



NATIVE RESEARCH NEWS is an official newsletter of the Native Research Network (NRN) for NRN members and treasured friends.

#### IN THIS ISSUE

## Special Points of Interest

### Welcome Dr. Rodney Haring & Cecelia Shorty



**Dr. Rodney Haring joins Dr. Felicia Hodge as Co-chair**  
 RODNEY C. HARING, PHD, MSW is research faculty at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Office of Health Disparities, Cancer Prevention, and Population Sciences and an adjunct faculty member at the University of Arizona, Native American Research and Training Center. He is a National Congress of American Indians scholar, past fellow of the Spirit of EAGLES Program at the Mayo Clinic, and a former Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Connections Grantee. He is also the founder of One Feather Consulting (OFC), a joint venture company with Chestnut Global Partners. Dr. Haring (Beaver Clan) is an enrolled member of the Seneca Nation of Indians and resides on the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation with his family. He holds a doctoral degree in social work and is a past research advisor to the National Institutes of Health, American Indian/Alaska Native Health Research Advisory Council.



**Cecelia "Sea" Shorty hired as Program Coordinator**  
 Cecelia (Sea) Shorty is the new Program Coordinator for the NRN. Sea comes to us highly recommended and skilled with expertise on administrative and office management in support of numerous Indian Health Service programs. In more recent years she served as Program Specialist providing administrative support to Health Promotion Disease Prevention, Head Start, and the Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention programs. Specifically, she developed tracking and reporting for financial management, contracts, and other fiscal projects; coordinated local and national conferences; and assisted in keeping programs on track with goals and objectives. Sea (Dine') was born and raised near Gallup, NM. She has two adult children and is thrilled to be a first time grandmother. She resides in Rio Rancho with her two dogs and two cats, her son and his cat. She loves guitarists, music, writing, and art.

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### Membership Renewal

2015 NRN Renewal Form now available. Renew your membership today at:

<http://www.nativeresearchnetwork.org/assets/2015MembershipForm.pdf>

We ended 2014 with one of the largest membership years in our history!

# Co-Chairs Corner

by **Rodney Haring**

As current Co-Chairs of the Native Research Network (NRN) we would like to send appreciation to our membership, sponsors, and friends across Turtle Island. It is with your strive for collaborative peace and respect, strong support, and good minds that makes the NRN meaningful.

Entering 2015, we are thankful to all NRN board members past and present for their founding efforts, trials & tribulations, sweat and tears, and dedication. Growth requires patience but is also appreciative of learning,

living, and moving forward by respecting the past. The NRN is nearing 20 years as a not-for-profit organization and was, at that time, one of the only grass-root

organizations building capacity for health research relationship with Native communities, providing input on ethical research for Indigenous societies, and creating a space for future generations of Native research scientists.

It is our duty to honor these foundations and by continuing to build upon these strengths, we secure our mission and goals. One of our goals is to keep the mission statement in our heart for the betterment of Indigenous societies. Specifically, we plan to promote and advocate for high quality research that builds collaboration, support, and capacity for research environments that operate on the principles of integrity, trust, respect, ethics, cooperation, and open communication in multi-disciplinary fields. Additionally, we plan on strengthening those who come before us by mentoring our students and young scientists. The Hawk in the NRN logo represents a circular process and is



symbolic of dedication to meet these goals and to develop new ones.

**Nya:weh**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Felicia Schanche Hodge, DrPH, MPH,  
[Feliciash@aol.com](mailto:Feliciash@aol.com)



## News & Updates

### NRN Developing Mentoring Program

The Native Research Mentoring Program is in the process of being developed through the NRN membership. The Program currently has two prongs:

- (1) a Minority Supplement assistance program whereby new Native researchers will be assisted in developing and submitting a Minority Supplement on an existing research grant, and
- (2) a Research Publication initiative consisting of supplement journal publications and editing assistance provided to writers.

For more information contact Felicia Hodge at e-mail [Feliciash@aol.com](mailto:Feliciash@aol.com)



### International Group for Indigenous Health Measurement Meeting

Dr. Felicia Hodge at the 2014 International Group for Indigenous Health Measurement Meeting

### NIH's National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities

Drs. Felicia Hodge and Lillian Tom-Orme served as NRN representatives at a meeting with the NIH's National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) on November 20, 2014.

### Upcoming Conferences:

2015 **Annual American Indian Studies Association Conference**, "Sustainability of Traditional Language, Culture and Knowledge" - Albuquerque, NM - February 5-6

2015 **AAIP conference 44th Annual Meeting and National Health Conference** - Seattle, WA - July 27th, 2015 to August 2nd, 2015



## 25TH NATIVE HEALTH RESEARCH CONFERENCE



**Resiliency: The Science of  
Strength**  
Sheraton Phoenix Downtown  
Phoenix, Arizona  
June 1-5, 2014



Conference Pamphlet Artist: Dolores Purdy  
Title: "Kill the Indian and Save the Man"  
See Dolores beautiful artwork on her website at  
<http://www.dolorespurdy.com/artworks/>

### CONFERENCE PICTURES





# NRN Spotlights

2014 December Board Meeting



## 2014-2015 NRN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Felicia Hodge  
Janelle Palacios  
Emily Haozous

Lillian Tom-Orme  
Priscilla Sanderson  
Leo Nolan

Leah Rouse  
Maria Pardilla  
Dael Todicheeney



The NRN Board met in its first face-to-face meeting since the election to update the Strategic Plan, bylaws, and financial plan. In addition, they reviewed the 2014 conference venues and will proceed to contact a proposed local planning committee to finalize the dates and location. As soon as decision is finalized, it will be posted on the website.

**MEETINGS** - The Board of Directors meet on a monthly basis, Membership meetings are held at NRN Conference.

# NRN Spotlights

## UCLA Nursing Students Visit Remote First Nations, NRN Co-Chair Felicia Hodge the Faculty Sponsor

*As published in: An Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada publication, pp. 9-10*

Winnipeg, MB, Canada (September, 2014)

– Ten students from the UCLA Masters Entry Clinical Nurse (MECN) program, led by Kelly Castel and Bianca Garcia, arrived in Manitoba's capital, Winnipeg, on September 14, 2014. They participated in an academic and cultural expedition to one of the most remote First Nation communities in Canada, located in Pukatawagan, Manitoba. Their visit was inspired by the Aboriginal health disparities and crisis, cited by the former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous peoples, Dr. James Anaya, during his visit to the community in 2013.

At the Winnipeg James Armstrong International Airport, the excited group of students were greeted and welcomed to Canada by members of the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation who safely guided them to their northern destination. Shortly after their arrival, they were grateful to attend their first Pow Wow and witness the grand entry at the MTS Centre during the annual Manito Abhee Festival. It was a beautiful welcome as they were inspired at the massive display of the strength, beauty, and resilience of Canada's First Nations people. They continued their journey 817 kilometers north to the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation (MCCN) by van for 10 hours, and finally another 7 hours by train from Cranberry Portage to Pukatawagan. Currently there is no road access to the community, except in the wintertime when a seasonal road is constructed over the frozen lakes. The former VIA Rail train that is now owned and operated by MCCN 3 days a week also serves as a lifeline to the community for basic supplies, groceries, and transportation. Additionally, the UCLA nursing students made stops throughout the traditional MCCN territory during a 3-day weekend boat tour down the Churchill River. Their visit included stops to the remote communities of High Rock, Mink River, Granville Lake, and Leaf Rapids, just north of the 56th parallel, where other MCCN members reside.

During their trip they participated in shadowing of the delivery of Public Health

Nursing in Pukatawagan, where nurses act as primary care providers, and conduct home health visits for the elders and disabled. Such experiences allowed them to examine how the federal health delivery system in Canada responds to the needs of remote First Nations, like MCCN. Similarly, they experienced firsthand, the high costs of food, the challenges of transportation such as land portages for boats, and MCCN's traditional foods such as bannock, moose meat, ducks, cranberries, and white fish. In addition to attending Canada's largest Pow Wow, they participated in a traditional Cree sweat lodge ceremony, a traditional Cree women's ceremony, were introduced to traditional Cree medicines by local elders, were shown traditional Cree crafts and beadwork, and met with Cree elders, and members of the community to hear what the needs and concerns were. Finally, during their free time, they provided support to the community's youth through the "kids in the kitchen" program and engaged in the local MCCN Cancer Awareness walk. As a result, they created meaningful partnerships with MCCN Chief Arlen Dumas, Health Canada, and the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation Health Authority. The UCLA nursing students left inspired to raise global awareness in their communities of practice, both as students and in their future careers as practicing nurses, about the glaring health disparities that exist between First Nation citizens and non-Aboriginal Canadians. They are working collectively to assist MCCN by finalizing a community needs assessment that was conducted during their visit, through their N596 Independent Study and Research course, sponsored by Dr. Felicia Hodge, PhD, Director of the Center for American Indian Research and Education at UCLA. A final report will be available in early 2015.

Most recently, on October 29th, Kelly Castel, MCCN trip Co-Director, was invited by the UCLA School of Nursing to be a guest lecturer for a Global Health course on the topic of Indigenous Health. Kelly provided a lecture that included the history and impact of the Indian Residential Schools on First Nation culture, health, livelihood, and outcomes. He included statistics on health disparities and the challenges facing Canada's First Nations people. In addition, 3 UCLA nursing students who participated in the recent visit to MCCN also provided a talk to the class sharing on their cultural immersion and nursing experiences. UCLA Associate

Professor in charge of the course, Dr. Carol Pavlish, PhD, RN, FAAN, was appreciative and stated, "Thank you very much for taking the time to create such a meaningful presentation about the First Nation community of Pukatawagan. The historical and political context that you provided and information about the health challenges that people in the community encounter are so central to the concepts in this course - and your experiences also highlighted the importance of appreciating, exchanging, and sharing traditions. Thank you for coming and I hope you will continue to offer presentations to the UCLA campus. You offer important information for us to consider". Furthermore, UCLA course co-faculty, Dr. Adey Nyamathi, ANP, PhD, FAAN, Associate Dean for International Research and Scholarly Activities, and Associate Dean for Research, also commented, "I echo Dr. Pavlish's sentiments. Your motivation and skill in presenting a historical background and your experiences were fabulous. You are true role models for your class, not only in organizing a life-changing trip but sharing your experiences with a larger group of students and faculty as well. We look forward to hearing from you as your careers progress."

The UCLA MECN students gratefully acknowledge and thank Chief Arlen Dumas of the MCCN, Ken Bighetty, Executive Director of the MCCN Health Authority, the Nikawiy Health Centre Staff, Health Canada, the UCLA School of Nursing, and the community members of MCCN for making this memorable trip possible.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Trip Co-Directors, Global Awareness of  
Indigenous Health Disparities

Felicia Hodge, [Feliciash@aol.com](mailto:Feliciash@aol.com)



# Traditional Oral Narratives

Winter months are a time of reflection, sharing, and family gatherings. During the winter months many of our family members, relatives, and community members practice teaching, and sharing traditional narratives. During the cold months of rejuvenation, rest, and survival, many Native families would be indoors due to the cold seasons and during this time elders would take the opportunity to share oral narratives.

Thus in this month of January we a few of our NRN relatives have shared their teachings with us, it is our responsibility to listen respectfully, with an open heart, and take in the teachings shared.

## ANISHINAABE

by **Michael Zimmerman of the Anishinaabe**

For the Anishinaabe, winter marks the stoppage of growth and the Earth can rest. In this time of year, both not so long ago and presently speaking, people gather and share stories which are generally only told during this time of year. Not so long ago, when snow was on the ground, this time was reserved for stories about our origins and characters who played and continue to play meaningful roles in how existence perpetuates. Not so long ago, this was done because of the rigors of daily life and the following of the seasonal rounds regarding maple sugaring, agriculture, and ricing depending on where you were in the Great Lakes. The winter time was prepared for in advance through the other three seasons, and today in many areas these seasonal rounds continue as well as the tradition of keeping certain stories, ones concerning a central figure in many stories *Nanaboozhoo*, for the winter time.

At UW-Milwaukee (UWM), we just recently completed a series of workshops which helped raise awareness about certain constellations which appear in the night sky around this time of year. Their names, stories, and many of the other phenomena at play in the night sky were articulated in both the *Anishinaabe* language, *Anishinaabemowin*, as well as in English. Students who were a part of the Ojibwe

language class at UWM enjoyed one entire class in the Manfred Olson Planetarium on campus. Afterward, other workshops were held for the general public with great interest and attendance. We hope to continue this in the years to come.

## RISING SUN

by **Meg Noodin of the Anishinaabe**

Meg Noodin's book of poems is titled, *Weweni*, which is a collection of poetry centered on *Anishinaabe* traditional sciences and education. Her work can be found at the following web link - <http://wsupress.wayne.edu/books/detail/weweni>

*Mooka'am Giizis  
Gaawiin wiikaa giizis mooka'amsii.  
Giboozinodaanaan eta akiing  
besho mashkwizid  
miidash washkigiweyang.*

*Gaawiin wiikaa gigikinoo'amawaasiinaanig.  
Gidibaajimotawaanaanig eta  
gigizheb biinish onaagoshin,  
niibin binish biboon.*

*Gaawiin nimbookochishkaasiimin.  
Nindapangishimin biidaashkaang  
aaswaakogaabawiyaang  
gaawiin waabandansiwaang  
aanjibimaadiziyaang.*

(Translated in English)

*Rising Sun*

*The sun never really rises.  
We only ride earth toward  
that force and energy  
and then rotate away.*

*We never really teach.  
We tell measured stories  
morning to afternoon  
summer to winter.*

*We never really break.  
We fall back in the crashing waves  
to stand up once again  
not seeing how we've changed.*

## NAVAJO SHOE GAME

One of the winter games played by the Navajo is the Shoe Game or *Keeshjee'*. Narratives and songs often accompany games. Elders tell of the Diné emergence into this world and of the trickster, Coyote. According to Navajo narrative, long ago,

night and day creatures did not understand the importance of the cycles of the universe. Each group of creatures wanted it to be either day or night at all times. To settle the argument as to who is more powerful, *Keeshjee'* was held accompanied by a song, *Keeshjee' siin* (Shoe Game Songs).

Each group hid a Yucca ball in one four moccasins and buried them in the sand with only the tops showing above the sand. A member from each team attempted to guess in which moccasin the yucca ball was hidden. The teams played through the night, taking turns, and counting gains and losses on 102 yucca stems. Finally, at sunrise there was no winner and the animals had learned that all seasons and cycles are part of the grand plan of the universe.

To this day, the Navajo play this game in the winter with some modifications.



## Opportunities

### NEW ENGLAND SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

#### New England Science Symposium, Saturday, April 11, 2015

The Harvard Medical School Minority Faculty Development Program and the Biomedical Sciences Career Program will hold the fourteenth annual New England Science Symposium on April 11, 2015 at the Harvard Medical School Joseph B. Martin Conference Center located at 77 Avenue Louis Pasteur in Boston, Massachusetts. <https://mfdp.med.harvard.edu/dcp-programs/medicalgraduate/new-england-science-symposium>

### SAMHSA

#### The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services

**Administration** (SAMHSA) is currently recruiting individuals who are interested in being peer reviewers for our upcoming grant review season. Specifically, our focus is to identify individuals with expertise in the integration of primary care - including HIV care, with mental and substance use disorders treatment.

Reviewers are chosen for specific grant programs based on their knowledge, education and experience. Grant review panels are selected to reflect diversity of ethnicity, gender, experience and geography.

For more information refer to:

<http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/review/grant-reviewer-application>

Or contact:

Zarinah Ali at 240-276-1092 [zarinah.ali@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:zarinah.ali@samhsa.hhs.gov)

Beverly Vayhinger at 240-276-0564

### NIDDK/OMHRC DIVERSITY PROGRAMS

#### 2015 NIDDK/OMHRC Diversity Summer Research Training Program (DSRTP) Application Now Available!

Deadline February 15, 2015. The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) through the Office of Minority Health Research Coordination (OMHRC) is now accepting applications for the Diversity Summer Research Training Program (DSRTP).

Please visit <https://dsrtp.niddk.nih.gov/> to start the online application process.

### NATIONAL INDIAN HEALTH BOARD

Public health professionals, researchers, and community-based service providers are invited to submit abstracts for the NIH 2015 Tribal Public Health Summit, taking place April 7 to 9, 2015, at the Agua Caliente Casino, Resort and Spa in Rancho Mirage, California.

This year's summit emphasizes strengthening the public health workforce in Indian Country, so please consider topics and content that will focus on key skills in one of the four summit tracks.

To visit our online Call for Proposals information page for additional details and instructions on submitting your proposal at [http://nihb.org/communications/phs\\_2015\\_call\\_for\\_proposals.php](http://nihb.org/communications/phs_2015_call_for_proposals.php)

### AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

#### The American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian (AIANNH) Caucus Call for Abstracts for the American Public Health Association (APHA) 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition

The theme of the meeting is Health in All Policies. The 2015 Annual Meeting will bring more than 12,500 public health professionals to Chicago to learn, network and engage. We convene the most public health professionals from around the globe, and we want you to be there.

**Abstract Submission Deadline:** February 9, 2015

**Notification of Abstract Status:** June 1, 2015

Web links - <https://apha.confex.com/apha/143am/oasys.epl>  
<https://apha.confex.com/apha/143am/testhelp.htm>

Or contact:

Deana Around Him - [deana.aroundhim@jhu.edu](mailto:deana.aroundhim@jhu.edu)

Audrey Solimon-Neumann at - [asolimon.phc@gmail.com](mailto:asolimon.phc@gmail.com)

### NAHASHNEE NATIVE AMERICAN HEALTH SCIENCE INSTITUTE

#### 20th Annual Na-ha-shnee Native American Health Science Institute June 21st – July 2nd, 2015

Na-ha-shnee is a 12 day summer program designed to encourage Native American and Alaska Native students to pursue health science degrees and health-related careers. The program is held on the WSU Spokane Campus & housing is in nearby dorms.

Seeking Native American and Alaska Native students that are currently in 9th, 10th, or 11th grade. Applicants should have a GPA of 3.0 or above and an interest in health science careers (nursing, medical research, nutrition, physical therapy, medicine, pharmacy, etc.) This year we will be selecting 25 students to attend Na-ha-shnee.

Applications can be found online at:

<http://spokane.wsu.edu/community/service-outreach-units/native-american-health-sciences-program/> (Or google WSU Native American Health Sciences to find it).

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION:** 5PM, FRIDAY, APRIL 24th, 2015

For more information contact Emma Noyes, Native American Health Science Outreach Coordinator at (509).324-1965.

[emma.noyes@wsu.edu](mailto:emma.noyes@wsu.edu)

## NCAI POLICY RESEARCH CENTER

**The Call for Proposals for the 10th Annual Tribal**

**Leader/Scholar Forum** is now open! To honor the 10th anniversary of the Forum, we will explore how our communities can draw from our cultural wisdom and research to build a more just vision for our futures—a vision that modernizes the trust relationship, engages traditional ecological knowledge, advances restorative justice, and so forth.

The NCAI Policy Research Center Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum will be held on Tuesday, June 30, 2015 in St. Paul, Minnesota at the NCAI Mid Year Conference. Participants can submit proposals for one of the following presentation formats: individual research or concept papers, diversely composed panels, or a poster/infographic display.

Presentations should be future-oriented and culturally-rooted. Please review the Call for Proposals for further criteria.

For more information and Email Submission: Please send proposals to Joel Chastain at [jchastain@ncai.org](mailto:jchastain@ncai.org). Link to TLSF Page: [www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/initiatives/tribal-leader-scholar-forum](http://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/initiatives/tribal-leader-scholar-forum)

**Deadline:** Monday, February 9th, 2015, 5:00 pm EST

## DINÉ COLLEGE

**Summer Research Enhancement Program.** A unique training program for students interested in public health prevention research in Native communities.

**Final Application Deadline:** February 15, 2015

Diné College has developed a model program for training students in Public health prevention research. Diné College believes that Native American students are more likely to develop an interest in prevention research if those interests are nurtured in a culturally supportive atmosphere.

If you are an American Indian College Student and have an interest in public health and health research among Native Americans, this opportunity may be for you. The research program is conducted in a culturally supportive atmosphere where each student is encouraged to adopt a strong, multi-cultural approach public health and health research.

This 10-week program will help students to develop skills and interests in prevention research and participate first hand in community based, on-going research projects at Diné College and at other institutions on the Navajo Nation and in other Native communities.

For more information:

Mark C. Bauer, (505) 368-3589, [mcbauer@dinecollege.edu](mailto:mcbauer@dinecollege.edu)  
Donald K. Robinson, (928) 724-6719, [dkrobinson@dinecollege.edu](mailto:dkrobinson@dinecollege.edu)  
Brenda Hosley, (602) 621-1341, [bhosley@dinecollege.edu](mailto:bhosley@dinecollege.edu)  
Heather Dreifuss, (503) 502-0766, [hdreifuss@dinecollege.edu](mailto:hdreifuss@dinecollege.edu)

## TRAINING &amp; FELLOWSHIPS

**2015 Training Course In Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology**

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and CityMatCH are offering a Training Course in MCH Epidemiology as part of their ongoing effort to enhance the analytic capacity of state and local health agencies. If your application is accepted, you will be notified that a scholarship has been awarded to cover the cost of the training and hotel lodging. A limited number of scholarships for airfare will also be available as needed

Application Deadline: February 13, 2015 by 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time  
Training Dates: June 1-5, 2015  
Location: Hotel Monaco, Baltimore, Maryland

Visit the CityMatCH website for more information and to find the online application. **Web link** - [http://www.citymatch.org/training-course-mch-epi?utm\\_source=Weekly+Resource+Email++2015.01.12&utm\\_campaign=Weekly+Resource+Email+2012.04.02&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.citymatch.org/training-course-mch-epi?utm_source=Weekly+Resource+Email++2015.01.12&utm_campaign=Weekly+Resource+Email+2012.04.02&utm_medium=email)

**New Connections: Increasing Diversity of RWJF Programming**

New Connections: Increasing Diversity of RWJF Programming is a career development program for early- and mid-career researchers and consultants from underrepresented groups. The program aims to expand the diversity of perspectives that inform RWJF programming and introduce new researchers and scholars to the Foundation in order to help address research and evaluation needs.

Proposal Deadline: January 21, 2015 by 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time  
Grants of up to \$100,000 for a 12 or 24 month period.

Contact Information: Howard Walters, (215)-732-2200 ext. 276, [info@rwjf-newconnections.org](mailto:info@rwjf-newconnections.org)

**The Columbia University Medical Center Summer Program for Underrepresented Students (SPURS)**

SPURS is designed to provide underrepresented minority undergraduates with summer biomedical research experiences on under the mentorship of faculty from the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. The goal of this program is to provide meaningful training in biomedical research and to reinforce the SPURS Intern's interest in pursuing a career in biomedical research which will lead to advanced degrees (PhD, MD, or MD/PhD). Participation as a SPURS Intern will include a \$4,000 stipend and, if funding is available, housing accommodations.

Application Deadline: February 6, 2015

Visit Columbia University Medical Center's website for more information.