

# Morse Center hosts Native American Symposium

The free event will emphasize education, sovereignty and current legislation that pertains to Native Americans

BY BRITNI MCCLENAHAN  
NEWS REPORTER

Experts from around the state and nation will gather at the Knight Law School today for an eight-hour symposium to promote Native American education and sovereignty, highlighting a troubled history and proposing ideas for future generations.

The Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics is sponsoring "Sovereignty and Native Education," a free symposium at the Many Nations Longhouse and Knight Law Center today from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. The symposium is part of the Morse Center's 2005-07 theme, "Indigenous Peoples: National Policy and International Human Rights."

The current symposium will cover Native American education, sovereignty, the afflicted history of boarding schools and current legislation and initiatives pertaining to Native

American issues.

The Morse Center will host conferences, symposia and other events emphasizing Native American issues, including sovereignty and Native American law, education and women's leadership throughout the next two years. The center has partnered with the Center for Indigenous Cultural Survival and the Many Nations Longhouse to continue its work with the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon to educate the community on these issues.

Peterson Zah, the Arizona State University's president on American Indian Affairs and former president of the Navajo Nation, will give the keynote address at today's symposium.

"Zah is an expert on education," Morse Center director Margaret Hallock said. "The overall theme of this event is to focus on issues of sovereignty and self determination. One of

the resources to achieve sovereignty is education."

Brenda Child, another keynote speaker, will share her speech, "Boarding Schools as Metaphor." Child wrote "Boarding School Seasons: American Indian Families, 1900-1940," which was inspired by her grandmother's experiences at the Flandreau Indian Boarding School in South Dakota during the 1920s.

Child teaches courses on multiculturalism and Native American history at the University of Minnesota and is a member of the Red Lake Band of the Chippewa Indians in northern Minnesota.

Hallock said that Wilma Mankiller, this year's Morse Chair professor and former principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, has attracted a lot of attention to the University and is allowing the University to connect with high-profile leaders in the Native American community.

Contact the people, culture, faith reporter at [bmcclenahan@dailyemerald.com](mailto:bmcclenahan@dailyemerald.com)

## MANY NATIONS LONGHOUSE SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

October 20, 2005

Many Nations Longhouse, 1 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

• 1 p.m. — Symposium Welcome: Margaret Hallock, Director, Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics and Gordon Bettles, interim Steward of Many Nations Longhouse

• 1:15 p.m. — Overview of issues relating to sovereignty and education: Brian Klopotek, University Ethnic Studies assistant professor and Morse resident scholar

• 1:30 p.m. — Autonomous Indian Schools: Sovereignty and Colonialism: Howie Arnett, counsel to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

Keynote address: "Boarding Schools as Metaphor," Brenda Child, University of Minnesota historian

Panel: Hon. David Harding, tribal judge, Spokane

Tribal Court and board member, Chemawa Indian School; Annie Tester, principal, Nixyaawii Community School of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla; Debbie LaCroix, cultural curriculum adviser at Chemawa Indian School

• 3:30 p.m. — Break

• 3:45 p.m. — Sovereignty, Education, and Traditional Knowledge: Preserving Traditional Knowledge and the Role of Non-Native Schools: Alison Ball, director, University's Child and Family Center.

Panel: Hon. Elizabeth Furse, director, the Institute for Tribal Governance at Portland State University; Charlie Soap, activist in cultural and economic issues for the Cherokee Nation; Janne Underminer, Northwest Indian Language Institute

• 5:30 p.m. — Break for dinner

Knight Law Center, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

• 7 p.m. — Keynote session: 175 Knight Law Center Ceremonial welcome and blessing: Esther Stutzman, Kalapuya Elder

Introduction: Rennard Strickland, Knight professor of law and Morse Center resident scholar

Keynote address: "The Navajo Sovereignty in Education Act of 2005"; Peterson Zah

Response: Wilma Mankiller, Morse Chair professor

• 9 p.m. — Closing

SOURCE:

<http://www.morsechair.uoregon.edu/SovereigntyandNativeEducation.html>



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## IN BRIEF

### Defiant Saddam goes on trial for murder and torture

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Saddam Hussein pled innocent to charges of premeditated murder and torture Wednesday, arguing with judges and challenging the legitimacy of the court as his trial opened under heavy security in the former headquarters of his Baath Party.

Saddam and seven former members of his regime could face the death penalty if convicted for the 1982 massacre of nearly 150 Shiites in the town of Dujail.

After presiding judge Rizgar Mohammed Amin read the defendants their rights and the charges against them — which also include forced expulsions and illegal imprisonment — he asked each for their plea. He started with the ousted dictator, saying "Mr. Saddam, go ahead. Are you

guilty or innocent?"

Saddam could be seen saying something too quietly to be heard, and Amin read out the plea: "Innocent."

Earlier, at the opening of the trial, the 68-year-old ousted Iraqi leader — looking thin with a salt-and-pepper beard in a dark gray suit and open-collared white shirt — stood and asked the presiding judge: "Who are you? I want to know who you are."

### Hurricane Wilma grows into record Atlantic storm

SAN PEDRO SULA, Honduras — The fringes of Hurricane Wilma lashed Caribbean nations on Wednesday, forcing schools to close and thousands to evacuate as it churned toward Mexico's Cancun resort and Florida after killing at least 12 people and becoming the most intense storm to ever form in the Atlantic.

The National Hurricane Center in Miami warned that Wilma would be a "significant threat" to Florida by the weekend in a season that has already seen devastation from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Officials ordered tourists out of the Florida Keys.

"We had well over 1,000 lives lost in Katrina. If Wilma, you know, comes into the U.S., to the Florida coast as a Category 3 or 4 hurricane, that potential for large loss of life is with us," said hurricane center director Max Mayfield.

The White House, stung by criticism that it had not responded quickly enough to Katrina, promised to stay on top of the situation. "We are closely monitoring what is an extremely dangerous storm," said White House spokesman Scott McClellan. "People should take this hurricane very seriously."

—The Associated Press

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