

Native Research Network 2010 Elections Nominee Biography

Four Nominees for Co-Chair Elect

Jordan Lewis-- is an Assistant Professor with the UAF Alaska Native Studies Department at the University of Alaska Fairbanks where he will be teaching the Cultural Knowledge of Native Elders, mentoring students and assisting with the new Indigenous Studies doctoral program, as well as continuing his community health in Bristol Bay, and statewide. Dr. Lewis received his doctoral degree in Cross-Cultural Community Psychology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), where he did his research with Alaska Native elders in Bristol Bay (SW) Alaska to establish an Alaska Native definition of successful aging. He was also actively involved with the Alaska Native Social Workers Association at the UAF and served as the Vice President for the National Association of Social Workers, Alaska Chapter. His research interests include rural community health, circumpolar health issues, Indigenous gerontology, and cross-cultural health care.

****Jordan Lewis is also a nominee for Member-at-Large****



RODNEY C. HARING, PHD, LMSW is founder of One Feather Consulting, LLC, post doc and research faculty candidate at the University of Arizona, Native American Research and Training Center. He is an enrolled member of the Seneca Nation of Indians and resides on the Cattaraugus Territory . He holds a doctoral degree in social welfare from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo . He is also on the board of directors of the Native Research Network, a New York State licensed master of social work, private practice committee member of the National Association of Social Workers, and an adjunct professor at SUNY Fredonia. He has evaluation and research experience from Harvard Medical School , the Research Institute on Addictions, SUNY Buffalo, SUNY Stony Brook, and the private sector. He recently coauthored a book chapter titled “Reflections on Ethical Issues in Research With Aboriginal Peoples.” Dr. Haring has presented at numerous conferences worldwide. He was the recipient of the Seneca Nation of Indians Professional Scholarship and the Chief Freeman Johnson Scholar Award and is an American Indian Graduate Center fellow.



Tam Lutz, MPH, Doctoral Student, MPH, MHA, Project Director: Tam Lutz is a Lummi Tribal member with ancestral ties to the Quinault, Nooksack, Chinook, Cowlitz and Duwamish Tribes. She has spent 16 years working in Public Health in Indian Country, including more than 10 years at the NPAIHB. Ms Lutz began her career in Public Health at her tribe, where she was involved in many facets of Public Health, including coordinating the development Public Health codes, health research, surveillance activities, health planning and infrastructure development. Ms. Lutz is currently the Project Director of two CBPR studies the Native CARS Study and The Primordial Prevention of Overweight in American Indian Children Study or “PTOTS.” She has also directed other projects at the NPAIHB including the Toddler Obesity and Tooth Decay Prevention Study and the Indian Community Health Profile Project. She is currently completing doctoral program in public health leadership at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

****Tam Lutz is also a nominee for Member-at-Large****



See next page for final nominee for Co-Chair Elect

Native Research Network 2010 Elections Nominee Biography

Fourth Nominee for Co-Chair Elect



Leslie L. Randall, RN, MPH, BSN, Nez Perce Tribal member, is the daughter of Vernon Edward Waters, son of Samuel Watters and Blanche Hung, and Mazie Margaret Moses, daughter of Lillian and Elias Moses. She is a direct descendant of War Chief Ollicut, younger brother of Chief Joseph of the Wallowa Band of Nez Perce. She grew up first in Kamiah and then in Lapwai. Ms Randall has lived in or traveled to all but two of the states. She has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a Masters in Public Health, and attended the University of North Carolina, School of Public Health. She has worked in Maternal Child Health (MCH) for the past 17 years. Ms. Randall currently sits as a member on the Nez Perce Tribal Enterprise Board and the MCH advisory board for the Seattle Indian



Seven Nominees for Member-At-Large

*****Note: Tam Lutz & Jordan Lewis are Nominees for Member-at-Large*****



Cara Cowan Watts, Deputy Speaker, is serving her second term as a legislator on the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council for District 7 – Will Rogers (Rogers County, Oklahoma). Cara has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Oklahoma State, an M.S. in Telecommunications Management from OSU-Tulsa and is a PhD Candidate in Biosystems Engineering. Her dissertation is titled, ‘Numerical Nutrient Criteria Supporting Cherokee Nation’s Culturally Significant Waters. Nationally, Cara serves as Oklahoma delegate and Co-Chair of the HHS OMH AI/AN Health Research Advisory Council and an active member of the HHS OMH Advisory Council on Minority Health. At home, Cara is an active member of the Tribal Council Health Committee and serves as Chair of the Claremore Indian Hospital (IHS) Advisory Board for 17 Oklahoma Tribes in northeastern Oklahoma.



Emily Haozous, Ph.D., R.N.--Assistant Professor at University of New Mexico, School of Nursing. I have been a member of the NRN since 2004. I graduated from Yale Graduate School of Arts and Science with a PhD in Oncology Nursing. As an American Indian faculty member, I participate with other American Indian faculty to build research that is mutually beneficial for both the communities with which we collaborate and the research questions we explore. My program of research has developed skills in creating and executing research which honors and respects American Indian values while furthering our understanding of the barriers to cancer screening and treatment in American Indian populations. I also receive ongoing mentorship in health research through my participation in the Native Elder Research Center, which is a Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research-affiliated program funded through the National Institute on Aging.

Native Research Network 2010 Elections Nominee Biography

Nominees for Member-At-Large



Vanessa Short Bull is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. She was born on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation of South Dakota. She is a direct descendent of Chief Red Cloud, Young Man Afraid of His Horses, Little Wound, and the Ghost Dance leader Short Bull. She has a B. A. in Political Science from the University of South Dakota and is working on her Masters of Public Health. She currently lives in Rapid City, SD and works at Rapid City Regional Hospital's Cancer Care Institute Walking Forward Program. She is a board member on the Oglala Sioux Tribe Research Review Board. She was also a Nike endorsed fitness athlete. She was the former Miss SD USA 2000 and Miss SD 2002. She has competed at both the Miss USA and Miss America Pageants. She is the only woman in South Dakota to garner both titles and was the first Native American to win both state titles. Vanessa is also a classically trained dancer. She studied Dancing at the University of Utah, Ballet West Conservatory, and School of Cleveland Ballet. Her parents are Thomas Short Bull, President of Oglala Lakota College, and Darlene Short Bull, a RN and who recently retired with 30 years of service at Indian Health Service.



Maxine Brings Him Back-Janis, an assistant clinical professor from Lakota tribe of South Dakota, is receiving a HRSA Minority Faculty Fellowship to prepare her for a tenure track teaching position and to increase the diversity of the university's dental hygiene faculty. Janis coordinated the Ottens' Dental Hygiene Hopi Health Care project, which has successfully integrated dental hygiene services on the Hopi reservation. Prior to receiving her master's degree in public health from Portland State University in 2004, Janis was employed with the Indian Health Service.

Maxine has been an active member with the NRN and served on the NRN conference planning committee for the past several years.



Tonie Marie Quaintance, whose Native name, Yethnhahnilat, means “makes her life strong,” is an enrolled descendant in the Turtle Clan of the Oneida Tribe in Oneida, WI. Quaintance is the first Native American student accepted in the University of Alaska Joint PhD Program in Clinical-Community Psychology with a rural and indigenous emphasis. Quaintance is an Andrew R. Mellon Dissertation Fellow, an American Indian Graduate Center Fellow, an Alaska Natives into Psychology (ANPsych) Scholar, and a charter member of the Psi Alpha Omega Honor Society: The National Honor Society for Psychologists of Color. She is the second recipient in the state of Alaska to receive the “ULU” award from the Alaska Native Justice Center for her dedication to social justice research in Alaska. Tonie is Delegate Chair of the Alaska Psychology Association Diversity Committee, and the student representative for the governing Board of the American Psychology Association Division 35 Indigenous Women in Psychology. She is also an active member of the Native Research Network (NRN) Conference Committee (2008 & 2009) and the NRN Scientific Committee (2008-2010).