

VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

NARCH Project Involves Four Oregon Tribes

All relevant details of the socio-cultural/mental health research and training project known as NARCH have been worked out and the project has been launched under U.S. Public Health Service sponsorship and funding.

Participating in the project are the Burns Paiute, Colville, Warm Springs, and Siletz tribes.

Faculty members from prestigious Johns Hopkins University will train designated tribal members of the four tribes to accomplish the basic project goals, which are:

1. To increase the research capacities and research infrastructures of the participating tribes
2. To develop tribally specific, culturally relevant, and historically sensitive models of American Indian behavioral health leading to a scientific method of investigating the following five factors:
 - a. Intergenerational trauma and unresolved grief: This topic looks at how historical events have had and continue to have

an effect on the mental well-being of American Indians. Each tribe's history will be examined and the impact that wars, disease, forced assimilation, etc., have had on Indian people.

- b. Substance abuse and the transmission through families of cultural values: The question here is why there are such high levels of addiction. Many traditional family prevention tools are no longer being used, thus addictive behavior goes unchecked. The focus here is to develop culturally appropriate research to gain understanding of how and why addiction develops in Indian Country.
- c. Communicative norms for expressing emotional distress: This involves evaluating who speaks to whom about what and under what circumstances. Often, cross-cultural communications are misunderstood because neither party understands the true meaning of what the other is saying. The goal here is to develop a behavioral



Vice Chairman Jessie Davis

model that will help better understand verbal and non-verbal communications.

- d. Complicated bereavement and culturally competent clinicians: Traditional death, dying, grief, and bereavement beliefs and practices of Native communities have not been adequately studied. The goal here is to come up with culturally appropriate descriptions of rituals and ceremonial prac-

- tices that will help clinicians understand better how to be more effective in their helping roles.
 - e. Spirituality and rehabilitation: There is evidence that practicing spirituality can help prevent re-incarceration. There's only one study that explores this, so the goal here is to develop additional information on how spirituality can reduce depression, disciplinary issues, and re-arrests for adult offenders.
3. To increase the research capacity of early career Native American scientists through individual training and presentations at university seminars.

The Siletz Tribe has accepted the role of providing administrative services to the project, which is funded for a two-year period by a U.S. Public Health Service grant of \$700,000.

Lisa Norton has been appointed to serve as NARCH coordinator and I have been designated the Tribal Council's representative to the NARCH Advisory Board.

Further information will be provided in *Siletz News* and *Nesika Illahee* as the project unfolds.

Royalty Crown Proposals Due

The Pow-Wow Committee is now accepting proposals for the 2005 royalty crowns, which are for Miss Siletz, Jr. Miss Siletz, and Little Miss Siletz.

Crowns do not include years but do include separate barrettes that are approximately 3 inches in diameter with

the year "2005" on them and matching the colors on the crown.

All proposals must be submitted with a proposed design, including color scheme, size of beads, size of crown(s) and total cost. Preference will be given to crowns containing the state of Oregon with treaty date, cursive writing, and a minimum bead size of 11 or smaller.

Proposals must be received by Jan. 31, 2005.

You can submit proposals for as many crowns as you would like. Payment is made after the crown(s) and barrette(s) are completed. Crowns must be completed by July 31, 2005.

Please mail proposals to Siletz Pow-Wow Committee, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380.

Questions? Please contact Kelley Ellis at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1227, or 541-444-8227.



Nuu-wee-ya'

(our words)

Introduction to the Athabaskan Language

Open to tribal members of all ages

Siletz

Siletz Tribal Community Center

Jan. 10 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Feb. 15 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Salem

Salem Area Office

Jan. 11 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Feb. 8 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Portland

Portland Area Office

Jan. 4 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Feb. 14 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Eugene

Eugene Area Office

Jan. 3 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Feb. 7 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tribal members who need help or instruction on cultural projects should contact the Siletz Culture Department. We can assist you prior to the language classes.

For more information, contact Bud Lane at the Siletz Cultural Department at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1320, or 541-444-8320, or e-mail budl@ctsi.nsn.us; or Selene Rilatos at the Siletz Culture Department at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1246, or 541-444-8246, or e-mail selener@ctsi.nsn.us.