American Indian Student Association (AISA)

This year AISA has been active on campus, raising awareness about Native American issues. In the wake of the Vice Presidential debate being held at Washington University, AISA decided it would be a good idea to voice our opinions about candidate stances on Native issues. So we made posters and joined the student body on campus the day of the debate in hopes of gaining media attention. We also publicized information about the indigenous point of view about Columbus Day and what it means to us. AISA has been steadily raising funds through bake sales this semester. Some of the proceeds were donated to the United Houma Nation in Louisiana, as it has been severely affected by hurricanes this year.

We have many activities upcoming for November, which is Native American Heritage Month. It is our goal to have a fry-bread and traditional soup sale, a brown bag lunch discussion, a food tasting, a movie showing and a TGIT! We are so excited about the goals to have a fry-bread and traditional soup sale, a brown bag lunch discussion, a food tasting, a movie showing and a TGIT! We are so excited about the many opportunities we have to be the voice for Native Americans on campus this year and will take advantage of all those opportunities.

By: Sherri Brooks

3 Voices Speaking from the Past

November 14 & 15 8:00 pm - Village Black Box Theatre

Three Voices will present a one-hour Chautauqua performance, in period costumes, of the events leading up to the massacre at Wounded Knee in 1890 from three cultural points of view. A discussion with the audience following the play will focus on issues of importance to Native Americans and on healing racism.

By: Kellie Szczpaniec

Native American Awareness Month to Kick off with an Indian Country Service Trip

The Pawnee Nation hosted the Buder Scholars, along with 5 international and 3 domestic students during the weekend of Oct. 31st-November 2nd for a service trip. The trip planning process was a collaborative one in association with the Pawnee Nation College’s Meditations on Sovereignty Conference.

The students co-sponsored a healthy choices breakfast and health walk geared to bring the community together prior to an afternoon dance. The Buder scholars coordinated the walk and breakfast with the Nation’s Community Health Representative program. A Sober 49 contest was held after the dance, offering community members a choice in their after-hours activities.

My peers & I have worked diligently to garner financial and faculty support for this trip. Approval was received from the Student Coordinating Council, The Buder Center, and we held a coat and mitten drive within the school. We also received a small grant from the Gephardt Center for Civic Service, which emphasizes community based learning and social justice initiatives.

I wanted to bring the concept of sovereignty to life for the Buder Scholars and all the additional students who joined us to learn the strengths and challenges of life in Indian Country. I was happy to organize this trip to give our peers a view of my home community and open up discussions within the Brown School of Social Work.

By: Electa Hare
Buder Spring Pow Wow

The Buder Center is pleased to announce the 19th Annual Pow Wow is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2008. The Pow Wow will be held in the Washington University Field House located on Olympian Way Drive. Native Vendors are strongly encouraged to apply.

Last year, the Pow Wow drew an estimated crowd of 4,000 participants, and provided an excellent opportunity for students, community members, and guests to interact and learn more about American Indian culture.

To view photos of the 2008 Pow Wow, please visit http://gwbweb.wustl.edu/buder/. For more information call 314-935-4510 or e-mail bcais@gwbmail.wustl.edu.

Introducing the 2008 - 2009 Buder Scholars

Margaux Carrimon is a first year Buder Scholar with a concentration in Social and Economic development. Margaux is an enrolled member of the Ho-Chunk tribe. She was raised in La Crosse, WI. She began her pursuit of a Bachelor of Social Work at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay where she completed most of her degree work. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Social Work at Viterbo University in La Crosse with a minor in Sociology.

Laura Rice is a first-year MSW Buder Scholar. She is Prairie Band Potawatomi and Yurok. Laura graduated from Stanford University with a BA in Native American Studies. While Laura was raised in California and in Washington State, she has been living in Topeka, Kansas for the past year and has enjoyed being in close proximity to the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation. Laura's most recent employment was with the State of Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services where she worked as a caseworker for Employment and Economic Support programs. Laura is very thankful for the opportunity to continue her education so that she can serve the Native American community.

Sheila Rivera is a 35 year old Buder Scholar from the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians tribe in Choctaw, Mississippi. Her concentration is in Children, Youth, and Family. She has worked as a Family Preservationist, a Police Officer, and a Female Probation Officer for her tribe. She is married to Noland Rivera and they have a wonderful, sweet four-year-old son, Isaiah. Her hopes are to work for the Chicago Police Department in the Domestic Violence Unit, Human Trafficking Unit, or the Department of Children and Family Services in Chicago, IL. She would like to thank the Buder Center and all the Buder students who offer support and guidance.

Kellie Szczepaniec is in her first year as an MSW candidate. She is a member of the Seneca Nation of Indians, Hawk Clan, and is originally from Niagara Falls, New York. Kellie graduated in 2008 from the University of Notre Dame, receiving a BS in Psychology and Gender Studies. While in school she was an active participant in the campus’ Native American club and also worked for the local YWCA and SOS Center. At the Brown School, her concentration is Social and Economic Development. She is extremely thankful to the Buder Center and all the members of the Seneca Nation who have assisted her in her pursuit of education. After graduating from the Brown School, she plans on returning to the western NY area to work for her people.

Willeen Whipple is an enrolled member of the Blackfeet Nation in Browning, Montana. She is also from the Sicangu Lakota Tetuwan Oyate, also known as the Rosebud Sioux Reservation. Willeen is employed by the National Tribal Development Association with the National FSA American Indian Credit Outreach Initiative program as an outreach liaison assisting Native farmers and ranchers with outreach education and technical assistance. She covers an expansive area which includes the states of Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, and Northeast Oklahoma. Willeen holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and Sociology from Maryville University, St. Louis and a Master of Arts degree from Webster University, St. Louis. Outside of work, Willeen pursues several hobbies which include traveling, collecting Northern Plains artwork, designing and quilting traditional and non-traditional Star Quilts. She would like to thank the Buder Foundation for this wonderful opportunity which will allow her to continue working with Tribal people.

2008 - 2009 Forums

The Kathryn M. Buder Center is pleased to introduce the Buder Professional Development Forums (“Forums”). The purpose of Forums is to equip Native scholars with the tools necessary to succeed both personally and professionally as a student at the Brown School. The goal of Forums is to introduce students to new skills, encourage students to think about topics in unique and different ways, and allow time for Native scholars to learn and share with each other. Attendance at Forums is mandatory for all Buder Scholars and sessions are led by Buder staff and guest lecturers.

For Fall 2008, four Forums are offered, and two have already occurred. Students had the opportunity to learn more about time management, social networking, and developing a professional mission statement during the first weeks of school.

November 21, Carol Derrick, a former Buder Scholar, will speak to the students about Ethics in Clinical Social Work.
Interfaculty Initiative and Witaya Lecture Series

The Interfaculty Initiative for American Indian Affairs at Washington University in St. Louis promotes collaborative scholarly endeavors including research, teaching, and professional consultation on American Indian issues. This initiative is a cross-disciplinary consortium of researchers, scholars, and graduate students interested in American Indian issues and communities.

The primary work of the Buder Center has been to support and develop social work graduate students into future American Indian scholars and leaders. The work of the initiative aims to expand this effort campus-wide to additional disciplines and to undergraduate students and faculty. A foundation of sixteen persons, representing seven disciplines has already been established. This group continues to grow as new participants seek out more information and show active interest in the initiative.

This year, the initiative is sponsoring the Witaya Lecture Series.

November 18, Brett Lee Shelton, J.D., M.A., will present A Lawyer's Role in Reclaiming Native Ways in Child Welfare Law.

co-sponsorship with the Law School

December 4, Linda Burhansstipanov, M.S.P.H., Dr. Ph. H. co-sponsorship with the Public Health Institute

Kathryn M. Buder Doctoral Fellowship Created

This fall, the School created the Buder Doctoral Fellowship which is awarded to an outstanding doctoral student with expressed interests in American Indian Studies and Social Work. The Fellowship carries a $24,000 per year stipend for a period of four years. To receive this award, students must apply to the Chair of the Brown School doctoral committee and provide a statement of their proposed interests and program of study. This fellowship is supported by a generous donation from the Center for Social Development at the Brown School. Amy Locklear Hertel, a member of the Lumbee tribe, is the 2008 recipient.

2008 - 2009 Buder Scholars

Amanda Blackhorse is in her second year as a MSW graduate student. She grew up in various places on the Dine’ reservation in Arizona and is of the Salt clan born for Red-Streaking into the Water clan. Amanda is the proud mother of two beautiful girls, Nanabaa and Svwenv, who are born for the Muscogee and Choctaw tribes. Amanda graduated with a Bachelors in Social Work (BSW) from the University of Kansas, School of Social Work, as well as an Associate Degree from Haskell Indian Nations University. She is very proud of her association and involvement within the Native community, as well as her identity as a Native woman. As a graduate student, Amanda is concentrating in Mental Health and Social and Economic Development. Upon completion of her MSW, Amanda plans to return to the Dine’ reservation to be close to her family and home, as well as work to empower youth through progressive strategies such as decolonization.

Sherri Brooks is a second year MSW candidate and is honored to have been chosen as a Buder Scholar because the Center has contributed so much to Indian country. “The efforts taken by the Kathryn M. Buder Center to provide the scholars with a well-rounded experience at the Brown School is amazing. There are so many opportunities for us to fulfill our dreams at the Brown School and the Buder Center facilitates and enhances those experiences," Sherri said. “I look forward to all the great things to come in the next year of my studies at the Brown School. When I graduate in May 2009, I know I will be prepared to tackle the challenges of working in Indian Country.”

Electa Hare is 25 years old and a member of Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, Pitahawirata Band on her mother’s side and Yankton descendant on her Father’s side. Electa is a second year MSW candidate. Upon graduation, Electa plans to return to her family and community to improve resources available to tribal youth in need. Her elders have encouraged her to become a warrior woman for Indian Country, and this is a challenge she does not take lightly. She is a strong advocate for Native Rights and Sovereignty and the strength of the oppressed. Electa is currently pursuing an individualized degree plan, focusing on Mental Health and Health. She enjoys jogging, and finds it a great way to rejuvenate her mind and promote well-being.

Tawna Harrison is a 37-year-old Buder Scholar with a concentration in Mental Health and a specialization in Management. She is Lakota from the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. Tawna graduated from the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota with a Bachelors degree in Social Work and Social Sciences. She has lived and worked on the reservation her entire life, where she and her husband own a cattle ranch. Tawna is married to David Harrison and they have four children, Kinzey 15, Mercedes 14, Bray 10, and Rope 6. David remains at their family home in McLaughlin, SD. Tawna was a social worker for nine years at the Little Eagle Day School in Little Eagle, SD.

Dawn Jordan is an enrolled member of the Oneida Nation. She was born, raised and currently resides in St. Louis. She has a 13 year old son, Carlos Enriquez Jordan. Dawn completed her undergraduate degree at Concordia University, with a BA in Management and a minor in Human Resources. For the past 10 1/2 years, she has been employed with The American Indian Council, Workforce Investment Act Program.

Jessica Laughlin is a member of the United Houma Nation and grew up in Dulac, Louisiana. She graduated from Stanford University in 2006 with a BS Psychology and Native American Studies. She is currently a third year Buder Scholar specializing in mental health and is also working on the dual Degree in Law and Social Work. The Buder Center for American Indian Studies is what attracted Jessica to the Brown School.
History of the Kathryn M. Buder Center

The donor and founder of the Kathryn M. Buder center for American Indian Studies respected and admired American Indians from childhood. Kathryn Buder’s belief that education is a key factor in empowering American Indian communities and her commitment to an education that honors the American Indian culture led her to establish the Center in 1990. Originally founded to provide scholarships for American Indians, the Buder Center has grown into one of the most respected centers in the nation for the academic advancement and study of American Indian issues related to social work. The Center offers one American Indian course per semester, which Buder Scholars are required to take. Additionally, the Center is charged with developing Buder Scholars into leaders who will serve Indian Country.

Scholarships:
Numerous scholarships and other financial assistance including: tuition remission, work-study positions, and low-interest loans are available through the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. More information is available at www.gwbweb.wustl.edu.

In addition, the independent G.A., Jr. and Kathryn M. Buder Charitable Foundation offers full scholarships to American Indians who intend to practice social work in American Indian communities. These foundation scholarships cover tuition, living expenses and books for two years of full-time study. Information on these scholarships is available by contacting the Buder Center.