

Stuart-Wisdom Elected to NIEA Board



Tiffany Wisdom (right) and an Alaskan Yupik dancer at the National Indian Education Association Conference in Anchorage, Alaska

Day'la'ha my relatives.

I, Tiffany Stuart-Wisdom, would like to announce my position on the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) Board of Directors. There are 10 board positions and two student board positions. Desi Small-Rodriguez (Northern Cheyenne) is the other student board member. She attends Stanford University in California.

This year's NIEA annual convention was held in Anchorage, Alaska, on Oct. 19-22, 2006. Thousands of Natives from all over the country were there.

I attended useful workshops for my career as a teacher and had a great time learning about the Indigenous groups of Alaska: Eyak, Athabascan, Yup'ik, Cup'ik, Inupiat, St. Lawrence Island Yupik, Aleut, Alutiiq, Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples. I danced with Yupik and Tlingit dancers.

Going in a small airplane to see the mountains up close was an experience I will never forget. I was able to see the beautiful lands and animals.

My responsibilities for the NIEA board consist of meetings (conference calls and traveling for meetings), planning events (Miss NIEA Ambassador Pageant, annual convention, and awards), lobbying for Indian education issues, increasing membership, and communicating all the tribal nations' education issues, concerns, and suggestions.

This next year I will travel to Honolulu, Hawaii, on Dec. 14 (my birthday) to approve the site and other items for the next annual conference. Then in February and in the summer, I will travel to Washington, D.C., for the NIEA Legislative Summit and to lobby for Indian education issues.

The annual NIEA conference in Honolulu will take place Oct. 25-28, 2007. The 2008 NIEA conference will be in Seattle, Wash., where I will end my term on the NIEA board.

I plan on making my best effort to communicate the tribe's educational needs to NIEA. We are on the front

lines of the battle of politics in education in Washington, D.C.

Communicating with the Siletz Tribal Council and the Siletz Valley School principal will greatly identify some of our tribal education. If you are a concerned citizen on Indian education and would like to change some Indian educational issues in your area, please don't hesitate to e-mail or write to me. Log on to www.niea.org to find out more about our agenda for Indian education and learn what we can do for you.

I have three semesters left until I earn my degree and certification as a K-6th grade teacher at Haskell Indian Nations University. This January, I will be placed in a kindergarten classroom in the public schools while attending my college classes.

During my senior year (August 2007-May 2008), I will be placed in a second- and third-grade classroom for my student teaching and I will attend my college classes. I love working with my Native students and children's church students here in Lawrence, Kan.

A thank you goes out to Haskell Indian Nations University for funding my way to the NIEA conference and the Haskell Student Senate for funding my meals. Thank you to my husband, Mike Wisdom Jr.; my dad, Thomas Stuart; my cousin, Lynette Hibdon; Melvin Ashue; Elliot Bryant; and my professors, Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. Beets, and Mrs. McCord.

Also a big thank you to Dr. Blackbird, Haskell School of Education dean, for making this way possible for me to represent the school, my tribe, and my family.

Thank you to God for his wonderful love and protection over me during my travels. Without God, I am nothing and with him I can do anything.

Hvm'chi and God Bless
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Michael E. Widsom Jr. and Tiffany Dawn Stuart

Stuart Marries in Kansas

Michael E. Wisdom Jr. and Tiffany Dawn Stuart were married Sept. 23, 2006, at noon at Calvary Temple Assembly of God Church in Lawrence, Kan.

Michael and Tiffany would like to thank everyone who supported them throughout their courtship and now their marriage.



Matt Glenn Dow and Linzie Mae UpChurch

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Dow

with lots of love from your Grams

Linzie Mae UpChurch and Matt Glenn Dow have committed their lives and love for each other and exchanged wedding vows on Aug. 26, 2006, at the groom's parents' home in front of approximately 250 people.

May you two have a wonderful and happy life together. Heaven only knows you have enough family on each side that love you both enormously. May the Creator bless you and your family always.

Linzie Mae is the daughter of Roylynda UpChurch and Mone Savath,

granddaughter of Shelley UpChurch, great-granddaughter of Rosemary Lawson-Ricketts and Herman Ricketts, and great-great-granddaughter of Bishby Lawson (Siletz) and Irene Dowd (Grand Ronde).

Matt Dow is the son of Glenn and Debbie Dow of Springfield, Ore.

The bride is employed at Oregon Community Credit Union in Eugene, Ore., and the groom is employed at the family's Springfield Dental Clinic.