

Edited by Daniel Heath Justice and James H. Cox

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The Native American Literature Symposium is organized by an independent group of Indigenous scholars committed to making a place where Native voices can be heard.

Since 2001, we have brought together some of the most influential voices in Native America to share our stories—in art, prose, poetry, film, religion, history, politics, music, philosophy, and science—from our worldview.

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The Native American Literature Symposium
PO Box 541 Mankato, MN 56002-0541
www.mnsu.edu/nativelit

Albuquerque, New Mexico
We thank the sponsors of the 2012 Symposium for their generous funding and continued support that made everything possible.

The People of the Pueblo of Isleta
Frank Lujan, Governor

The Redd Center for Western Studies
Hard Rock Albuquerque
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The Native American Institute, Michigan State University

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Michigan State University Press

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We also extend our gratitude to the following people who work behind the scenes at Minnesota State University, Mankato to keep everything functioning and who provide invaluable encouragement for our cause:

Department of English
Kate Voight, Office Manager
John Banschbach, Chair

College of Arts and Humanities
Walter Zakahi, Dean

And we appreciate the kindness of the following people who contributed support for our student participants:

Waleila Carey
Cari Carpenter
Robin Cohen
Denise Cummings
Becca Gercken
Pat Kennedy
Nancy Peterson
29 March 2012

Haŋ mitakuyapi,

We meet again at a crossroads—the Paak’u region. We come from the four directions, to the homelands of the Pueblo peoples, to share stories that transcend place and time. Our speaker, Myla Vicenti Carpio tells us in Indigenous Albuquerque, “Centuries before I-40 and I-25 became major highways, the Indigenous peoples of these lands traveled these routes.” As travelers, we thank the people of the Pueblo of Isleta for welcoming us back to their conference facilities at the Hard Rock Hotel in Albuquerque, and for their continuing support.

We will travel to Santa Fe for a pre-conference event on Wednesday at the Institute of American Indian Arts, which celebrates their 50th anniversary. Our regular schedule will begin in a good way on Thursday with our beautiful friends from Hawai’i. The program this year features a reading by Diné poet Saanii Adil’ini, a staged reading of Kimberly Blaeser’s play The Museum of Red Earth, and a wonderful collection of short films by independent New Mexico film makers. LeAnne Howe will update us on her current work in her presentation, “Writing on the Crest of Revolution: A Choctaw in King Abdullah’s Court.”

And in light of recent events in Arizona, Simon J. Ortiz will tell us why we all need to be concerned about what is happening with Mexican American Studies and what we can do to express our solidarity as well as make a stand for Indigenous sovereignty. Once again, the variety of topics in our panel sessions demonstrates breadth and depth of what it means to be involved in Native Studies today.

NALS continues to be a place where Native worldviews can be expressed and considered in all their variations. We remember the voices of those who have made our paths easier—we stand on the shoulders of incredibly strong indigenous people who sacrificed in ways we may never know. We honor our warrior legacy in those family members and friends who are in war-torn and desperate places. And we continue to travel on routes that were laid out generations ago, and share our stories.

Henana epe kte. Wopida ye.

Gwen Westerman

About the Cover
Pottery has long been a way to transmit stories in many cultures around the world, and the pottery of the pueblos in the American Southwest tells stories of a bold landscape of mountains and deserts punctuated with rivers, rocks, and pueblos. The cover graphic was inspired by the simple, graphic shapes, colors and patterns of traditional pueblo pottery. The ovals, rectangles, and triangles are defined by a bold color scheme -- terra cotta, white, black, and red -- and then softened with fluid curves and diagonal patterning. The design is meant to capture the spirit of “many voices, one center” and pay homage to the New Mexican landscape and Pueblo of Isleta.

Jason Zahn
Book Exhibits and Vendors

Visit the vendors and book exhibits in Grand Ballroom B

Thursday and Friday
10 am to 5 pm

Saturday
10 am to 2 pm

Thank you to the following presses and vendors for their contributions:

Presses

First Peoples: New Directions in Indigenous Studies
Living Justice Press
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University of Nebraska Press
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A Place for Expansion and Expression
IAIA is as much a concept as a campus. It’s about cultural roots and cultural celebration. It’s about supporting and advancing the very notion of contemporary Native art while still acknowledging the rich indigenous history and artistic expression that came before it. It’s about blazing new trails, finding new frontiers. It’s about pushing the limits of the arts and those who pursue and create it. IAIA will find the best in you and make it better.

Through the concept of art as a traditional path of creativity, IAIA excels at skill building, provoking thought and providing exceptional educational opportunities. IAIA is a place to embrace the past, enrich the present and create the future. To move ahead to paths yet unexplored and undiscovered.

About The Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA)
IAIA is the only four-year fine arts degree institution in the nation devoted to contemporary Native American and Alaska Native arts. It is devoted to the study of contemporary arts, as well as the art of education. IAIA also operates two centers, the Center for Lifelong Education and the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts.

Offering degrees in Studio Arts, New Media Arts, Creative Writing, Museum Studies and Indigenous Liberal Studies, IAIA has graduated more than 3,800 students and welcomes students from the 563 Federally-recognized tribes and beyond. In any given year, as many as 112 tribes are represented on campus, adding to the vibrant cultural mix of IAIA’s diverse and welcoming students, faculty and staff.

IAIA is as much a concept as a campus. It’s about cultural roots and cultural celebration. It’s about supporting and advancing the very notion of contemporary Native art while still acknowledging the rich indigenous history and artistic expression that came before it. It’s about blazing new trails, finding new frontiers. It’s about pushing the limits of the arts and those who pursue and create it. IAIA will find the best in you and make it better.

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### Thursday, March 29

**Registration (until 4 pm)**

**Welcome and Traditional Blessing**

#### Session 1: Plenary

**Our Sea of Stories: New Criticism in Pacific Literary Studies**

- **Nga Whiriwhiri Mātātuhi: Mana Wahine and Pacific Literature—Interwoven Narratives, Culture, and History in the Lives of Women**
  - ku‘aloha ho‘omanawanui,
  - *University of Hawai‘i Mānoa*

- **Kantan Chamorrita: Singing the Future of Chamoru Poetry**
  - Craig Santos Perez,
  - *University of Hawai‘i Mānoa*

- **Gathering in the Dark and Putting Down Roots: Kaona References to Papa in Contemporary Kanaka Maoli Literature**
  - Brandy Nālani McDougall,
  - *University of Hawai‘i Mānoa*

#### Session 2

**A (Manzano) Transnationalism**

- **The Social World of James Welch**
  - Matthew Herman,
  - *NAS Montana State University*

- **Weaving Generations Together through Language and Oral Tradition**
  - Waleila Carey,
  - *University of Oklahoma*
  - Royce Freeman,
  - *University of Oklahoma*

**B (Bosque) White, Black, & Red All Over: Transnational Regionalism and Tri-Racial Politics**

- **Strangers and Kin: Cherokee Freedmen and Traditional Practices of Adoption**
  - Joshua Nelson,
  - *University of Oklahoma*

- **Rhetoric, Resistance, and Regionalism: Oklahoma and the Geography of Transracial Recovery**
  - Rachel Jackson,
  - *University of Oklahoma*

- **Integrated Play: Particular Histories and Hidden Relations in Melvin B. Tolson’s Plays in Commemoration of Oklahoma’s Fiftieth Anniversary**
  - Tol Foster,
  - *Marquette University*

- **Poundin’ Kafi, Makin’ Filé: Locating Louisiana NDN-Creole Narratives, Text to Material Culture**
  - Rain C Goméz,
  - *University of Oklahoma*

**C (Rio Grande) Alternative Media Indians**

- **“The Trees Will Hold Skulls In Their Branches”: Unearthing The Gothic In Joseph Boyden's Three Day Road**
  - Amy Gore,
  - *Montana State University*

- **A (Re)imagining of the Indigenous Picturesque: Reclamation of Images through Alternative Media**
  - Gavin Healey,
  - *University of Arizona*

- **Whose Fantasy Is It Anyway? Female Representation, Native American Themes, and the Authors Who Write about Them**
  - Trisha Durham,
  - *University of Cincinnati*
Thursday, March 29

Session 3: Lunch

A Conversation with Saanii Adil’ini (Tacey M. Atsitty)

Tacey M. Atsitty, Diné, from Cove, Arizona, is Tsénaahabilnii (Sleep Rock People) and born for Táneeszahníi (Tangle People). She is a recipient of the Truman Capote Creative Writing Fellowship, the Corson-Browning Poetry Prize, and the Morning Star Creative Writing Award. She holds bachelor degrees from Brigham Young University and the Institute of American Indian Arts. She is a recent graduate of the MFA Creative Writing Program at Cornell University. She currently teaches English and Native American Studies at San Juan College in Farmington, New Mexico. Her work has appeared in Florida Review, Drunken Boat, Talking Stick: Native Arts Quarterly, New Poets of the American West Anthology and other publications. Her chapbook “Amenorrhea” came out in February 2009 from Counting Coup Press.

Session 4

A  Postcolonial Interpretations

A Postcolonial Study of the Novels of Louise Erdrich
Meghan Glass, Durham University

B  Storytelling in Word and Image: Teaching Native Graphic Novels

Panel Chair: Nancy J. Peterson, Purdue University

Static Pictures, Sequenced Images: The Flow of Time in Indigenous Comics
Jeff Berglund, Northern Arizona University

Native Comics and Graphic Novels as Expressive Forms
Kimberly Roppolo, University of Oklahoma

Show and Tell: Visual Acuities and Narrative Possibilities in Native Graphic Texts
Susan Bernardin, SUNY-Oneonta

“So Who is Listening Anyway?”: Issues of Audience and Teaching the Oral Tradition
Barbara K. Robins, University of Nebraska at Omaha

C  The Power of Poetry

Poets, Players, and Pacific Northwest Indigenous Literary Anticolonialism
Carol Edelman Warrior, University of Washington

“That Is Why I Sent You to Carlisle”: Carlisle Poetry and the Demands of Americanization
Cristina Stanciu, Virginia Commonwealth U.

Sponsored by the ASAIL Pedagogy Committee
Session 5

A
Survivance

At Home with Saligugi and Sears: Tradition and Innovation in Tom Holm’s *The Osage Rose*
Laura Adams Weaver, *University of Georgia, Athens*

Ceremonial Survivance at Carlisle Indian School: Momaday’s Child Resisters
Kenneth Roemer, *University of Texas at Arlington*

This Place I Call Home: Regionalism as Poetic Survivance in the Works of Carter Revard, E.A. “Tony” Mares, & Kimberly L. Becker
Lynette Wise Leidner, *University of Oklahoma*

B
Intersections of Western and Indigenous Science in American Indian Poetry and Fiction

Panel Chair: Ellen Arnold, *East Carolina University*

“The Wasted Land:” A Reading
Janet McAdams, *Kenyon College*

“Keen-Eye:” A Reading
Gladys Cardiff, *Oakland University*

Stories in the Blood + Signature of Survivance = Genetic Therapy
Jessica Bardill, *U. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*

C
Authorship and Perspective in Contemporary Native Literature

Using “Medicine Power to Uncover the Answer”: A Dene Reading of Richard Van Camp
Angela Semple, *University of Saskatchewan*

Going Native: the Consumption of Identity in *Ledfeather*
Miriam Brown-Spiers, *University of Georgia, Athens*

Sensationalizing Trauma or Hard-Core Reality? *Scalped* (Re) presentation of Life on the Rez
Carrie Sheffield, *University of Tennessee, Knoxville*

Dinner On Your Own

Session 6

A Screening and Discussion with New Mexico Filmmakers

*Organized and hosted by*
Denise K. Cummings, *Rollins College*
Theo Van Alst, *Yale*
Leah Sneider, *University of New Mexico*

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<tr>
<th>Rugged Guy</th>
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<th>Run Red Walk</th>
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<td>by Ramona Emerson &amp; Kelly Byars</td>
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The Native American Literature Symposium 2012
Friday, March 30

8:00 - 9:15
Session 7

A (Manzano)
Readings

“Breakfast at the Western Cafe”
Marie Claymore,
Montana State University

Sing
Allison Hedge Coke,
University of Nebraska Kearney
Travis Hedge Coke,
University of Nebraska Kearney

B (Bosque)
Connecting Spiritual and Physical Writing

The Gift of Wind and Writing:
Bridging the Oral/Written Binary in Anishinaabe Literature
Niigaanwewidam James Sinclair,
University of Manitoba

“I am not . . . Postmodern”:
Visionary Knowledge in Gordon Henry’s The Failure of Certain Charms
Tammy Wahpeconiah,
Appalachian State University

M’Naa Giigdaa Learning to Speak in a Good Way
JoAnn DiNova and Lila Pine,
Ryerson University

C (Rio Grande)
Red Ink

RED INK: The History and the Future of Native American Publishing in the Advent of a New Era
Sheila Rocha,
University of Arizona

Ashley Tsosie
Joe Quintana
April Petillo
Simon Ortiz

9:30 - 10:45
Session 8

A
Responses to Colonialism

We Are All Native Here: Colonial Critique and Its Queer Errant
Jodi Byrd,
U. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

History Through Tradition and Literature
Melissa Michal,
Pennsylvania State University

Spacetimes and Settler Colonialism
Joseph Bauerkeper,
University of Minnesota, Duluth

B
Engaging with the Past in Contemporary Literature

Religious Conversion and Louise Erdrich’s Possible Answers to Oskison’s “Problem”
Martha Viehmann,
Sinclair Community College

Voicing the Bones: Heid Erdrich’s Poetry Speaking the Silences of NAGPRA
Karen M. Poremski,
Ohio Wesleyan University

“The past is very much right here and now”: Temporality and History in Silko’s Ceremony
Michael Emerson,
Northwestern Michigan College

C
Sources of Story

The New “Native Hero”: Battling with Basketball on the Reservation
Tria Andrews,
University of California, Berkeley

From the Glittering World: A (Transnational) Navajo Story
Robin Riley Fast,
Emerson College

Interspecies Activism in William Sanders’ “At Ten Wolf Lake”
Brian K. Hudson,
University of Oklahoma
### Session 9

#### A  Citizenship & Identity

- “The Truth” about *Truth & Bright Water*: Thomas King’s Restoration of Indians into the Contemporary Landscape
  - John D. Kalb, *Salisbury University*

- “Writing under Duress.” Reading between the Lines and Filling in the Blanks in Ella Deloria’s Little Known Performance Art
  - Susan Gardner, *U. of North Carolina at Charlotte*

- Cultural Mediation Through Captivity in Charlotte Lennox’s Euphemia
  - Shannon Toll, *University of Oklahoma*

#### B  Visualizing Indigenous Gender: Representations of Native Americans in Contemporary Film

- Wind In All Their Hair: Indian Masculinity as Coming Attraction in Hollywood
  - Becca Gercken, *University of Minnesota, Morris*

- Where are the Does in Randy Redroad’s *The Doe Boy*?
  - Channette Romero, *University of Georgia*

- Living Two Spirits
  - Brian Twenter, *University of South Dakota*

#### C  Indigenous Women in the World

- From Indonesia to New Mexico: Matrilineal Culture in the Works of A. A. Navis and Leslie Marmon Silko
  - Robin Cohen and Nita Novianti, *Texas State University*

- Shinnobi Girls Back Here in the World: Young Ojibwe Women of the Vietnam War Era in Selected Narratives and the Writing of Fiction
  - Linda LeGarde-Grover, *University of Minnesota, Duluth*

- Trans-Choctalking: Transnationalism in LeAnne Howe’s *Evidence of Red*
  - Steven B. Sexton, *University of Oklahoma*

### Session 10: Lunch

**Indigenous Albuquerque with Myla Vicenti Carpio**

Myla Vicenti Carpio is of the Jicarilla Apache Nation and from Laguna and Isleta Pueblos in New Mexico. After completing her undergraduate work at the University of New Mexico in 1992, she earned a master’s degree in history from Arizona State University, as well a Ph.D. in history in 2001.

Myla currently works as an Assistant Professor in the American Indian Studies Department at Arizona State University. Her courses include Introduction to American Indian Studies, Issues in Urban Indian Country, American Indian Studies Research Methods, and Readings in Colonization/Decolonization. Her research areas include Indigenous history, urban issues, gender and sexuality, and decolonization. Her new book is *Indigenous Albuquerque*. 
Friday, March 30

Session 11

Enduring Critical Poses: International Readings of American Indian Literature

Panel Chair: Gordon Henry, Jr., Michigan State University

Affiliation and Filiation: Going beyond the Use of Avivah Zornberg’s Counter-Narrative to a Reading of James Welch's Fools Crow according to Positioning and Ethics as Related by Silvia Martínez-Falquina Stuart Rieke, Sisseton-Wahpeton Tribal College

X-ing Boundaries: Transmotion and Transformation in Contemporary Anishinaabeg Writing
David Stirrup, University of Kent

“What am I Doing in France?”: Migration and Transformation in Aaron Carr’s Unpublished Novel Pleiades Man
Jesse Peters, University of North Carolina Pembroke

Break

Session 12

A  
IAIA Reading

A 50 Year Legacy: The Story Continues
Evelina Lucero

Paige Buffington

Katie Lasley

Monty Little

Katrina Montoya

Anna Nelson
Institute of American Indian Arts

B  
SAI Writers: Cross-Genre Considerations of Dissent/Descent

New Tropes of Pan-Indian Empowerment: Carlos Montezuma’s Wassaja as a Domain of Defiance
Julianne Newmark, New Mexico Tech

The Haudenoosaunee Future of Laura Cornelius Kellogg
Cari Carpenter, West Virginia University

The Story of My People: Chauncey Yellow Robe Across Genres
Kathleen Washburn, University of New Mexico

C  
Indigenizing Environmental Justice

Toward an Indigenized Environmental Justice Theory
Dina Gilio-Whitaker, University of New Mexico

Scorched Earth, Clearcut Logging on Native Land, Shaman Coming to Fix
Jan Johnson, University of Idaho

Native American Literary Water Ecologies and the Search for Justice
William Huggins, Independent Scholar
Writing on the Crest of Revolution:
A Choctaw in King Abdullah’s Court

LeAnne Howe is an enrolled citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. She writes fiction, poetry, screenplays, scholarship, and plays that deal with native experiences. Author of three awarding winning books, (including the American Book Award and the Oklahoma Book Award). Howe’s fiction appears in *Fiction International, Callaloo, Story, Yalobusha Review, Kenyon Review, Cimarron Review;* and elsewhere. Her work has been translated in France, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, and Denmark.

Recent artistic and scholarly accomplishments include the William J. Fulbright Scholarship to Amman, Jordan (2010-2011) to research a new novel set during the Arab Revolt in 1917. On March 5, 2011, Howe was Awarded Tulsa Library Trust’s “American Indian Author Award” at Central Library in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She returned from Jordan to receive the award.

In June 2011, NAISA (Native American and Indigenous Studies Association) voted *Reasoning Together, The Native Critics Collective*, one of the ten most influential books in the first decade of the twenty-first century by the membership of over 800 scholars. Howe’s chapter, “Blind Bread and the Business of Theorymaking By Embarrassed Grief as Told by LeAnne Howe” . . . appears in the collection and is a short story couched within literary criticism. In November 2011, she was named by Maynard Institute for Journalism Education as one of 30 American Indian authors whose works were celebrated during November’s Native American Heritage Month.

In 2007, Howe appeared on Jon Stewart’s *The Daily Show* on Comedy Central in a news segment about sports mascots titled, “Trail of Cheers.” (She’s afraid this might be the pinnacle of her career.) She was the John and Renee Grisham Writer-in-Residence at the University of Mississippi at Oxford, 2006-2007. Her plays have been performed at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles and in New York at the Smithsonian.

Currently, when not gallivanting around the Middle East, Howe is a Professor of English and American Indian Studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and former Director of the MFA program in Creative Writing. She makes her homes in Ada, Oklahoma; Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, and most recently Amman, Jordan.
**Saturday, March 31**

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<th>Session 14</th>
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<td>8:00</td>
<td><strong>Registration (until 10 am)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Vendors and Exhibits (until 2 pm)</strong></td>
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<td>8:00 - 9:15</td>
<td><strong>Session 14</strong></td>
<td><strong>Session 15</strong></td>
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<td>A (Manzano)</td>
<td>The Past</td>
<td>The Ethical (Literary) Treatment of the Dead and Living Indians</td>
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<td>Conflicting Ontologies and Contradictory Epistemologies in Silko's <em>Almanac of the Dead</em></td>
<td>Panel Chair: LeAnne Howe, <em>University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign</em></td>
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<td>Chezia Thompson Strand, <em>Maryland Institute College of Art</em></td>
<td>Moderator: Jill Doerfler, <em>University of Minnesota, Duluth</em></td>
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<td>Food Imagery in Welch's <em>The Heartsong of Charging Elk</em></td>
<td>Patrice Hollrah, <em>University of Nevada, Las Vegas</em></td>
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<td>The Poetics of Susan Deer Cloud</td>
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<td>B (Bosque)</td>
<td>Language</td>
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<td>Choctalking: The Realities of Fiction and Leanne Howe's <em>Shell Shaker</em></td>
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<td>Speaking the Unspoken, Hearing What Isn't Said: Revisiting Perspectives on <em>Elsie's Business</em></td>
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Saturday, March 31

Session 16

A
A Corpse Tail: A Reading
Byron F. Aspaas,
Sasha Lapointe,
Kateri Menominee, 
The Institute of American Indian Arts

B
Indigenous Crossings: Performing Gender and Representing the Other
Gender Matters, Indigenous Futures: Writing and Reading In the Land of the Grasshopper Song
Susan Bernardin, 
SUNY-Oneonta
Passing Strange: Queer Characters and Female Masculinity in Native American Literature
Lisa Tatonetti, 
Kansas State University
His Handsome Young Men: The Queer Life of an Oilman by John Joseph Mathews
Michael Snyder, 
Oklahoma City Community College

C
Alienation
The Artisans of Terror: Violence, the Limits of Decolonization, and Restorative Justice in Leslie Marmon Silko’s Almanac of the Dead
Thomas Krause, 
University of Oklahoma
Belief in a Time of Trauma: Simon Ortiz’s Rosebud Reservation Winter
Reginald Dyck, 
Capital University
American Indian Literary History & Human Rights Discourse: Diane Glancy’s Pushing the Bear
Tereza M. Szeghi, 
University of Dayton

Session 17: Lunch

A Conversation with Simon Ortiz

Simon J. Ortiz writes poetry and prose that is at once honest and unfettered, and yet challenging. Using the simplest of language, Ortiz evokes the most complex feelings, and often a longing for the experiences about which he writes. In much of his work he maintains a simple tone that belies the adversity of his life.

What Ortiz writes is important because he is teaching the art of experience, and doing it through language. Not surprisingly, he believes language is an important vehicle for finding and knowing who we are and professes a strong belief in the power of the oral traditions of his people.

Although his words often seem innocent, the observations he makes could only come from one who has known the harshness of reality. That he manages such a firm belief in the power of experience and spirituality in the face of difficulty, is something well worth learning, a lesson that Ortiz, as well as Native Americans have to teach.
Saturday, March 31

Session 18

Staged Reading of *The Museum of Red Earth* by Kimberly Blaeser

Ryan Winn, *College of Menominee Nation*

Kimberly Blaeser, *University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee*

Amber Blaeser-Wardzala, *7th Grade, St. Mary's School*

LeAnne Howe, *University of Illinois*

Niigaanwewidom James Sinclair, *University of Manitoba*

Session 19

ASAIL Business Meeting

(Manzano Room)

Tour of the Pueblo of Isleta

Pueblo Tour with Stephanie Zuni and Joe Zuni

Leaving from hotel lobby at 3 p.m.

Save the Date!

NALS 2013
March 21-23
Mystic Lake Casino Hotel
Minneapolis, MN
We Remember Those Who Have Made the Road Easier For Us

Elouise Cobell (1945 - 2011), the treasurer of the Blackfeet tribe who tenaciously pursued a lawsuit that accused the federal government of cheating Native Americans out of more than a century's worth of royalties, resulting in a record $3.4-billion settlement. Growing up on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in northwest Montana, Cobell often heard her parents and neighbors wonder why they weren't being paid for allowing others to use their land, she later recalled.

When she took over as treasurer of the tribe in 1976 she found herself in charge of a chaotic accounting system. As Cobell attempted to unravel the books, she could make neither "hide nor hair of the trust accounts," she later said, referring to trusts that had been set up as part of the 1887 Dawes Act. Cobell approached the Boulder, Colo.-based Native American Rights Fund about filing a class-action lawsuit against the Interior and Treasury departments, and she was named as lead plaintiff when the suit was filed in 1996. The suit contended that the Dawes Act arrangement allowed U.S. officials to systematically steal and squander royalties intended for Native Americans. In June 2011, a federal judge approved the $3.4-billion settlement, the largest payment Native Americans have ever received from the U.S. government.

Joe Sando (1923 - 2011) from the Pueblo of Jemez, served as the Director for the Institute for Pueblo Indian Studies/Pueblo Archives housed at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Sando is a noted historian, author, consultant and lecturer was an invaluable resource of historical and genealogical knowledge for the 19 Pueblos of New Mexico. He was a renowned author of several books such as, Pueblo Indian Biographies, Pueblo Profiles, and Pueblo Nations.

Freda Ahenakew (1932 - 2011) was a leader and educator who fought for the retention of the Cree language. From 1989 to 1996 she was an associate professor of Native studies and head of the Native studies department. Her final project and was her written account of traditional literature. She collected the stories and autobiographies that were told to her by elders. She wrote down these stories in Cree, with an English translation. Her stories showcased works of traditional literature such as stories about Wesakechak, the Cree trickster, as well as autobiographical accounts from elders, women in particular. The University of Saskatchewan awarded her an honorary doctor of laws in 1997. She also received the Order of Canada and the Saskatchewan Order of Merit.

John Rainer, Jr. (1942 - 2011) was internationally known for his creative Native American Flute music compositions. He was a former professor, counselor, and choral director for Native American students for the Indian Education program at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. John served a two year mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Southwest Indian Mission. John also served as Bishop in Utah and Branch President in Arizona. John was a member of the Taos Pueblo Tribe in Northern New Mexico. He was also Creek from Oklahoma. Rainer’s cherished achievement was directing the Native American choir at Brigham Young University.

Billy Crosby (1926 - 2011) served in World War II in the Pacific Theater as a code talker message center man from July 9, 1945 to August 10, 1946. He was part of battles and expeditions in Japan during his enlistment. He was honorably discharged as a Corporal from the 1st Separation Company, Marine Corps Battalion, in San Diego, California on January 14, 1946. On April 27, 1946, he was awarded the Good Conduct Medal and in 2002 he received a Silver Medallion from President George W. Bush.
Ernest House Sr. (1946 - 2011) who served more than 30 years in Ute Mountain Ute tribal leadership and was known across the country for his advocacy, deep knowledge of history and willingness to work across party and tribal lines. House, 65, was a member of the Ute Mountain Ute tribe (Weeminuche Band) and the grandson of Chief Jack House, the tribe's last hereditary chief. Between 2005 and 2010, House focused heavily on tribal safety, helping to increase the tribal police force from two officers to more than a dozen, his son said. He was most recently working with U.S. Rep. Scott Tipton to have a tribute to Chief Jack House, who traveled often to Washington, D.C., to advocate on tribal issues, read on the floor of the U.S. Congress.

Deanna Kingston (1964 - 2011), Inupiat from King Island, Alaska, and she dedicated her career to studying and honoring the culture of her ancestors, including exploring their rich traditional ecological knowledge. She was an associate professor in the anthropology department at Oregon State University. Her work included research on traditional kinship patterns, songs, and hunting dances. She interned at the Smithsonian’s Arctic Studies Center, and worked on a film collection of last-century King Island life, now housed at the National Museum of Natural History. In 2003 she received a National Science Foundation grant to document and compare scientific knowledge with traditional knowledge of King Island.

Angayuqaq Oscar Kawagley (1934 - 2011) sought to find ways in which his Yupiaq peoples' language and culture could be used in the classroom to meld the contemporary ways to the Yupiaq thought world. He served for the past 25 years as a faculty member with the Cross-Cultural Studies and Education programs at UAF where he introduced the construct of “Native ways of knowing” and contributed greatly to the understanding of issues concerning Indigenous peoples and world views that had been largely neglected in the past. He played a lead role in a feature-length movie, Salmonberries, as well as appearing in episodes of the TV series Northern Exposure and the Disney movie, Brother Bear.

Katherine Siva Saubel (1920 - 2011), an elder of the Cahuilla Indian tribe of Southern California, once described herself as “just a voice in the wilderness all by myself.” One of the last fluent speakers of the Cahuilla language, Saubel worked with linguists and anthropologists to produce a Cahuilla dictionary and grammar book as well as historical accounts and studies of medicinal plants known through tribal lore. In 1964, she helped launch the Malki Museum, the first nonprofit museum founded and managed by Native Americans on a reservation.

Olive P. Dickason (1920 - 2011), a Métis historia, worked with Aboriginal, Métis and Canadian history and studies. After a 24-year career in journalism, Dickason earned a Master’s degree at the University of Ottawa in 1972, at the age of 52. Dickason authored Canada's First Nations: A History of Founding Peoples from the Earliest Times, the most definitive text on the subject at the time, and one which is still widely in use. She taught at the University of Alberta from 1975 to 1992, and was also an adjunct professor for the University of Ottawa. She was awarded the Order of Canada in 1996 and received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation in 1997.
Statement on Ethnic Fraud

The Native American Literature Symposium supports the Indigenous Professors Association Statement on Ethic Fraud

“We the Indigenous Professors Association hereby establish and present our position on ethnic fraud and offer recommendations to ensure the accuracy of American Indian/Alaska Native identification in American colleges and universities. This statement is developed over concern about the racial exploitation of American Indians and Alaska Natives in American colleges and universities. We think it is necessary to establish our position on ethnic fraud because of documented incidents of abuse.

This statement is intended to assist universities in their efforts to develop culturally diverse campus communities. The implications of this statement are threefold:

1. to assist in the selection process that encourages diversity among students, staff, faculty, and administration; 2. to uphold the integrity of institutions and enhance their credibility with American Indian/Alaska Nations/Tribes; and 3. to recognize the importance of American Indian/Alaska Native Nations/Tribes in upholding their sovereign and legal right as nations to determine membership.

The following prioritized recommendations are intended to affirm and ensure American Indian/Alaska Native identity in the hiring process. We are asking that colleges and universities

1. Require documentation of enrollment in a state or federally recognized nation/tribe with preference given to those who meet this criterion; 2. Establish a case-by-case review process for those unable to meet the first criterion; 3. Include American Indian/Alaska Native faculty in the selection process; 4. Require a statement from the applicant that demonstrates past and future commitment to American Indian/Alaska Native concerns; 5. Require higher education administrators to attend workshops on tribal sovereignty and meetings with local tribal officials; and 6. Advertise vacancies at all levels and on a broad scale and in tribal publications.”
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