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I. MISSION
The American Indian Resource Center is dedicated to increasing native visibility both nationally and internationally, and work in the areas of indigenous paradigm shifts, traditional knowledge, intergenerational leadership and activities, indigenous justice and sustainable communities. The Center supports both scholarship and programs in this area.

II. VISION
We recognize indigenous belief systems and lifeways and work to deepening understanding of traditional and emerging indigenous knowledges and ensuring community-based leadership for generations to come. We envision a high caliber of intellectual inquiry, social and communal activities and scholarship as a methodology for creative social awareness and change.

III. GUIDING PRINCIPLES
Our spiritual practices, languages, ceremonies and rituals build and sustain local and national communities; we look to these practices and ancient knowledge systems to Guide us as they have been guiding us since time immemorial.
OUR GOALS

1. To increase native visibility in California, nationally and internationally
2. Paradigm shift – put decolonizing strategies into practice in our activities;
3. Place traditional knowledges and practices in the forefront of programs and scholarship
4. Promote intergenerational leadership and activities
5. Promote social justice through grassroots organization in order to promote sacred sites protection, environmental justice, sustainable communities, and community health and renewal.

These are:

1. Academic & cultural programming
2. Circle of Wellness Initiative
3. Publications/New Media Initiative
4. Ancestral Knowledges Initiative
5. Sacred Sites Initiative
6. Forssgren Family Scholarship Fund
7. Early academic outreach: campus tours, academic programs, College Motivation Days, peer counseling, mentorship programs
Welcome to the 2013-14 academic year! Whether this is your first year or your last, we want you to know that we—and hundreds of faculty and staff—are dedicated to your success. We want this year to be filled with learning, new experiences, and insights that will last a lifetime.

Since its founding in 1965, UC Santa Cruz has made an unparalleled commitment to undergraduates. We congratulate you on pursuing your education at this stunning campus that offers all the opportunities of a major research university, as well as the camaraderie and support of our smaller college-based communities.

UCSC faculty are accomplished researchers and dedicated teachers. They are eager to engage with students inside and outside of the classroom. We encourage you to take advantage of the extracurricular learning opportunities that abound at UCSC: internships, laboratory studies, and fieldwork programs.

Diversity is another core campus value at UCSC. It ensures that students, staff, and faculty benefit from interactions with people who bring different sets of experiences and views to the table. This resource guide for American Indian students is part of our campus commitment to you. Please use it as a starting point to navigate this dynamic place.

We were both the first in our families to earn college degrees, and we remember the challenges of charting our own paths. Whether you are following in the footsteps of parents and/or siblings or not, please know that college is about more than the learning that takes place in the classroom. You will develop many important life skills while here, including the ability to identify resources and seek out the assistance you’ll need to be successful.

By enrolling at UCSC, you are joining a close-knit community of scholars who work together and support each other. Again, welcome! You are a vital and valued part of the UC Santa Cruz community. We wish you all the best this year!

Chancellor George Blumenthal
Professor of astronomy and astrophysics

Campus Provost/
Executive Vice Chancellor
Alison Galloway
Professor of anthropology
**WELCOME**

*Hensci este cvti!*

We are so glad that you are considering choosing UC Santa Cruz to further your educational goals! We here at the American Indian Resource Center want to provide you with tools to help you make your decision to choose UCSC and become a part of our community of scholars. The American Indian Resource Center at UC Santa Cruz (AIRC) was established in 2003 to play a leadership role in creating and maintaining a positive climate for racial/ethnic diversity for American Indian students, staff and faculty at the University.

AIRC offers a variety of support services that includes advising, counseling, advocacy, as well as leadership development programs and opportunities, and involvement in the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) and Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS). We also seek to work with American Indian education centers, early academic outreach programs, to identify and work with American Indian student scholars who are considering UCSC to further their university education. Our students major in programs in arts, humanities and sciences, including engineering, biology, neuroscience, game design, Critical Race & Ethnic Studies, Latin American/Latino Studies, literature, theater, and art and design. Our unifying principle is to create community for American Indian and indigenous students that is of that supports the academic, social, and cultural development of American Indian students.

Finally, an important facet of the Center’s mission is to develop a partnership with the indigenous people of the Central Coast, specifically the Amah Mutsun, the Esselen Nation, and Muwekma Ohlone. This partnership with the indigenous people of California will also extend to other Native communities, reservations, and rancherias as the Center continues to develop a program of community and scholarly engagement.

We look forward to meeting with you to talk about your educational goals, and to consider UCSC as a place to call your home away from home during your college career.

Sincerely,

Carolyn M. Dunn, PhD.
(Mvskoke/Cherokee)
Director, American Indian Resource Center
Lecturer, Literature Department
UC Santa Cruz
"The resource center is important to me because it provides a fun, relaxing, comfortable environment in which I can connect with my peers. Not only that but it also provides a space in which I can focus/study for class."

—Daniel Campos (Pipil), Merrill College, Class of 2016
In the 1990’s, the UCSC annual pow wow drew visitors from all across California to the campus to celebrate American Indian pow wow culture and identity. Modern pow wows, such as what are held in California, are cultural gatherings that bring together American Indian peoples from all tribes and nations in the Americas, inclusive of Canada, Mexico, and parts of Latin America and the Caribbean. The event celebrates the songs, dances, and contemporary lifeways and arts of American Indian peoples in a “pan-tribal” atmosphere of fellowship, trust, respect, and empowerment. The old UCSC pow wow brought students, staff and faculty together with community members to spotlight American Indian cultures. The last UCSC pow wow occurred in 1998, and was dormant until academic year
2011-12 when the American Indian Resource Center hosted the Drum Feast in Honor of Sophia Garcia Robles on May 24th, 2012, at Oakes Lawn. The Drum Feast brought together students, staff, faculty, and community members, including the Amah Mutsun Band of Ohlone, the descendants of Santa Cruz’ original inhabitants, and White Hawk Aztec Dancers to celebrate the cultures of American Indian peoples across the Americas. The event paid special tribute to the late Sophia Garcia-Robles, an American Indian/Chicana financial aid officer on campus, whose many contributions to the campus and community are too numerous to mention in this short space. Sophia’s dedication to the students and community of UCSC and Santa Cruz is legendary; she was an instrumental part of the Santa Cruz Indian Council that assisted UCSC students in putting on the old UCSC pow wow.

Sophia touched many lives during her 27-year career at UC Santa Cruz. She served as financial aid adviser, mentor and advocate for many UCSC students. Prior to joining the Financial Aid and Scholarship Office staff, she was employed at Stevenson College. She also volunteered for well over ten years as a Residential Preceptor at Merrill College and College Eight. A natural leader, Sophia was charismatic, powerful, genuine and enormously generous. She dedicated her life to the education and well-being of others and to fighting hunger and poverty. At UC Santa Cruz, Sophia was responsible for training staff in the Financial Aid and Scholarship Office as well as for serving as an adviser for students. She was involved in the Chicano/Latino and American Indian communities; she served as a tireless advocate for AB 540 students; was a generous contributor to the UC Santa Cruz Food Pantry and to the Educational Opportunity Program Lending Library. In the larger community, Sophia was an active member of the Santa Cruz Indian Council and helped organize the annual Red Road Pow Wow, one of the most well-respected and attended pow wows in California. She regularly volunteered for El Teatro Campesino and for the Santa Fe Indian Market. Each year she helped cook holiday meals at the Santa Cruz Vets Hall or at local kitchens in Santa Cruz and Watsonville shelters. She was a financial contributor and former board member of the Santa Cruz Women’s Health Center. Sophia recently found a home for her powerful and enchanting singing voice as a member of the Santa Cruz Missionary Baptist Church Chorale.

Born and raised in Borger, Texas, Sophia served as a volunteer there for Reach Out (a precursor to Head Start). She also worked for the national VISTA program in Chicago and later for the Art Institute of Chicago, San José State University and Alameda County Social Service Agency. A graduate of San José State University, she studied Social Science and Anthropology—earning a B.A., with Great Distinction.

The American Indian Resource Center honors Sophia’s life and her commitment to higher education and social justice by naming this annual event for her, an event which seeks to do what she did in her life: make a difference for people in need.”
As an ethnic resource center, the AIRC has many goals to try to achieve in order to reach out to further than just the UCSC student community. We hope to be able to incorporate indigenous belief systems and lifestyles into our daily lives to try to create deeper understanding of traditions and to be accepting of emerging indigenous knowledge’s that can help create a great resource for future generations; traditional practices will be put as our focal point for our programs. In our future we see ourselves using different methods, such as scholarship and communal activities, to try to create social awareness and change, not only among the native community but also for the UCSC campus. We hope to adapt decolonizing strategies into our everyday activities in order to help our larger, international native community that continues to fight for their rights. Furthermore, we hope to expand to larger native issues such as sacred sites protection, environmental justice, sustainable communities, and community health and renewal.

In Winter 2011, student interns of the UC Santa Cruz American Indian Resource Center organized a “Green Team,” which aims to, through the use of education and work-shopping, instruct the UCSC community on traditional, sustainable, and Native American Practices. Through programs that focus on environmental education, the Green Team aims to establish a community of forward-thinking,
informed Native and non-Native students, regardless of background or history. The Green Team, staying true to the values of the AIRC, strives to help foster a Native community within UCSC and higher education overall. Overall, the Green Team, while affiliated and working as a component of the AIRC, is run entirely by students and functions as a separate entity.

The Green Team, through collaborative work between students, colleges, and members of the Native American communities, aims to offer an accessible, welcoming space focused on further educating the UC Santa Cruz campus on sustainability, environmentally responsible behavior, and the relationship to such ideas to Native American tradition and culture.

The AIRC provides a sense of heritage to me, as well as a support system. We work together to enhance the American Indian community, all the while enhancing our lives and the lives of others.

—Madeline Kashiwagi (Mescalero/Yaqui) Oakes College, Class 206

To learn extensive information about the Green Team please visit their website: http://aircgreenteam.weebly.com/
SANAI is an organization whose purpose is to increase the awareness of both the University and community environments regarding issues affecting North American Indians. SANAI also provides academic and moral support for Native American students. Major activities over the years have included “Red Rocks”- a Spring Music Festival with prominent Native American Bands, Pow-Wows, a Tribal Elders Conference and Native American Graduation Ceremonies. SANAI has a rich history of collaborating with other student organizations.

Non-Native Students and volunteers are welcome and encouraged to participate.

The purpose of Brown Bag Series is to bring to students Native American faculty to talk about the research they are working. It is an opportunity to for students to learn and network with the professor in an educational setting.

For more info contact, sanai0809@gmail.com
This hall serves as a community for incoming American Indian students, their allies, and anyone with an interest in Native American culture. Programming for this hall will be done in tandem with the American Indian Resource Center, Native American Faculty and regional tribal leaders. Activities include trips to the Bay Area American Indian Film Festival, guest speakers, residential film series, and the opportunity to dialogue about current global Indigenous’ Rights issues. This will be a substance-free living space.

The Merrill Indigi-Floor programming is coordinated by an AIRC student intern along side with Merrill/Crown Associate College Administrative Officer Valerie Chase and the American Indian Resource Center.
“Here at the American Indian Resource Center, we work to provide a nurturing space for students and faculty at the university. Our programming serves to engage the native community on campus by creating a space that incorporates our cultures and traditions. We work to educate ourselves and the larger university and community by showing our cultures are strong, vibrant, and our traditional knowledges intact.”

—Chelsey Ramirez (Mescalero), Class of 2013
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
The purpose of Amah Mutsun Speaker Series is to present issues of importance for Native Americans, particularly those relevant to Native American Students at UC Santa Cruz. The speaker series board is comprised of Amah Mutsun tribal members, AIRC staff, UCSC students, staff and faculty. The Amah Mutsun Speaker series began in 2009, conceived by former American Indian Resource Center Director Dr. Dennis Tibbetts and the Amah Mutsun Tribal Chairman, Val Lopez. A goal of the Amah Mutsun speaker series is to continue the decades long effort to strengthen the Indigenous presence at UC Santa Cruz. This is a collaborative effort between the American Indian Resource Center and the Amah Mutsun speaker series board. It is critical that this effort include the Indigenous peoples of the land as partners. The Amah Mutsun Speaker Series has brought to campus leading researchers, such as Maria Brave Heart, Joseph Gone, Sarah Deer, Jennifer Dennetdale, Deborah Miranda, Delores BigFoot and California Indian cultural experts, Ron Christman, Ron Alec, Caleen Sisk and Hawk Rosales, and most recently language revitalization expert, and MacArthur fellow, Jessie Little Doe Baird.
The Santa Cruz Indian Council is an inter-tribal Non-Profit 501-(c)(3) organization composed of Native American and non-native members in the Central California region. We are dedicated to teaching respect for traditional Native American cultural values; supporting cultural enrichment opportunities that contribute to Native American identity development; advancing the quality of educational content and cultural sensitivity of educational services available to the youth of our region; and promoting cultural understanding of Native American traditions in our communities.

“"The Ethnic Resource Center is the heart beat of the diversity within the UC-Santa Cruz Campus, it creates a place away from home and calls out to the students that they have a safe place to be themselves while at the same time encouraging the use of voice, literature and media to connect to all students.”

Angel Riotutar (Chippewa/Cree), Merrill College, Class of 2014
MALCS
MUJERES ACTIVAS
EN LETRAS Y
CAMBIO SOCIAL

A national organization of Chicanas/Latinas and Native American women working in academia and in community settings with a common goal: to work toward the support, education and dissemination of Chicana/Latina and Native American women’s issues. Through networking, occasional meetings and our annual Summer Institute, MALCS members share information, offer support, and continue our struggle for social justice.

Email: cmdunn@ucsc.edu, judi@ucsc.edu
SACNAS

DEVOTED TO ADVANCING
HISPANICS, CHICANOS &
NATIVE AMERICANS
IN SCIENCE

“The American Indian Resource Center is important to me because it provides a place where I can comfortably share my culture with others while also giving me the moral support I need in order to continue pursuing my dreams.”

—Anthony Mota, Elem Colony of Pomo Indians

SACNAS is a society of scientists dedicated to fostering the success of Hispanic/Chicano and Native American scientists—from college students to professionals—to attain advanced degrees, careers, and positions of leadership in science.

1115 Mission Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 459-0170
The American Indian Resource Center has played a critical role in my success as an undergraduate at UC Santa Cruz and even now as an alumni. It has been a place I have gone to for both academic and emotional support. It is a home away from home. It is a place where I can ground myself and celebrate my cultural heritage. The A IRC creates an inclusive support system for its students. We’re a family.

—Kirsten Concha-Moore, (Taos/Jemez Pueblo), Crown College, Class of 2012
The Storyteller Series features work by renowned artists, storytellers, poets, and performers whose work is a reflection of traditional American Indian cultures and lifeways that is presented through a series of educational workshops, presentations and performances, aimed at UCSC students, in order to explore the diversity and authenticity of American Indian cultures. Previous Storytellers events have included Oklahoma Indian Storytellers (2010), featuring Robert J. Conley (UKB Cherokee), Gail Ross (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma), and Arigon Starr (Kickapoo/Creek) and California Indian Storytellers (2011), featuring Georgianna Valoyce-Sanchez (Chumash), Ann Marie Sayers (Coastanoan/Ohlone) and Dr. Darryl “Babe” Wilson (Pit River).
INDIGETHANX

What really happened on the First Thanksgiving? What are some of the myths surrounding the holiday that have become imbedded as truth that need to be demystified? Join the American Indian Resource Center as we debunk the Thanksgiving holiday and set the record straight in order to move forward with a real version of an American Indian harvest feast, with foods prepared by and presented by students with an eye to reclaiming food sovereignty.

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

The AIRC co-sponsors, with El Centro (the CHicano/Lation Resource Center) a celebration of our hemispheric Indigenous identities through the honoring of our ancestors, families, traditions and those who have gone before through song, ceremonia, and food from the indigenous Americas.

AMERICAN INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL

Ms. Valerie Chase  
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Mr. Adrian Dorris  
Assistant Director, SOAR; Advisor, SANAI  
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Tribal affiliation: Jemez Pueblo

Dr. Jean E. Fox Tree  
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Areas of Expertise: Cognitive Psychology, Psycholinguistics, Spontaneous Speech Production and Comprehension

Dr. Jon D Daehnke  
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Areas of Expertise: Cultural heritage and the law, Native American studies, public representations of heritage and memory, the relationship between anthropologists and Indigenous communities, critical approaches to nature, culture and the environment, and the archaeology of landscapes

Dr. Carolyn Dunn  
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Dr. Jonathan Fox  
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Dr. Triloki N. Pandey  
Professor, Anthropology  
Email: pandey@ucsc.edu  
Areas of Expertise: Tribal cultures in India, Nepal, and the American Southwest. He has done fieldwork among the Zuni, Hopi, and the Navajo of the American Southwest, and more recently among the Tharus of India and Nepal and among the Khasi, Garo, and Naga of the northeastern India. He has focused mainly on politics, religion, life, history, and the impact of literacy. His work also has comparative and historical dimensions.

Dr. Renya Ramirez  
Associate Professor, Anthropology  
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Tribal Affiliation: Enrolled Member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and descendent of the White Earth Ojibwe.  
Areas of Expertise: Urban Native Americans, diaspora, transnationalism, Native feminisms, gender and cultural citizenship, and relationship between Native Americans and anthropology, and anti-racist education.

Dr. Judith Scott  
Associate Professor of Education  
Email: jascott@ucsc.edu  
Tribal Affiliation: Enrolled Member of the Cherokee Nation  
Areas of Expertise: Curriculum and instruction; reading, writing, vocabulary development; teachers’ professional development.

Photo by Marlene Machado

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RESOURCES & SERVICES

AIRC offers a variety of support services that includes Advising, counseling, advocacy, as well as leadership opportunities, and involvement in the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) and Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS).

To develop a partnership with the indigenous people of the Central Coast, specifically the Amah Mutsun, the Esselen Nation, and Muwekma Ohlone. This partnership with the indigenous people of California will also extend to other Native communities, reservations, and rancherias as the Center continues to develop a program of community engagement.

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