American Indian Student Association (AISA)

AISA is a student-run organization established in the Brown School of Social Work acting as a holistic support system for American Indian and non-Indian students who are interested in working with American Indian people and communities. In addition, AISA strives to increase awareness and understanding of American Indian Nations, culture, history, and policies while promoting equality and healthy relations.

AISA works to provide educational, social, spiritual, and cultural support for American Indian students at the undergraduate and graduate levels from the larger Washington University community. Through our campus programming, we work to increase the knowledge and understanding of American Indians at Washington University in St. Louis.

AISA sponsors and supports the annual Pow Wow held at the Washington University Field House, along with various events and activities on campus. During Indigenous American Week, Monday, October 8 to Friday, October 12, AISA co-sponsored a movie with Amnesty International.

This movie, The Canary Effect, examines the devastating effect that United States policies have on Indigenous people of America. The film uses beautiful imagery and personal interviews to present a chilling case to what many believe is the ongoing genocide of the American Indian. The Canary Effect received Best Documentary nominations from the American Indian and the Red Bank International film festivals.

In addition to the events listed above, we at AISA strive to make greater efforts to unite AISA and the St. Louis Community. This semester AISA has formulated a plan to promote AISA community outreach and volunteer activities in St. Louis and on the Washington University in St. Louis campus that are open to the public and community.

This year AISA is more community oriented and expanding university wide, and an undergraduate AISA just formed. Membership is free and open to all.

Anyone interested in joining AISA, assisting with the above events, finding out more information, or just attending an AISA meeting can visit the website: http://gwbweb.wustl.edu/virtualgwb/groups/aisa/

Amy Locklear Hertel Joins Buder Center Staff

Amy Locklear Hertel, of the Lumbee Nation and a Buder Scholar alum, joined the Buder Center for American Indian Studies at Washington University as its Research Manager in May 2007. She is particularly interested in partnering with American Indian tribal organizations to conduct research using community based participatory methods. Amy will also help plan and coordinate the next Buder alumni reunion. Before her recent return to social work, Amy served as Corporate Council for a publicly traded company. Amy earned her juris doctorate and master's in Social Work degrees from Washington University. She received her undergraduate degree in interpersonal communications from the University of North Carolina.

The Indigenous Democratic Network

The Indigenous Democratic Network, INDN's List, is the only grassroots political organization devoted to recruiting and electing Native American candidates and mobilizing the Indian Vote throughout America on behalf of those candidates. INDN's List conducts most of its training at biennial Campaign Camps. The first was held in 2005 on the Shakopee Mde-wakanton reservation in Minnesota, and the second concluded in August 2007 on the Morongo Indian Reservation. To learn more about upcoming training sessions, please visit http://indnslist.org/INDNTraining
Rebuilding Native Nations

A revolution is underway among the Indigenous nations of North America. From high plains states and prairie provinces to southwestern deserts, Native people are reclaiming their rights to govern themselves and to shape their futures in their own ways. Challenging more than a century of colonial controls, they are addressing severe social problems, building sustainable economies, and reinvigorating Indigenous culture. In effect, they are rebuilding their nations according to their own diverse and often innovative designs.

"Rebuilding Native Nations: Strategies for Governance and Development" traces the contours of that revolution as Native nations turn the dream of self-determination into a practical reality. Part report, part analysis, and part how-to manual for Native leaders, it discusses strategies for governance and community and economic development that are being employed today by American Indian nations and First Nations in Canada. "Rebuilding Native Nations" provides guidelines for creating new government structures, rewriting constitutions, building justice systems, launching nation-owned enterprises, encouraging citizen entrepreneurs, developing new relationships with non-Native governments, and confronting the crippling legacies of colonialism.

"Rebuilding Native Nations" is produced by the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy at the University of Arizona and the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development. Miriam Jorgensen, consultant and visiting scholar at the Brown University School of Social Work, is editor and a chapter by Sarah Hicks, a former Buder Center scholar, is included. To order a discounted copy of the book, please visit http://www.uapress.arizona.edu and enter the source code “FLR.”

Native Art Fair

The Buder Center is pleased to announce that the 18th Annual Pow Wow is scheduled for Saturday, April 5, 2008. The theme of the Pow Wow is “Honoring Our Native Veterans and All Those Who Serve” and will be held in the Washington University Field House located on Olympic Way Drive. Last year, the Pow Wow drew an estimated crowd of 4,500 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 2007 Pow Wow, please visit http://gwbweb.wustl.edu/buder/. For more information call 314-935-4510 or e-mail bc ais@gwbmail.wustl.edu.

Native vendors are encouraged to apply!

Introducing the 2007-2008 Buder Scholars

Amanda Blackhorse, (Dineh) from Big Mountain, Arizona. BSW from the University of Kansas School of Social Work in Lawrence, Kansas. Individualized concentration in Mental Health and Social Economic Development. Plans to return to the Dineh Reservation to create culturally competent programs that empower Indigenous youth who suffer from oppression/colonization.

Sherri Brooks (Lumbee) from North Carolina. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, B.S. in Psychology and minor in Chemistry. Worked with Teach for America in Charlotte, NC. Interests include Social and Economic Development and a specialization in Management. Plans to return to North Carolina and work with Lumbee Regional Development Association, LRDA.

Electa Leigh Hare, (Pani Nation, Yanktonai Sioux) from Pawnee, OK graduated from Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma. Concentration interests include Mental Health/Children Youth and Families/Domestic Violence issues. Plans to return to work in native community following graduation.

Dawn M Jordan, (Oneida) from St. Louis, Missouri, graduated from Concordia University. For the past 10 years, Dawn has worked for the American Indian Council, Employment and Training Program. Plans to continue working with American Indians in urban settings after graduation. Concentration is individualized.
Tawna Harrison, (Lakota) from Wakpala, SD, graduated from University of Mary in Bismark, ND. Concentration in Mental Health. Plans to return to the Standing Rock Reservation to work following graduation.

Jodi Abbott, (Assiniboine, Gros Ventre) from Harlem, MT graduated from Salish Kootenai College with a degree in Human Services/Rehabilitation. Concentration in Social Economic Development and Children Youth and Families. Plans to enter law school following graduation.

Jennifer Downs, (Washoe, Hopi, Choc-taw and Cherokee) from Raleigh, North Carolina. Currently studying Mental Health with American Indians. Intends to pursue LCSW while counseling American Indian populations.

Jessica Laughlin, (United Houma Nation) from Dulac, Louisiana graduated from Stanford University. Concentration in individualized in Native American Mental Health and Policy. Currently in second year of the dual degree program in law and social work. Would like to work in the future on legal issues affecting Indian Country, especially protecting the sovereign rights of tribes.

Raven Emily Murray, (Navajo) from Flagstaff, Arizona graduated from Northern Arizona University with a B.S. in Sociology and minors in Women’s Studies and Social Work. Health Management Concentration and would like to either work with American Indian Health policies, end of life care, or with substance abuse.

Charles "C.Boy" Pourier, (Lakota, Santee Dakota) was born and raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Graduated High School from Red Cloud Indian School and obtained an A.A. in Social Services and Counseling / B.S. in Human Services from Oglala Lakota College. Individualized concentration focused on Children Youth and Families in American Indian Populations. Plans to return to Pine Ridge to work for the Indian Child Welfare program developed by the Oglala Sioux Tribe.

2007-2008 Buder Scholars

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.

Current activities include curriculum offerings and community outreach. Some of the recent course offerings include: Native American Musi-cal Traditions of the Western U.S., American Indian Law Course, and Community Development in applications to American Indian & Impoverished Rural Communities.

This year, the initiative is sponsoring the Witaya Lecture Series. November 6, Craig Howe, Professor at Oglala Lakota College, and Amy Locklear Hertel of the Buder Center, will present Discovering Community through Community-Based Participatory Research and Place-Based Inquiry. In December, Dr. John Kelley will discuss the policies of cultural preservation and policies of repatriation, with a focus on the Cahokia Mounds World Heritage Site.

For more information, please contact Stephanie Kettler at 314-935-5896 or skettler@wustl.edu.

Weaving the Rain

The American Indian Repertory Theater based in Lawrence, Kansas will perform their award winning play Weaving the Rain Saturday, November 10 (8:00 p.m.) and Sunday, November 11 (2:00 p.m.) at Washington University’s Village Black Box Theatre. Weaving the Rain was selected in 2004 as one of six plays presented at the Kennedy Center/ American College Theatre Regional Festival. It was also a national finalist for the Original Playwriting Contest in 2004.

For more information, please e-mail bcais@gwbmail.wustl.edu. Ticket availability is limited, with special ticket prices available to students.

2007–2008 Buder Forums

The Kathryn M. Buder Center is pleased to introduce the Buder Professional Development Forums (“Forums”). The purpose of the 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 the 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 2007, 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 2, a speaker will address financial management skills, and December 7, the Forum will focus on stress management and self preservation.
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.