Sponsors

Host and Presenting Sponsor
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Travel Scholarships
College Student Session Track
Coffee Break
Media Partner
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On behalf of the Pechanga Payómkawichum People, the Pechanga Tribal Council welcomes you to the Pechanga Resort Casino. We congratulate the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) for its 2020 Leadership Summit. We are proud to host a group of bright Native students and professionals in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, and support your efforts in becoming leaders in your respective fields.

Our people have called the Temecula Valley home since time immemorial. We believe the world was created here in the Temecula Valley—known as ‘Exva Teméeku.

Our modern economic story started in 1995 when we opened the Pechanga Entertainment Center. Our people had a simple but powerful vision: to create jobs for our Tribal Members; to generate revenues for fundamental and modest tribal programs like reliable drinking water, basic healthcare, cultural protection for future generations, and educational opportunities for our young people.

We opened in temporary facilities with only 135 employees but a fervent desire to break the cycle of poverty and despair which had long-impacted our Tribe. Since then and thanks to the guidance and wisdom of our Tribe, the loyalty and hard work of our Team Members, and the friendship and support of our surrounding communities, Pechanga is now responsible for employing more than 6,000 people and having a total economic impact of over $1.1 billion.

The Pechanga Band has always been an advocate for education opportunities for tribal youth. This is why we recently established the Wi’aajal (Great Oak) Future Leaders Scholarship Fund by Pechanga. We will contribute $3 million annually into this new and innovative fund to provide enrolled members of non-gaming and limited gaming tribes in California with scholarships for undergraduate, graduate, and professional education. We have partnered with the American Indian College Fund to help administer this Wi’aajal Future Leaders Scholarship Fund to invest in our future generations. These next generations will lead Indian Country in the 21st century.

We applaud AISES for their continuing efforts to enhance the skills and knowledge of Native students and professionals in various careers in science, technology, engineering and math. We wish you a successful 2020 Leadership Summit and thank you for the privilege of hosting this Summit.

Mark Macarro
Tribal Chairman
Guiding Principles for Equity in Organizations

1. Acknowledge that culture plays a predominate role in living, learning and working.

2. Recognize that conflict exist (even if we can’t see them) between our professional discourses and the discourses of our students, peers, and colleagues – especially those from non-mainstream (underrepresented) cultures.

3. Acknowledge the benefits of diversity in perspectives, interpretations, solutions, and practices to improve our practice, our science, our schools and our businesses.

4. Make a commitment to regularly explore different cultures – and not with the intention of coming to know or understand them (the other cultures) – but with an eye to understanding more about yourself.

5. Acknowledge how important it is to invite culture into your practice so people from other cultures are not asked (unfairly) to check their identities at the door to be successful.

6. Cultivate a supportive community (both inside and outside of your organization) that supports and grows your efforts toward equity.

Safe Camp and Code of Conduct

All conference participants are expected to adhere to the AISES standards of conduct. We invite all those who participate in the 2020 AISES Leadership Summit to help us create safe and positive experiences for everyone.

SAFE CAMP

The AISES Leadership Summit is a “Safe Camp,” meaning this is a welcoming, inclusive, supportive and safe environment for all our AISES family members regardless of race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, or gender expression/identity. Safe Camp includes recognizing the AISES Code of Conduct and anyone found violating the code will be asked to leave the conference immediately. Please contact any AISES staff member or board member if you have any questions.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) was established with the goal of developing Native professionals and leaders in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math. In light of this goal, the first student leaders of AISES developed a set of principles that prohibited alcohol, illegal drugs, and harassment. These principals have become core values of the organization and are incorporated as the Code of Conduct.

The AISES Code of Conduct promotes professional development and personal growth by strictly prohibiting the use of intoxicating drugs or alcohol and all forms of harassment and discrimination. This code is meant to reflect the ideals of our Native communities by establishing an expectation that we agree to protect and promote the well-being and growth of all people. This code is expected to be honored when individuals are representing the AISES organization and by all persons participating in AISES activities. To this end, each person is asked to adhere to this code and promote its intent by refraining from prohibited activities and encouraging others to do the same.

AISES will continue to maintain the Code of Conduct as a symbol reflective of the teachings and values of our ancestors. The Code of Conduct represents the ideas and visions set forth by the AISES founders and the student leadership. AISES values and respects the rights and privileges of others and asks that you honor the AISES organization, its mission, and the family of AISES by adhering to this Code of Conduct.
AISES Leadership Summit

Discover the Leader in You!

Get ready for two full days of learning and connections to academic, tribal, and nonprofit leaders — as well as industry experts — at the annual Leadership Summit hosted by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES). The AISES Leadership Summit is held on or near a tribal community. Past gatherings have been sponsored by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (NC), Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians (CA), the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians (CA).

At AISES we believe establishing a leadership pipeline is fundamental to developing today’s best STEM talent. Students from high school through postdoctoral, as well as emerging and mature professionals, value our popular Leadership Summit as an opportunity to acquire the skills to be confident leaders.

Developing leadership means finding the leader in each participant. Through workshops and sessions — along with built-in time to relax, socialize and have fun — the AISES Leadership Summit delivers on strategies that equip Native students, STEM professionals, and Indigenous leaders with learning, networking, and career development opportunities.

Here are just some of the Summit goals:

• Enhance your ability to further your professional and career development.
• Develop AISES professional members as role models for AISES college and graduate students.
• Schedule networking opportunities with other AISES members who can help you grow your contacts and build your confidence.
• Provide an inspirational and motivational environment where you can learn about and discuss relevant topics and trends in STEM.
• Offer exciting ideas that will inspire you to stay focused on developing your creativity, problem-solving techniques, and higher-order thinking skills.

How will your leadership emerge? Join us to experience this innovative event, and expect to make connections on a deep, personal level that might lead you in a new direction or inspire you to be a change agent. A fundamental goal of the AISES Leadership Summit is to create an atmosphere for impactful engagement that supports a more dynamic, powerful YOU!

For more information, AISES, the AISES National Conference or the AISES Leadership Summit visit the following websites:

• aises.org
• http://conference.aises.org
• http://summit.aises.org
Dyami Thomas

Dyami Thomas is an enrolled member of the Klamath tribes in Southern Oregon and a descendant of the Leech Lake Anishinabe in Minnesota. Mr. Thomas had found a passion for motivational speaking at the age of 22. After being exposed to the amounts of obstacles that our native people face throughout Indian Country, he knew that he wanted to help uplift all native people in whatever way he could. Dyami is certified in Suicide Prevention, in which he has taken it upon himself to use that to spread awareness on the Native American suicide rates and motivate others to live life knowing that it is precious and to love themselves. For the last six years, Dyami has been traveling throughout the US and Canada speaking at schools, graduations, community events, summits, and conferences.

Throughout his young life, he had the opportunity to learn about modeling and talent along with communication and classical acting which lead him to be in films along with walking in Paris Fashion Week for Givenchy. With his background, Dyami has been able to host workshops and classes for young people who are interested in acting and modeling along with workshops that cover suicide prevention, teen dating violence, domestic violence, health and wellness, and overall self-motivation. With everything Dyami Thomas does, he speaks from the heart with a positive and uplifting youth perspective about the importance of life, especially the highs and lows that weave throughout our journeys.

Rebecca Lynn Kirk

Becca Lynn is an enrolled member of the Klamath tribes and a descendant of the Leech Lake Anishinabe. Originally from Portland, Oregon, she resides in Portland Oregon and spends some of her time working as music teacher and children's acting mentor. She is the co-founder of the nonprofit “Native Youth Leading Native Youth,” which is an organization that uplifts and supports up and coming Native youth leaders. Rebecca is also a talent manager, representing talent from Portland, Chicago, and Canada. Active within Native communities throughout the nation, Rebecca is a certified suicide prevention peer counselor and also a recipient of the National UNITY Organization’s “25 under 25” leadership award. Giving motivational speeches, Rebecca travels and visits various Native communities throughout the country motivating and inspiring Native American youth.
Although all sessions fall within a specific track, track designations are just a suggestion! We encourage you to read through the program, especially the session descriptions, and attend ANY session suited to your interests.

**Sunday, February 16th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start - End</th>
<th>Session name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Session Tracks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am 5:00 pm</td>
<td>NSF Lighting the Pathway Meeting (By invitation only)</td>
<td>Elderberry</td>
<td>Professional, College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am 5:00 pm</td>
<td>NSF ASSIST Meeting (By invitation only)</td>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>Professional, College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm 5:15 pm</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Registration A&amp;B</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre- College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 pm 7:15 pm</td>
<td>Opening Reception</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom C</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre- College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:15 pm 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Networking Event &amp; Hors d’oeuvres</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom C</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre- College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 pm 10:30 pm</td>
<td>Social Event - Navajo Shoe Game presented by AISES Council of Elders</td>
<td>Eagle View Ballroom</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre- College</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Monday, February 17th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start - End</th>
<th>Session name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Session Tracks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am 7:00 am</td>
<td>Morning Blessing Ceremony</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom A</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre- College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:15 am 8:15 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom C</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre- College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Registration A&amp;B</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre- College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start - End</td>
<td>Session name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Session Tracks</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am 9:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Student Leaders - We Need You!</strong></td>
<td>Elderberry</td>
<td>College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am 9:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Showcasing Your Strengths in Your First Impression</strong></td>
<td>Manzanita</td>
<td>College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am 9:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Strengthening Professional Practice by Merging Common Ethical Education and Indigenous Ethics</strong></td>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>Professional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am 9:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Developing Future Leadership in Supercomputing</strong></td>
<td>White Sage</td>
<td>Professional, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 am 10:45 am</td>
<td><strong>What Are You Really Saying</strong></td>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>Professional, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 am 10:45 am</td>
<td><strong>Intersectionality of Modern Day Warriors and Ancestral Ways</strong></td>
<td>Manzanita</td>
<td>Professional, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 am 11:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Heart to Heart with an Elder</strong></td>
<td>Elderberry</td>
<td>Professional, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am 12:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Discovering Our Leadership Story – The Hero Within</strong></td>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>Professional, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am 12:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>The Power in Native Youth led Community Action</strong></td>
<td>White Sage</td>
<td>Professional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am 12:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Leadership Lessons Learned from Key AISES Leaders: Corporate, Student, and Tribal</strong></td>
<td>Manzanita</td>
<td>Professional, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm 1:15 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom C</td>
<td>Professional, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 pm 2:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Project Management: best practices for leaders in applying for competitive scholarships</strong></td>
<td>Manzanita</td>
<td>College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 pm 2:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Fostering Career Pathways and Advancement in Tribal Health for Native Americans</strong></td>
<td>White Sage</td>
<td>Professional, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45 pm 3:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Essential Skills Needed for Effective Executive/Technical Leadership</strong></td>
<td>Elderberry</td>
<td>Professional</td>
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## Monday, February 17th continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start - End</th>
<th>Session name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Session Tracks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:45 pm 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Networking and Presentation Skills for Indigenous Students</td>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 pm 3:15 pm</td>
<td>Creating the Career You Love</td>
<td>White Sage</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 pm 3:45 pm</td>
<td>Blood Quantum</td>
<td>Manzanita</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Making Ourselves Visible Through Action in 2020</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom C</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:15 pm 5:30 pm</td>
<td>Group Photo</td>
<td>Location to be announced</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:45 pm 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Mentor Matchup</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom C</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm 8:15 pm</td>
<td>Dinner On Your Own</td>
<td></td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Tuesday, February 18th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start - End</th>
<th>Session name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Session Tracks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am 7:00 am</td>
<td>Morning Blessing Ceremony</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom A</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:15 am 8:15 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Summit Ballroom C</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am 10:15 am</td>
<td>Together We Can Do So Much: Facilitating Teamwork to Create STEM Leaders</td>
<td>White Sage</td>
<td>Professional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am 11:30 am</td>
<td>Hands on Banking Experience</td>
<td>Rabbit</td>
<td>College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 am 10:00 am</td>
<td>The Great Oak Tree Tour #1</td>
<td>Hotel Valet Entrance</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am 9:30 am</td>
<td>Indigenous Scholars are Public Health Leaders</td>
<td>Manzanita</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start - End</td>
<td>Session name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Session Tracks</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am 9:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Empowering Practices and Relationships that Foster the Well-being of Indigenous Graduate Students in STEM</strong></td>
<td>Elderberry</td>
<td>College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 am 10:45 am</td>
<td><strong>Indigenous Pride: Acknowledging Our Ancestors</strong></td>
<td>Elderberry</td>
<td>College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 am 10:45 am</td>
<td><strong>Creating Leaders - How to Identify, Empower, and Nurture Leaders</strong></td>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>Professional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am 12:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Corporate Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting</strong></td>
<td>Manzanita</td>
<td>Professional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 am 11:45 am</td>
<td><strong>The Great Oak Tree Tour #2</strong></td>
<td>Hotel Valet Entrance</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am 12:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Native Youth Leadership</strong></td>
<td>Elderberry</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am 12:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Overcoming Perfectionism &amp; Embracing Mistakes</strong></td>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am 12:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Re-indigenizing How We Work Together: A Framework for Building Collaborations Centered on Equity and Reciprocity for Greater Balance and Harmony</strong></td>
<td>White Sage</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm 1:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Lunch with a Tribal Leaders Panel</strong></td>
<td>Summit Ballroom C</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45 pm 2:45 pm</td>
<td><strong>It’s About Time</strong></td>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45 pm 2:45 pm</td>
<td><strong>Giving Back: A Career Path Model</strong></td>
<td>Elderberry</td>
<td>College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45 pm 3:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Indigeneering: Decolonizing and Indigenizing the Culture of STEM Professions for a More Sustainable Tomorrow</strong></td>
<td>White Sage</td>
<td>Professional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45 pm 3:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Escape Room: Defeat the C0D3; Escape the Box</strong></td>
<td>Manzanita</td>
<td>College, Pre-College</td>
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</table>
## Tuesday, February 18th continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start - End</th>
<th>Session name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Session Tracks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:15 pm 3:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>The Great Oak Tree Tour #3</strong></td>
<td>Hotel Valet Entrance</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm 3:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Native STEM Faculty’s Experiences of Professional Advancement: Identifying Supports, Opportunities, and Challenges</strong></td>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm 4:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Acknowledging Your Path: The Application of Addiction Recovery Qualities to Leadership Development</strong></td>
<td>Elderberry</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15 pm 6:15 pm</td>
<td><strong>Closing Talking Circle</strong></td>
<td>Summit Ballroom DE</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:45 pm 8:45 pm</td>
<td><strong>Closing Banquet</strong></td>
<td>Summit Ballroom C</td>
<td>Professional, College, Pre-College</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### AISES Regional Conferences

High school students, college students, and professionals are invited to attend!

American Indian Science and Engineering Society
Scholarships Now Available

Must be American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander, or an Indigenous person of Canada, an AISES member, and a full-time student in a STEM field to apply. Specific requirements vary by scholarship.

For more information, visit www.aises.org and click on the “SCHOLARSHIPS & INTERNSHIPS” tab.

Deadline March 31st

Mission Statement:
The American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) is a national, nonprofit organization focused on substantially increasing the representation of American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, First Nations and other indigenous peoples of North America in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) studies and careers.

If you have any questions, contact the AISES Scholarship Department at scholarships@aises.org or 720.552.6123.
MEET LOCATIONS (AISES rooms are in red)

1. Sumac Meeting Room (2nd floor)
2. Tule Meeting Room (2nd floor)
3. Elderberry Meeting Room (2nd floor)
4. Cottonwood Meeting Room (2nd floor)
5. Manzanita Meeting Room (2nd floor)
6. White Sage Meeting Room (2nd floor)
7. Rabbit Meeting Room (2nd floor)
8. Red Tailed Hawk Meeting Room (2nd floor)
9. Deer Meeting Room (2nd floor)
10. Turtle Meeting Room (2nd floor)
11. Fox Meeting Room (2nd floor)
12. Road Runner Meeting Room (2nd floor)
13. Bear Meeting Room (2nd floor)
14. Coyote Meeting Room (2nd floor)
15. Mountain Lion Meeting Room (2nd floor)
16. Elevators to Eagle’s Nest
17. Pechanga Theater
18. Grand Ballroom
19. Summit Ballroom
20. Summit Ballroom Foyer
21. Escalators to Meeting Rooms
22. Journey's End
Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians
Proud Supporter of the

AISES Leadership Summit 2020

Leadership Development in the STEM Fields
Working together to support and advocate for Native American STEM Education

February 16th - 18th, 2020 | Pechanga Resort and Casino
Temecula, California

www.pechanga-nsn.gov
Acknowledging Your Path: The Application of Addiction Recovery Qualities to Leadership Development
Elizabeth Stroud
Cherokee Nation
NSU AISES Chapter

Recovery from addiction requires the implementation of skills that allow for greater personal growth and development. These skills, when applied to leadership, create a leader that is more empathetic, vulnerable, trusting, and reliable. This session will assess the qualities one gains in recovery from addiction and how that skill set can be implemented for greater leadership development.

Blood Quantum
Norbert Hill, Jr.
Oneida Nation of Wisconsin
American Indian Science and Engineering Society

Blood quantum, imposed from within and without, has shaped Native identity and has been the primary determinant in deciding “Who is an Indian” for over a century. The conversation about Native identity - sometimes civil, sometimes violent - has been going on in Indian County far longer than that. And will continue whether blood quantum laws are changed or not. We are indeed living in challenging circumstances when it comes to navigating what is means to be Native; tribal disenrollment, DNA testing, egg and Sperm banks, CDIB cards, online dating, ethnic students groups on college campuses and debates over sports mascots, all challenge our definition of what being Native is. And what it is not. As you read these words, there are hundreds, thousands, millions of voices talking, writing, texting, Snapchattting, Youtubing, Facebooking, and (insert newest app/ Tocology here) -ing about blood quantum, identity and belonging. Like Malcom Gladwell’s tipping point,” we have reached a moment in history where significant culture and intellectual moment of critical mass. A moment in history where significant culture and intellectual change has begun. This is a leadership moment for AISES students. What does it mean to be an Indian Engineer/Scientist? We want students to land on their moccasins- not on their Gucci’s when they graduate from college. You can’t run from who YOU are or WHERE you came from. Are we members of a club? Or citizens of a nation? What is the responsibility of a citizen? Indigenous science requires knowledge of both science and Indian ways. Balance is the key. This session will inform and explore the issues surrounding blood quantum. Students will have a greater understanding of their responsibilities to their families and communities. There is more to life than being a scientist or engineer. What does it mean to be an Indian STEM student?

Careers in Diplomacy
The U.S. Department of State is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive workforce that represents America. Learn how your leadership skills and experience in STEM, law enforcement, or security can lead to a public service career.

U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE
★ CAREERS REPRESENTING AMERICA ★

U.S. citizenship is required. An equal opportunity employer.

Session and Meeting Discriptions
You can’t run from who you are or where you came from. What is your responsibility? AISES has an investment in you; an investment that we can ill afford to lose.

Breakfast
All conference attendees are welcome to get energized for the day with a bountiful breakfast!

Closing Talking Circle
AISES Council of Elders
A talking circle provides space to create connections, collaboration, and understanding. Circles can hold the tensions and emotions necessary for healing and can support people to use collective energy to take action. The Closing Talking Circle is an opportunity to express your Summit experience with complete peace, freedom, and confidentiality. It is an effective way to remove barriers and feel the support and community of other participants during this unique time together.

Corporate Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting
The AISES Corporate Advisory Council (CAC) is a professional association of corporate representatives who support AISES in its mission of increasing the number of Native people in STEM. The CAC provides industry advice and counsel for the AISES CEO and the Board of Directors by: Providing scholarships, internship programs and/or employment opportunities. Participating in and supporting AISES events through sponsorship, presentations, and providing career information and resources. Supporting student and professional chapters in their local areas. Providing industry expertise and guidance related to current/projected employment trends and needs. Developing support for AISES consistent with individual company capabilities, including financial contributions, in-kind gifts and human resources. Assisting AISES in fundraising efforts through networking and participation. Facilitating effective public relations for AISES activities via coverage in company publications.

Creating Leaders - How to Identify, Empower, and Nurture Leaders
Beau Williams
Cherokee
The Boeing Company
In this session participants will understand the fundamental attributes of good leadership; how to identify leaders in an organization; how to provide growth opportunities for sourcing leaders; and how to recognize and reward the right behaviors.

Creating the Career You Love
Willow Blythe
Muscogee (Creek)
Raytheon
No matter where you start your career, bringing your true self to work is essential for success. In this interactive session, you will learn what it means to be an authentic leader and how to develop a vision for your career, create a personal brand that works, strengthen your confidence in interviews and build relationships.

Developing Future Leadership in Supercomputing
Dr. Franklin Dollar
Dry Creek Band of Pomo Indians
University of California, Irvine
Georgia Sandoval
Navajo
Intel Corporation
Much of the world is being revolutionized by the availability of powerful computing platforms which can simultaneously harness many components. With so many pieces involved with making supercomputers work, it can seem overwhelming to think how you can be a part of it. We will show you the path, from high school to professional, and from the hardware and software perspective of how this can become your path as well. We will also talk about applications which are of special interest to Indian Country.

Discovering Our Leadership Story – The Hero Within
Donald Motanic
Umatilla/Coeur d’Alene
Intertribal Timber Council
The Discovering Our Leadership Story – The Hero Within will provide participants an opportunity to receive an orientation about how tribal traditional stories are part of leadership development, then fill out an evaluation assessment from Dr. Pearson’s studies to find their phase on the Hero’s Journey (Preparation/Journey/Return) and finally receive information and resources to track their AISES Leadership Hero’s Journey. The evaluation should be completed every five years.

Empowering Practices and Relationships that Foster the Well-being of Indigenous Graduate Students in STEM
Dr. Catherine Johnson
Washington State University
The Social Science Research Project (SSRP) of the Pacific Northwest – Circle of Success: Mentoring Opportunities in STEM (PNW-COSMOS) alliance found that the faculty mentor relationship influences student well-being. The goal of this presentation is to share findings from a multi-site case study that examined culturally responsive mentoring practices that contribute to students’ cultural congruity and well-being of Indigenous graduate students in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). Common themes across all case study sites were the presence of family involvement, role models and research mentors, financial support and communications, building community cultural wealth, and cultural community and social activities.
Escape Room: Defeat the C0D3; Escape the Box
Sherrill Givens
Akwasasne Mohawk
U.S. Government
Participants will explore and discuss some of the latest technology trends in Artificial Intelligence by participating in a hands-on workshop that is meant to spark interest for STEM students to pursue coursework in this important, developing area. The presenters will discuss career opportunities available to those who develop expertise in this important area.

Essential Skills Needed for Effective Executive/Technical Leadership
Dr. A. D. Cropper
Kalinago, Carib
Raytheon
This interactive presentation will focus on the Essential Skills Needed for Effective Executive/Technical Leadership. The presentation describes: the characteristics of leadership; how to be an effective executive leader; the four phases of leadership development; gain an understanding of leaders as followers; as well as the relationship between leaders and teams. The session concludes with the various dimensions of leadership followed by a dialogue about the participants' own leadership styles, strengths and opportunities.

Fostering Career Pathways and Advancement in Tribal Health for Native Americans
Rachel Hernandez
Gila River Indian Community
Gila River Health Care
Katherine Lewis
Gila River Indian Community
Gila River Health Care
Participants will learn about the Gila River Health Care system located in Sacaton, AZ., which has been recognized for excellent patient care. The GRHC network will be used to understand the importance of tribes having oversight of their own health care systems. Participants will learn about the different areas of employment within a health care corporation and what paths they may need to take to get there. This presentation will explain how the Gila River Health Care became a 638/Self Governance entity and what that means for recruitment and retention efforts of community members and other Native staff.

Giving Back: A Career Path Model
Jack Soto
Navajo/Cocopah
American Indian College Fund
Many people share that one of the main reasons for attaining a degree is to give back to their community. With that, many career development models focus on competition over community impact. This session will share a model in developing a career path based upon reciprocity.

Group Photo
Join us for the group photo! All Leadership Summit attendees are encouraged to participate! Location to be announced.

Hands on Banking Experience
Ruth BlackHawk Cameron
Ho-Chunk and Mnikowowo Lakota
American Indian Science and Engineering Society
The Hands on Banking Experience is a "real-world" money management simulation designed for high school students and young adults. It helps teach important financial education concepts of budgeting, comparison shopping and evaluating needs, wants, and tradeoffs in a relevant and engaging way. During the session each participant will be assigned a profile detailing career, income, and family information. They will then visit 13 stations that mimic expenses that occur in real life such as clothing, groceries, housing, transportation, and more. At each of these stations, participants will have to make selections within the constraints of their budget. In a subtle way, students will come to see that education and skills influence career options and income in more ways than one.

Heart to Heart with an Elder
AISES Council of Elders
The Council of Elders are integral to the structure and well-being of the entire AISES organization as leaders and mentors. Their leadership, wisdom, and life experiences are vital resources for the AISES community. They help us in filtering the complex and challenging events happening on a daily basis to improve outcomes for ourselves and others. They reinforce connectedness to each other by learning from each other and helping each other. This session is designed to help AISES members feel at ease to come get advice or support from an elder in a caring, supportive, and teaching environment. The Elders will have their own individual table for more personal discussions in an individual or small group setting.

Indigeneering: Decolonizing and Indigenizing the Culture of STEM Professions for a More Sustainable Tomorrow
Deanna Burgart
Fond du Lac First Nation, Saskatchewan Canada
University of Calgary/Indigenous Engineering Inclusion Inc.
Join Indigeneer, Deanna Burgart, in this interactive session that will cultivate a sense of cultural safety and ethical space for participants. Explore reconciliation and the role of Leadership and Organizational Culture in inclusion of Indigenous ways of knowing, being and doing in STEM. Outcomes: • Deeper perspectives on “Ethical Space”, “Cultural Safety”, “Decolonization” and “Indigenization” • Participant’s own personal reflection on reconciliation and its significance in
STEM • Gain Perspectives on Sustainability and how leadership can enhance outcomes.

**Indigenous Pride: Acknowledging our Ancestors**

**Dr. Mark Bellcourt**  
White Earth Nation  
*University of Minnesota*

Too often Indigenous knowledge is viewed in higher education as a mystery and lacking in any scientific methodology. To the contrary, Indigenous knowledge relies on the same processes as scientific inquiry – it relies upon observation, trial and error, and hypothesis development. However, Indigenous or Traditional Knowledge has a very different worldview. We will explore fourteen worldviews from our ancestors that participants can use in their classes and careers.

**Indigenous Scholars are Public Health Leaders**

**Joel Begay**  
Navajo Nation  
*Lifecourse Epidemiology of Adiposity & Diabetes Center, University of Colorado School of Public Health*

**Rene Begay**  
Navajo Nation  
*University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus*

As Native researchers/scholars, we propose that Indigenous scholars with various upbringing, background, principles, and values allow Indigenous people to serve as inherent Public Health Leaders. We seek to discuss, compare and contrast public health methods and concepts from two different worldviews: Western vs Indigenous. We will identify examples of public health pillars in our daily lives and illustrate the leadership capacity and impact Native scholars have in the field of public health. Using the web-based application, PollEverywhere, the facilitators will pose multiple choice and open-ended questions to guide the discussions and allow session attendees to better understand their role in their institution, and more importantly, recognize their leadership capacity and impact Native scholars have in the field of public health. In summary, we hope to empower students to continue their educational journey by presenting our background as public health researchers and demonstrate how Native scholars are the current public health leaders and experts.

**Intersectionality of Modern Day Warriors and Ancestral Ways**

**Genevieve Bennally**  
Navajo  
*Raytheon*

**Barney Enos**  
Akimel O’odham  
*Gila River Indian Community*

As modern day warriors and leaders, being mindful of the difference of being destructive and constructive in our approach to solutions and our own academic and professional development will lead us being intrinsic, insightful and supportive for ourselves, our career path and how we choose to put back into our communities. Ancestors have lead the way for how we can approach obstacles are proven in history. We are the legacy of those before us. Participants will engage with others and identify how they can bridge their own traditional teachings and apply to their professional and personal challenges, leaving the workshop a stronger modern day warrior.

**It’s About Time**

**Leona Anderson**  
Creek Nation  
*The Boeing Company*

**Brandon Polingyumptewa**  
Hopi Tribe  
*The Boeing Company*

The importance of taking care of one’s self so that they become the best they can in their careers. Stress exercise.

**Leadership Lessons Learned from Key AISES Leaders: Corporate, Student, and Tribal**

**Gary Burnette**  
Cheroenhaka (Nottoway)  
*AISES*

**Michael Laverdure**  
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa  
*AISES*

**Rick Stephens**  
Pala Band of Mission Indians  
*AISES*

**Brielle Thorsen**  
Saddle Lake Cree Nation  
*Queen’s University*

Join us to listen, learn and dialog with AISES leadership about the diversity of leadership roles, lessons learned in the field, and how you can recognize and grow your own leadership abilities.
Lunch
Lunch raises your blood sugar level in the middle of the day, making you be able to focus for the rest of the afternoon. Everyone stay sharp for the rest of the day and join us for a hearty meal!

Lunch with a Tribal Leadership Panel
Stephen Lewis
Gila River Indian Community
Gila River Indian Community
Marc Luker
Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians
Pechanga Tribal Councilman
Jonathan Nez
Navajo
Navajo Nation
Tishmall Turner
Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians
Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians
This plenary session will be over lunch and all Leadership Summit attendees are encouraged to attend. It will feature distinguished leaders from various U.S. tribes. Moderated by Jane Sandoval, AISES Senior National Student representative, panelists will share their leadership journey along with their varying experiences and perspectives on the approach, range of knowledge or qualities necessary for effective leadership. They will emphasize how to deal with challenges, share lessons learned, and provide practical advice to students and professionals.

Making Ourselves Visible Through Action in 2020
Crystal Echo Hawk
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
IllumiNative
Erik Stegman
Carry the Kettle First Nation (Nakoda)
Center for Native American Youth
2020 is a critical year to make ourselves visible. The decennial census will determine how billions of dollars are allocated to tribes and tribal communities, and our upcoming election will chart the course of policies that will impact our children, families, environment, and economic future. In this session, you’ll learn about the latest research on how the public understands Native people and hear from Native youth leaders who are leading efforts to change the narrative about our communities through public education campaigns and civic action. Panelists will also share their insights on the innovative ways you can get involved in the census, the upcoming election, and narrative change movements.

Mentor Matchup
Chelsea Chee
American Indian Science and Engineering Society
Almost every leader has had a mentor, so don’t miss your chance to strengthen your leadership journey and get one-on-one time with your very own mentor!

Morning Blessing Ceremony
AISES Council of Elders
Yes, it’s early but this is an experience you will never forget! Start your day in a reverent, meaningful and invigorating way and prepare yourself for a positive Leadership Summit experience. Join the AISES Council of Elders in welcoming and blessing a new day.

Native STEM Faculty’s Experiences of Professional Advancement: Identifying Supports, Opportunities, and Challenges
Dr. Blakely Brown
University of Montana
Stephan Chase
Diné (Navajo)
University of Montana
Dr. Ruth Hall
Hidatsa
University of Montana/Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College
Jen Harrington
Turtle Mountain Chippewa
University of Montana
Dr. Ke Wu
University of Montana
What are the personal, relational, and collective experiences of Native American Faculty in STEM (NAF-STEM) that enhance or inhibit their professional development and career advancement? This study implemented the Indigenous Research Methodology, 6 R’s Practice Framework, and Community-Based Participatory Research approach. Seventeen NAF-STEM participated in story-sharing Circles. Results of the study provides recommendations for supportive institutional environment and policy to support the professional advancement of NAF-STEM in tribal and non-tribal institutions of higher education.

Native Youth Leadership
Dyami Thomas
Klamath Tribes
Rebecca Lynn Kirk
Klamath Tribes
Networking and Presentation Skills for Indigenous Students

**Lynnetta Eyachabbe**
Muscogee-Creek/Euchee
*University of Oklahoma*

Students are encouraged to network, but what does that mean? As an Indigenous student, do you know how to successfully network? Learn tips to make connections, overcome cultural barriers, and learn effective networking and presentation skills. Networking improves your skills so at the next AISES Leadership Summit you can submit a proposal with confidence. Bring an interesting topic to share and exit with a clear idea on how to leverage your accomplishments. Bring a resume!

Networking Event & Hors d’oeuvres
Join attendees for this informal networking event to interact with AISES members, colleagues, presenters and partners from across the country. Enjoy casual discussions and hors d’oeuvres with the AISES family. Let’s get comfortable, have fun, and celebrate all that is unique about AISES!

NSF ASSIST Meeting
This is a faculty career development workshop for ASSIST scholars. By invitation only.

NSF Lighting the Pathway Meeting
This is a faculty career development workshop for LTP scholars. By invitation only.

Opening Reception
Kick off the 2020 AISES Leadership Summit with a welcome from the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians!

Overcoming Perfectionism & Embracing Mistakes

**William Alvarez**
Lummi Nation
*Northwest Indian College*

**Danielle Boyer**
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
*The STEAM Connection*

Leadership is in our blood, but sometimes the drive to be perfect and to not make mistakes can overcome even the best of us. Leaders, mentors, and students, William Alvarez and Danielle Boyer will share their experiences on how they are leading their communities through entrepreneurship, academics, and mentorship. They will discuss where the pressure to be perfect comes from, overcoming obstacles and how they have overcome (or are overcoming) them, what they are learning as leaders, and how we can build each other up as Indigenous people.

Personal Project Management: best practices for leaders in applying for competitive scholarships

**Melvin Monette-Barajas**
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians
*Indigenous Education, Inc. Home of The Cobell Scholarship Program*

**Amy Weinstein**
American Indian Science and Engineering Society

Using simple project management techniques, this session will provide tips and tools for any leader to apply for and receive scholarships for higher education. Join scholarship industry experts to learn about best practices of finding and applying for scholarships. Be sure to bring something to write on so you can take notes! You can do this! There may even be a few prizes for those who fully engage in the session.

Re-indigenizing How We Work Together: A Framework for Building Collaborations Centered on Equity and Reciprocity for Greater Balance and Harmony

**Dr. Mae Hey**
Anishinaabe
*Virginia Tech*

The unique medicines each of us carries for healing our world and our communities must be expected, recognized, supported, developed, and used in concert with that of others. In this way, we are each an essential component for building our collective capacity to solve problems. Therefore, our efforts must be animated by a spirit of kincentric empowerment—a belief that we are all related through the contributions of our Medicine to building the capacity of our collective well-being. Peoples do not need a savior but rather require projects to emerge and assets be mobilized from within unique communities to create both relevant and sustainable solutions. Traumas endured by some have complicated this process through the repeated attempts by outsiders to ‘rescue’ them from ‘discovered problems’ and ‘prescribe solutions’ that do not honor specific cultures and worldviews. Despite this, we must learn how to make alliances that optimize our access to external resources and promote collaboration for addressing collective healing. This session presents a wellness framework for the critical creation of partnerships. Participants will practice using this framework through applying it to a case study. Then, the participants will use the framework with a project in which they are currently engaged.

Registration
All conference attendees, sponsors, chaperones, advisors and presenters are asked to check-in and pick up their name badges.
Showcasing Your Strengths in Your First Impression

Nancy McIntyre  
Robotics Education & Competition Foundation  

In this session participants will explore their unique talents and insights. They will develop a strategy to share this information in written format as well as during an interview. Students will learn how they can focus on their talents and gifts and demonstrate how they can use them for good in the workplace or academic setting.

Social Event - Navajo Shoe Game presented by AISES Council of Elders

Antoinelle Benally Thompson  
American Indian Science and Engineering Society  

Steve Darden  
American Indian Science and Engineering Society  

Join the AISES Council of Elders to play the Navajo Shoe Game! The Navajo Shoe Game is a time for families to come together for storytelling, sharing of songs, laughter and teachings during the winter evenings. In the Navajo culture, the Navajo Shoe Game originated when the animals did not understand the importance of the cycles of the universe. The night animals wanted it to be night time, all the time. The day animals wanted it to be day time, all the time. So, the animals played each other in the shoe game. The animals sat across from each other and strategized on where to hide the ball within the shoes and confuse the other team when it was their turn to guess. What happened next? You will have to join the AISES Council of Elders to find out! The Navajo Shoe Game will be adapted for time and location purposes. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun and play! Come enjoy the ice cream sundae bar!

Strengthening Professional Practice by Merging Common Ethical Education and Indigenous Ethics

John Desjarlais  
Cree  

Great Plains Contracting  

Strengthening Professional Practice through the integration of common ethical education and Indigenous ethics intends to engage on developing, or adding to one’s own knowledge base on ethical theory. This presentation discusses common ethics theory, common codes of practices for professional agencies, and compares them to the case of Nehinaw (Cree) codes of ethics, outlining the common duty vs virtue traits of either. The presentation also explores Nehinaw (Cree) values as a case study in how the community can begin to engage their own culture and language to develop one’s own code of ethics inclusive of their own language and culture.

Student Leaders - We Need You!

Jayne Sandoval  
Navajo  

Northern Arizona University  

Brielle Thorsen  
Saddle Lake Cree Nation  

Queen's University  

The AISES National and Regional Student Representatives will discuss what it is like to be a student leader and the opportunities that are available for students. The opportunities will include AISES student leadership opportunities, but also additional opportunities that are available. They will discuss the importance of student leadership for students as well as for organizations. The Student Representatives will also take questions from attendees.

The Great Oak Tree Tour

The Great Oak, known as Wi’áašal by Pechanga people, is recognized as the largest naturally grown indigenous coast live oak (Quercus agrifolia) in the Western United States. Its trunk is over 20 feet in circumference, and the above-ground portion of the tree is nearly 100 feet tall. Wi’áašal’s largest branches reach the ground, supporting the tree’s weight and creating a sheltering canopy for countless generations of people and animals. The Great Oak is over 1,000 years old, making it one of the oldest living oak trees in the Western United States. Part of the Great Oak’s significance lies in the fact that, despite its great age, it continues to produce acorns, one of the foods that sustained native Californians for thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans. The Great Oak produces acorns every two to three years. There is a maximum of 25 attendees per tour. Signup is required during the registration process.

The Power in Native Youth led Community Action

Erik Stegman  
Carry the Kettle First Nation (Nakoda)  

Center for Native American Youth  

When youth are able to receive resources they need to implement positive change; the impact is powerful. This session will focus on community action and best practices that the Center for Native American Youth uses in youth programming.
Together We Can Do So Much: Facilitating Teamwork to Create Stem Leaders

Sharona Farmer  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Jennifer Roberts  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

This workshop will provide a round-table discussion for professionals who may face program challenges or need new, innovative techniques to work with Native students and professionals. This interactive workshop will allow for evaluation, professional feedback and advice, as well as best practices with community partners that will contribute to overall student success. Participants will rotate between six different topic areas with a focus on leadership, partnerships, and student outcome expectations.

What Are You Really Saying

Leona Anderson  
Creek Nation

Brandon Polingyumptewa  
Hopi Tribe

What is public speaking? What are the types of public speaking? What message are you sending? What is your audience/venue? Participants in this session will engage in crafting an elevator speech and learn the effective process approaches to determining and writing a clear, brief message about you.

NRCS Pathways Programs are designed to provide students enrolled in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields of study with internship opportunities with NRCS across the United States. NRCS offers great opportunities for leadership and professional development in an environment that fosters science-based stewardship of the land.

For more information about Pathways Internships and Careers with USDA/NRCS go to: www.usda.gov/careers

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

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As a Top 50 company for Native American STEM professionals, we’re looking for people who see what’s possible in the impossible. Join us.

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We look for degrees in: Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Environmental Science & Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Materials Science, Mechanical Engineering, Physics*

*Current job openings may vary.
AISES Council of Elders

AISES Council of Elders share their wisdom and guidance with AISES students and with the organization as a whole. The Council of Elders represents an integral aspect of the AISES philosophy of passing on knowledge to the next generation.

William Alvarez
Lummi Nation
College Student
Northwest Indian College

William Alvarez is a 32-year-old non-traditional student, leader, and mentor. Advocate and leader as a current sophomore at Northwest Indian College who is involved in N.W.I.C. A.I.S.E.S. robotics, Trio, golf and several community involvements regarding volunteering. He is currently studying in the Bachelor’s of Native Environmental Science with a focus on health, environment, and safety environmental engineering.

Leona Anderson
Creek Nation
Human Resources
The Boeing Company

Leona Anderson works at Boeing in Mesa Arizona. She is the Enterprise Focal for AISES for the past 11 years. Leona is a presenter at AISES National Conferences the AISES Leadership Summits. Leona takes time to serve in the community with Morning Star Leaders Youth Council, Junior ACE Program, and the Gila River Indian Community STEA3M Program. She is a Sequoyah Fellow. Her paternal grandparents are registered members on the Dawes Cherokee Rolls in Oklahoma.

Rene Begay
Navajo Nation
Professional Research Assistant at the Centers for American Indian and Alaska Native Health
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

Rene Begay, M.S., is (Diné/Navajo) an Indigenous geneticist. She is Big Water, born for the Red Bottom People clan, her maternal grandfather’s clan is Red Running into Water, and her paternal grandfather’s clan is Towering House. Rene received her B.S. degree in Biology from the University of Arizona in 2012. She obtained her Masters degree in Clinical Science from the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colorado studying genetic mutations associated with dilated cardiomyopathy. Currently, she is a Professional Research Assistant at the Centers for American Indian and Alaska Native Health (CAIANH) in the University of Colorado Denver School of Public Health. Rene is also currently working with the Navajo Nation to generate genetics education material, a policy, and conducting qualitative research analyzing the perspectives of genetics research among the Navajo people.

Joel Begay
Navajo Nation
Sr. Professional Research Assistant and Analyst
LifeCourse Epidemiology of Adiposity & Diabetes Center, University of Colorado School of Public Health

Originally from Shiprock, NM., Joel received his Master of Public Health in Hospital & Molecular Epidemiology and Certificate in Healthcare Infection Prevention & Control from the University of Michigan School of Public Health. As a Cancer Epidemiology Education in Special Populations Fellow with the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Joel investigated breast cancer screening adherence among AI/AN Women in the Great Plains area. He then continued his work with native communities as an Epidemiologist and Program Coordinator with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center in Lac du Flambeau, WI. In June 2019, Joel joined the LEAD Center as a Senior Professional Research Assistant & Data Analyst, conducting primary data analysis, preparing manuscripts, and providing assistance in grant writing. When he’s not in the office, you can find Joel exploring the outdoors, traveling the country, or bonding with his two younger sisters.

Dr. Mark Bellcourt
White Earth Nation
Retired
University of Minnesota

Dr. Bellcourt is a retired higher education professional from the University of Minnesota who taught classes on Indigenous Environmental Knowledge and intercultural development. His research interests are how to better include Indigenous knowledge in the main stream science curriculum. He has been an AISES member for more than two decades, a Sequoyah fellow, former two-time AISES Board member and co-founder of the North Star AISES Alliance and Professional Chapter.

Antoinelle Benally Thompson
Navajo
AISES Council of Elders
American Indian Science and Engineering Society

Antoinelle Benally Thompson has been a council member since 2015. She earned a BS in biology, worked for Northern Navajo Medical Center’s Health Promotion Disease Prevention Program in Shiprock, N.M., and then developed the Fond du Lac Tribal Injury Prevention Program in Cloquet, Minn. She and her husband Bret, live in Wisconsin where she is a stay-at-home mom raising their two daughters. Antoinelle enjoys interacting with the younger generation at AISES events, and she always reminds students that the elders are there for them all year long, not just at conferences.
Genevieve Bennally

Navajo
Quality Engineer
Raytheon

Genevieve Bennally is a Program Quality Engineer at Raytheon Missile Systems in Tucson, Arizona. She served on the board for The Southwest Native-American Foundation for eight years and has been the Associate Director for SWNAF for six years. She is the Director of Finance for the Raytheon American Indian Network, an employee resource group where she works with colleagues and leaders to advance an inclusive culture at RMS. She is an avid volunteer in the community, spending time with students on and off the reservation from leading STEM activities and workshops, to coaching basketball in her spare time. Her mothers’ are Towering House and her fathers’ are Red Streak through the Water clan. Her maternal grandparents are Black Streak through the Wood clan and her paternal grandparents are Edgewater. She is from Lechee, Arizona of the Navajo Nation.

Ruth BlackHawk Cameron

Ho-Chunk and Mnikowoju Lakota
Senior Program Officer
American Indian Science and Engineering Society

Ruth BlackHawk Cameron is a Senior Program Officer at AISES. Her work in the field of education began at Northern Illinois University in the 1970s. At the University of Colorado, she taught in the CU Succeed Program where students received both high school and college credit. Ruth served as Chair of the American Indian Advocacy at the University of Colorado serving native faculty, staff, and students. Ruth’s role as an educator extended to Boulder Preparatory High School, an at-risk high school, where she taught for over 12 years. During her tenure at Boulder Prep, she started and managed the school’s Indian Education/Indian Focus program helping native students obtain their high school diploma and transition to college. To this day, Ruth keeps in contact with those students and their families. Ruth is a citizen of the Wisconsin Ho-Chunk and Mnikowoju Lakota. Her Bachelor Degree is in Applied Anthropology with a minor in Psychology and she holds a Master’s Degree in Education.

Willow Blythe

Muscogee (Creek)
Communications and Employee Engagement Specialist
Raytheon

Willow Blythe (Muscogee Creek) is a corporate storyteller and former multimedia journalist. She currently serves as a Communications and Employee Engagement Specialist at Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems. As a first generation college student with diverse professional experience, Willow is passionate about lifting up the community and investing in the leadership development of youth.

Danielle Boyer

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Founder, Author & Inventor
The STEAM Connection

Danielle Boyer is a 19-year-old inventor, author, and an international STEAM speaker and advocate. She is founder of The STEAM Connection, a nonprofit organization designed to bring accessible and affordable STEAM educational resources to children. She is currently pursuing a double major in Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering.

Dr. Blakely Brown

Professor
University of Montana

Dr. Brown’s research, teaching and service focus on nutrition and chronic disease prevention, maternal-child health, childhood obesity and diabetes prevention, community-based participatory research methods, Native American and Indigenous health and diversity-related activities. Her areas of expertise are successful research collaborations with rural and Native American and Indigenous communities that have resulted in longitudinal studies reporting risk factors for diabetes in native and non-native children, assessments of environmental and behavioral factors associated with risk for childhood obesity and diabetes in rural communities, implementation of community-based strategies to improve rural food environments and conducting randomized, controlled trials for preventing obesity and diabetes in youth.

Deanna Burgart

Fond du Lac First Nation, Saskatchewan Canada
Senior Instructor and Teaching Chair in the Schulich School of Engineering
University of Calgary/Indigenous Engineering Inclusion Inc.

Deanna Burgart P.Eng, CET is a Senior Instructor and Teaching Chair in the Schulich School of Engineering focused on integrating Indigenous knowledge in engineering. She brings over 20 years of experience in energy and pipelines and is passionate about the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People. She helps STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) focused organizations and educators operationalize Indigenous inclusion in their work.

Gary Burnette

Cheroenhaka (Nottoway)
Board Chair
American Indian Science and Engineering Society

Gary is a Vice-President at IBM with over 30 years of experience in the technology industry. He holds a B.S. in Computer Science from East Tennessee State and completed post-graduate studies at George Washington. At IBM, he has led large global teams with thousands of technology professionals and
managed budgets in the hundreds of millions across product marketing, development, “big data”, and executive positions. Gary is an enrolled member of the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) and is active in tribal life, serving on the council. At IBM, he is a champion for the Native community serving as co-chair of the Corporate Level Council on American Indian and Alaska Native Diversity. As the AISES board chair, Gary brings his expertise and understanding of technology and its potential to removing obstacles or identifying opportunities for growth. He recognizes the necessity and urgency of having Native diversity in STEM fields. He welcomes the opportunity to influence progress through the Native American Diversity Council at IBM. Under the council’s leadership, IBM has been a corporate sponsor of the national conference for many years. Gary enjoys the opportunity to speak with students and professionals at IBM’s national conference events. In 2017, he received the AISES “Professional of the Year” Executive Excellence award and is a Sequoyah Fellow.

**Stephan Chase**

Diné (Navajo)

**Graduate Student**

**University of Montana**

Stephan Chase is a member of the Diné (Navajo) Nation. First and foremost, Stephan is a father to his four daughters and three sons. He has earned bachelor’s degrees in Psychology and Native American Studies from the University of Montana. Stephan is in his first year as a graduate student in Anthropology, Culture and Heritage studies. He is a Research Specialist for the Social Science Research (SSR) component of the Willow AGEP Project at the University of Montana. He volunteers as a member of the Parent Advisory Committee for the Missoula County Public Schools Indian Education Department and the Native American Student Advisory Council at the University of Montana.

**Chelsea Chee**

Navajo

**Program Officer**

**American Indian Science and Engineering Society**

Chelsea Chee (Navajo) is a Program Officer with AISES. She works on the Lighting the Pathway, the ASSIST, the National American Indian Virtual Science and Engineering Fair, the Energy Challenge, the Natives in STEM project, the SPRK-ing Interest in Computer Science, and the Full Circle Mentorship programs. Chelsea's academic STEM journey began with her 5th grade AISES science fair project on the energy efficiency of traditional Native dwellings, to a science degree from the University of Arizona. Chelsea, originally from Arizona, fills her spare time with extra work at a locally owned beaded jewelry company called ETKIE.

**Dr. A. D. Cropper**

Kalinago, Carib

**Engineering Fellow & Chief Engineer**

**Raytheon**

Dr. A. D. Cropper, a Kalinago Carib was the AISES “2014 Professional of the Year” recipient. He is an Electro-Optical, Infrared Engineering Fellow and a Hyperspectral Imaging Technical SME within Raytheon’s Space and Airborne Systems, and past President of AISES Publishing Inc. Board of Directors. Dr. Cropper, a 2002 Sequoyah Fellow, has been involved in AISES since 1992, presenting both technical and professional development topics.

**Rose Toehe Darden**

Navajo and Ute

**AISES Council of Elders**

**American Indian Science and Engineering Society**

Rose Toehe Darden has a BS in general studies with an emphasis in business administration and psychology, and a master’s in educational psychology and counseling. She has spent her career in education and workforce development and business management. Rose was selected as the 2019 female citizen of the year by the Arizona Daily Sun newspaper in Flagstaff, Arizona.

**Steve Darden**

Navajo, Cheyenne, and Swedish

**AISES Council of Elders**

**American Indian Science and Engineering Society**

Steve Darden earned a BS in creative arts management and business administration and is a business owner and traditional practitioner.

**John Desjarlais**

Cree

**General Manager of Great Plains Contracting**

**Great Plains Contracting**

John Desjarlais Jr, “a principled, proud Indigenous Cree northerner”, grew up in Northern Saskatchewan, Canada in the village of Cumberland House. John started his professional career in 2001 and since then, has worked as a technician, radiation specialist, safety officer, maintenance engineer, senior reliability engineer, and CEO. John now proudly serves as the General Manager of Great Plains Contracting, Councilor for APEGS - his regional professional regulator, and tirelessly volunteers across many Indigenous engagement initiatives.

**Dr. Franklin Dollar**

Dry Creek Band of Pomo Indians

**Associate Professor**

**University of California, Irvine**

Franklin is a member of the Dry Creek Band of Pomo Indians
and the Vice-Chair of Inclusive Excellence in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of California, Irvine.

Crystal Echo Hawk  
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma  
Executive Director  
IllumiNative

Crystal Echo Hawk (Pawnee) is the founder and Executive Director of IllumiNative, the first and national, Native-led nonprofit committed to amplifying contemporary Native voices, stories and issues to advance justice, equity and social impact. Crystal founded IllumiNative to activate a cohesive set of research-informed strategies to disrupt the invisibility and toxic stereotypes Native peoples face. Crystal is an acclaimed speaker, thought leader, innovator and skilled executive who builds meaningful collaborations and lifts up new leaders across Indian Country. In leading IllumiNative over the past year, she has presented to over fifty companies and organizations, including NBC Universal, Amazon, Disney, and Comcast and convenings of the National Education Association, National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), Story Movements, and Netroots Nation. She has also authored editorials that have appeared in Indian Country Today, the Guardian and the Huffington Post. Prior to founding IllumiNative, Crystal served as President and CEO of Echo Hawk Consulting (EHC). Through EHC’s robust and respected roster of Native American thought leaders and extensive networks across Indian Country, the company helps amplify Indigenous voices, knowledge, and innovation and develop strategic partnerships to create opportunities for impact. Crystal was recognized by the National Center for American Indian Economic Development as its 2018 “Native American Woman Business Owner of the Year”. During her tenure at EHC, Crystal Reclaiming Native Truth project, an unprecedented research and strategy setting initiative to address misconceptions, stereotypes, and the invisibility of Native peoples within American society. Crystal founded IllumiNative in 2018 to put the RNT research into action to drive narrative change that can support equity, social justice and self-determination for Native peoples. Prior to leading Echo Hawk Consulting, Crystal served as the Executive Director for the Notah Begay III (NB3) Foundation from 2009-2014. Crystal helped grow the NB3 Foundation from a small grassroots organization to an organization that reinvested more than $13 million to fight the health epidemic facing Native children through strategic grant making, health and wellness programming, research and advocacy that benefited more than 50 Native American communities, tribes and 24,000 Native children. Crystal received both her Masters Degree in Social and Political Thought and Bachelors Degree in European History from the University of Sussex at Falmer, England. Follow her on Twitter @CrystalEchoHawk.

Barney Enos  
Akimel O’odham  
Executive Director Mentee  
Gila River Indian Community

Barney “BJ” Enos, Jr., has served as former Community Council Representative of District 4 of Gila River Indian Community for three terms and has served as a consultant providing tribal business development insight, asset management and security services to tribal and non-tribal clients. He has been employed with the Gila River Indian Community for the past 19 years in the areas of health care, economic development and tribal government administration. BJ is currently employed with the Casino Expansion Owners Team of the Gila River Indian Community as the Executive Director Mentee. BJ received a Bachelor’s of Science in Health Sciences with an emphasis in Community Health Education from the University of Arizona and a Master of Public Administration from Arizona State University. He resides in the village of Upper Santan (District 4) on the Gila River Indian Community in Arizona.

Lynnetta Eyachabbe  
Muscogee-Creek/Euchee  
IT Analyst  
University of Oklahoma

Lynnetta Eyachabbe is Muscogee-Creek/Euchee. She has worked at the University of Oklahoma Information Technology for 12 years. She works for OU IT Security overseeing the Information Security Awareness and Education program. She received her Bachelor of Business Administration from OU and is working on her MBA. She serves as the Staff Advisor for the OU Chapter of AISES, and is working with the Oklahoma Professional Chapter and OK Women in Technology to promote STEM opportunities.

Sharona Farmer  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma  
Academic Enhancement Instructor for the Choctaw Nation Career Development STEM program  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Sharona is married to her husband of 23 years, Jim, and they have two wonderful children. As a former educator and Success Coach, Sharona has performed leadership roles for most of her entire adult life. Sharona’s passion is facilitating success for students and the Indigenous community.

Serrhills Givens  
Akweasne Mohawk  
Executive Manager  
U.S. Government

Ms. Givens is an executive in the Federal Government with experience managing and leading large programs and organizations in the technology arena. She is from the Akweasne Mohawk nation in Northern New York.
Dr. Ruth Hall  
Hidatsa  
Director of Native American Studies  
University of Montana/Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College  

Dr. Ruth Hall is the Director of Native American Studies at Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College. She is also an affiliate faculty member in the W. A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation at the University of Montana. She also serves as the Co-Principal Investigator on the NSF-funded Willow Project. Ruth leads the Social Science Research Team on the Willow Project. Ruth’s research experiences range from water quality, landscape genetics, conservation biology, and American Indian higher education. She has taught at tribal and non-tribal institutions of higher education. In her current position, she balances administration duties, curriculum development, teaching, research, writing, and mentoring students.

Jen Harrington  
Turtle Mountain Chippewa  
Director of Native American Natural Resource Program/Graduate Student  
University of Montana  

Jen Harrington is the Director of the Native American Natural Resource Program in the W.A.Franke College of Forestry and Conservation at the University of Montana. Her work focuses on providing support for Native students within the College of Forestry and ongoing relationship-building with Montana Tribal high schools and Colleges, connecting students to STEM. Jen is also a graduate student in Forestry with plans to complete her degree in the Spring of 2020. Her thesis focuses on how the development of tribal consultation by the Environmental Protection Agency collides with tribal views of environmental health and Indigenous ontology and epistemology, and policy and practice recommended by tribal communities to improve the consultation throughout the Superfund process. In addition, Harrington has been working understanding the mentoring experiences of Native STEM faculty and development and implementation an Indigenous Mentoring Program for faculty and staff at the University of Montana.

Rachel Hernandez  
Gila River Indian Community  
Member, Board of Directors  
Gila River Health Care  

Rachel Hernandez originates from the Village of Gu’ki located in the Gila River Indian Community in Arizona. After 12 years of hospital and financial management for the Gila River Health Care (GRHC), she has taken the role as Treasurer on the Board of Directors. Rachel holds dual Bachelor and Master’s degrees in Business Administration and Finance. She has a passion for connecting students and community members with opportunities that will enhance their educational experience in all professions.

Dr. Mae Hey  
Anishinaabe  
Assistant Professor  
Virginia Tech  

Mae Hey’s undergraduate education focused on geology and geography, and human-Nature relationships. Her graduate degrees are in curriculum and instruction. Mae has been creating and teaching culturally-relevant, place-based education programs for the past 20 years. She has taught all ages of learners from elementary through adult, including scientists completing their graduate degrees to be secondary school educators. Her Ph.D. research focused on the confluence of Indigenous worldview/ knowledge and science education, a natural blending of local knowledge and practices, experiential, inquiry-based, student-centered learning that fosters both character development and scientific understanding that ultimately leads to creative problem-solving for a more sustainable future. She is now the Indigenous Community Liaison and InclusiveVT Faculty Fellow for the Office for Inclusion and Diversity, Assistant Professor of American Indian Studies, and Faculty Fellow for the Leadership and Social Change Residential College at Virginia Tech.

Norbert Hill, Jr.  
Oneida Nation of Wisconsin  
AISES Council of Elders  
American Indian Science and Engineering Society  

Norbert Hill, Jr. served as the Executive Director of AISES for 15 years and was recently appointed to the AISES Council of Elders. Hill graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in 1969 BS and 1971 MS. Hill holds two honorary doctorates from Clarkson University (1966) and Cumberland College (1984). In 1989 Hill was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Action Council of Minorities in Engineering.

Dr. Catherine Johnson  
Postdoctoral Research Associate  
Washington State University  

Catherine M. Johnson earned her Ph.D. in Education from Montana State University in Bozeman in 2019. She is currently a postdoctoral researcher at Washington State University and a member of the PNW-COSMOS (Pacific Northwest–Circle of Success: Mentoring Opportunities in STEM), which is an NSF AGEP Mentoring联盟 of five graduate programs and three Native American serving colleges. Her research interests have focused on Indigenous and International students’ intercultural experiences in STEM graduate school programs.

Michael Laverdure  
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa  
Board Vice Chair  
American Indian Science and Engineering Society  

Mike is a registered architect and a Sequoyah member of
Katherine Lewis is from the Gila River Indian Community in Arizona. She attended Arizona State University earning her Bachelor’s in English Literature with a minor in American Indian Studies. She earned her Master’s Degree in Social Welfare (MSW) at the University of California, Berkeley. She lived and worked in the Bay Area for 10 years before moving home to Arizona. Katherine has been on the Board of Directors for Gila River Health Care since 2016.

Marc Luker

Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians

Councilman

Pechanga Tribal Councilman

Councilman Marc Luker is a graduate of the University of California, Riverside (UCR) where he was a member of the Native American Student Association and an all-conference baseball player. At UCR, he obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry and would go on to obtain his teaching credential from Chapman University. Councilman Luker began his professional career as a teacher at Perris High School where he taught biology, physical science, honors chemistry, and coached varsity sports. Councilman Luker was first elected to the Pechanga Tribal Council in 2004. Councilman Luker’s previous teaching experience has shaped his interest in and commitment to enhancing the educational programs for Pechanga tribal children. He takes a great interest in ensuring that state-wide and nation-wide education programs reflect the true history and stories of Indian people. In 2006, Councilman Luker was selected by California State Superintendent of Public Instruction, to serve on the American Indian Education Oversight Committee. The committee’s main purpose is to provide input and advice to the Superintendent on all aspects of American Indian education programs established by the State. Councilman Luker was appointed to serve on the Santa Margarita River Watershed Steering Committee and to the Wolf Valley Ground Water Management Agreement’s Technical Committee. He has also worked to preserve the availability of ground water supply, increased the use of recycled water, and helped to enact the tribe’s first Recycled Water Ordinance.

Dr. Henrietta Mann

Southern Cheyenne

AISES Council of Elders

American Indian Science and Engineering Society

Ho’e-osta-oo-na’he, Tsetsehestaestse (Cheyenne), Dr. Henri Mann was the first individual to occupy the Katz Endowed Chair in Native American Studies at Montana State University, Bozeman, where she is Professor Emerita. She is the founding President of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College, and is now President Emerita. She has taught at the University of California, Berkeley; the University of Montana, Missoula; the Graduate School of Education, Harvard University; and Haskell Indian Nations University. In 1991, Rolling Stone Magazine named Dr. Mann as one of the ten leading professors in the nation. In 2008 she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Indian Education Association. The College Board, Native American Student Advocacy Institute (NASAI)
presented her with its first Lifetime Achievement Award in 2013, and has since created the Dr. Henrietta Mann Leadership Award to acknowledge and thank leaders for their advocacy in improving lives within native communities. In 2014 MONEY Magazine named her a MONEY Hero Award Winner, one of 50 Unsung Heroes/50 States, conferred for her extraordinary work with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College in improving the financial well-being of others. In 2016 Dr. Mann and Dr. K. T. Lomawaima became the first two Native American educational scholars ever to be elected to membership in the National Academy of Education. In 2017 Smith College conferred upon her the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, their citation reading in part: “You have said that your life has been ‘lived in the trenches of education with the goal of helping to create a just world in which indigenous cultures thrive and our youth learn what it is to be human.”

**Nancy McIntyre**

**Community Innovations Manager**  
**Robotics Education & Competition Foundation**

After a 23-year career as a teacher, administrator, coach, and robotics mentor and as a credentialed educator, Nancy has helped to develop the foundation’s online curriculum, the engineering notebooks, and has worked with teachers around the world to empower them to successfully incorporate VEX Robotics teams on their school campuses. Additional initiatives that Nancy has played a role in developing include the Online Challenges, the STEM Hall of Fame, Girl Powered and International Robotics Honor Society.

**Melvin Monette-Barajas**

**Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians**

**President and Chief Executive Officer**  
**Indigenous Education, Inc. Home of The Cobell Scholarship Program**

Melvin Monette opened Indigenous Education, Inc. in 2016 to administer the Cobell Scholarship Program on behalf of a group of special trustees. He has spent his career in American Indian student financial aid and scholarship provision. He is a Past President for the National Indian Education Association, member of the University of North Dakota Distinguished Native American Alumni, and serves as co-chair for the two Spirit Task Force for the National Congress of American Indians. Melvin and his husband John reside in Albuquerque, NM, where they enjoy their children, grandchildren, puppies, thrift stores and remodeling.

**Donald Motanic**

**Umatilla/Coeur d’Alene**

**Technical Specialist**  
**Intertribal Timber Council**

Don Motanic is an enrolled Umatilla Tribal member and earned his degree in forest engineering from the University of Washington in 1978. He lived and worked as a forester and manager with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for 34 years at the Yakama, Umatilla and Spokane Reservations and works with the Intertribal Timber Council as a technical specialist. Don has been an AISES member since 1981 and is past President with the nonprofit, Wisdom of the Elder’s.

**Jonathan Nez**

**Navajo**

**President of the Navajo Nation**  
**Navajo Nation**

Jonathan Nez currently serves as the President of the Navajo Nation and is the youngest person to have ever been elected President of the Navajo Nation. President Nez holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science and a Master of Public Administration, both from Northern Arizona University. He is the son of John H. Nez and Mabel H. Nez. His grandfather, H.T. Donald, was the former Navajo Nation Council Delegate for Shonto Chapter, and his grandmother was Mae Donald from Shonto. President Nez is of the Áshįįhí Clan (Salt People) and born for the Táheezhahni Clan (Tangle Clan). His maternal grandfather’s clan is Tódích’i’nii Clan (Bitter Water Clan) and his paternal grandfather’s clan is the Táchii’nii Clan (Red-Running-Into-The-Water Clan). President Nez started his term as president of the Navajo Nation on January 15, 2019. He also previously served as Vice President of the Navajo Nation from 2015 through the end of 2018. He also previously served as the Shonto Chapter Vice President, an elected member of the Navajo Nation Council representing the chapters of Shonto, Oljato, Tsah Bi Kin and Navajo Mountain, Navajo County Board of Supervisor for District 1, and Vice President of the Navajo Nation.

**Brandon Polingyumptewa**

**Hopi Tribe**

**Procurement Agent**  
**The Boeing Company**

Brandon Polingyumptewa entered the aerospace field at a time when very few natives were represented in STEM based careers. Brandon’s 24 year career in aerospace began at age nine when he toured the facility he continues to work in today. Brandon continues his journey to inspire and ignite the fire of STEAM in the hearts and minds of the next generation. He is the President of the Boeing American Indian Society, and is an AISES Sequoyah Fellow.

**Jennifer Roberts**

**Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma**

**Career Counselor**  
**Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma**

Jennifer is a career counselor for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Career Development STEM program. She has a Master’s degree in Mental Health Counseling and has worked for the Choctaw Nation for ten years. She is an AISES Sequoyah Fellow and is committed to helping tribal members in the STEM fields gain the necessary support needed to be successful.
Jayne Sandoval

Navajo

**U.S. Senior National Student Representative**

**Northern Arizona University**

Jayne is a senior majoring in Mechanical Engineering and Chinese Comparative Culture Studies with minors in Chinese and Mathematics at Northern Arizona University. She is from Pinon, a small community on the Navajo Reservation in the northern region of Arizona. On the reservation quality education is not available; therefore, she was sent hundreds of miles away to fulfill her desire for a greater education. Every weekend, after she returned back home to her reservation she noticed the poverty that impacted her community. The lack of basic living essentials (e.g., clean drinking water, electricity, and reliable food sources) created a hard lifestyle for not only her community members, but other rural Native Americans across the U.S. and Canada. Experiencing and hearing of the struggles of her community and others inspired her to find effective ways to bring basic necessities to these communities through sustainable “green” practices.

Georgia Sandoval

Navajo

**HPC Performance Architect**

**Intel Corporation**

Georgia Sandoval works for Intel Corporation in Santa Clara, CA. under the CORAL contract with Argonne National Labs and the Department of Energy, with a specific focus on high performance computing (HPC) systems performance and optimization. Her daily work environment entails application performance analysis and path-finding Intel’s future in HPC. She previously interned at Boeing and Raytheon where she conducted software testing. Georgia is Navajo from Tuba City, AZ.

Jack Soto

Navajo/Cocopah

**Sr Program Manager, Career Readiness & Employment**

**American Indian College Fund**

Jack Soto is Navajo of the Black-Streaked-Wood People and Copoh of the Mountain Lion Clan. He received his M.S. in Organizational Development and B.A. in Political Science in the School of Public Affairs at American University, where he was the Director of Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS). Much of his career and academic development is greatly influenced by his time with the National Indian Education Association with a current focus on Native student employment.

Erik Stegman

Carry the Kettle First Nation (Nakoda)

**Executive Director**

**Center for Native American Youth**

Erik R. Stegman, Carry the Kettle First Nation (Nakoda), is Executive Director at the Center for Native American Youth (CNAY) at the Aspen Institute. Before joining the CNAY team, Erik led field outreach and advocacy for the Poverty to Prosperity program at the Center for American Progress. Before American Progress, he served as majority Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs where he led the development of the Stand Against Violence and Empower (SAVE) Native Women Act, signed into law as part of the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization of 2013. Before joining the Senate, Erik was appointed in 2011 to serve as Policy Advisor at the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools. He began his career in Washington, D.C. at the National Congress of American Indians Policy Research Center. Erik holds a J.D. from UCLA School of Law, an M.A. in American Indian Studies from UCLA’s Graduate Division, and a B.A. from Whittier College.

Rick Stephens

Pala Band of Mission Indians

**Board Chair Emeritus**

**American Indian Science and Engineering Society**

Rick Stephens retired from The Boeing Company in April 2013 after 33 years. For eight years, he was the company Senior VP for Human Resources and Administration. Stephens received his B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Southern California and his M.S. in Computer Science from California State University. He is a former Marine Corps Officer and citizen of the Pala Band of Mission Indians and served as tribal chairman from 1988-1989.

Elizabeth Stroud

Cherokee Nation

**Undergraduate Student**

**NSU AISES Chapter**

Elizabeth (she/her(s)/they/them) is a senior at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, majoring in Political Science with a minor in Legal Studies.

Brielle Thorsen

Saddle Lake Cree Nation

**Canadian National Senior Student Representative**

**Queen's University**

Brielle was born and raised in Calgary, AB and is going into her fourth year of Applied Mathematics and Mechanical Engineering at Queen’s University. She is a registered member of Saddle Lake Cree Nation, and her family is from Goodfish Lake. She is a Team Alberta Rowing Alumni and since her retirement she has taken up crossfit and yoga. Her summer internship is with Defence Research and Development Canada and she is working at the Canadian Counter Terrorism and Technology Center as a student robotics engineer. She is passionate about helping others through STEM education, volunteer work, and athletics. During the school year she is an assistant coach for the Kingston Special Olympics Swim Club,
and she is one of the portfolio managers for the Reconcili-ACTION team of the Queen's chapter of Engineers Without Borders.

**Tishmall Turner**  
*Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians*  
**Vice Chairwoman**  
*Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians*

Tishmall Turner is a Tribal member of the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians and currently serving her second term as Vice Chair for the Tribe. Ms. Turner is also the first full time California Indian appointed as Tribal Liaison in the California State University System. She is responsible for coordinating activities that link California State University San Marcos to the many tribal communities in the region. She provides guidance and assistance to the University President and other University administrators, faculty and staff regarding tribal events, issues, educational needs, and protocol. She has also been instrumental in assisting faculty to establish the California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center at the University. Vice Chair Turner is a Council delegate to the Tribal Enterprise Board, which oversees the tribe's gaming business, Harrah’s Resort Southern CA, one of the largest tribal resort hotels in California. She also serves on the Palomar Health Foundation Board of Directors, the California Department of Social Services Tribal Advisory Council, and the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American Indian Advisory Council. Her professional memberships include the National Indian Education Association, Leadership North County Alumni Association, Leadership California Alumni, and an honorary member of the All Tribes American Indian Charter School Future Farmers of America. She has assisted in publishing children’s books and annual calendars in the Luiseño language. Ms. Turner holds Bachelor and Master Degrees in Business Administration.

**Amy Weinstein**  
*Chief Deputy Director*  
*American Indian Science and Engineering Society*

Amy Weinstein joined AISES in 2017 and serves as its Chief Deputy Director. Amy first worked at AISES in 1997 as its Internship Coordinator. In between now and then she completed an undergraduate degree in Native American Studies at the University of California, Davis and holds a Master of Public Administration degree with a concentration in Nonprofit Management from the University of Colorado, Denver. Ms. Weinstein joined AISES after a 13-year career as the Executive Director of the National Scholarship Providers Association (NSPA) where she led the organization into its role as a recognized resource for organizations and institution of higher education that give scholarships for higher education. Prior to her work at the NSPA, Amy held positions at the American Indian College Fund and the University of Colorado System and Boulder Campus. Amy is committed to creating equity in higher education. She is passionate about the transformative power of higher education and works in partnership with her colleagues to support students and professionals to achieve their STEM educational and career goals. Amy is from Boulder, Colorado and after ten years in California she returned to live in Longmont with her husband and their two dogs and cat, Delilah, Maceo and Simone. In her free time, Ms. Weinstein enjoys exploring the beautiful Rocky Mountains, exercising and practicing yoga.

**Beau Williams**  
*Cherokee*  
**IT Manager**  
*The Boeing Company*

Beau Williams was born in Baltimore, Maryland, grew up in rural West Virginia and completed a four-year tour of duty with the U.S. Army in 1989. He has completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Cultural Anthropology and Leadership and a Master’s degree in Whole Systems Design with a minor in Management at Antioch University, Seattle. Beau began his employment with The Boeing Company in 1997. He has held various positions in The Boeing Company’s Information Technology environment, most recently as Senior Manager of the Global Sourcing & Vendor Management. As a volunteer, Beau actively supports diversity initiatives that are primarily focused on the LGBTQI and Native American communities.

**Dr. Ke Wu**  
*Associate Professor*  
*University of Montana*

Dr. Ke Wu is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the University of Montana. Her scholarship work focuses on three areas: statistics education, statistical modeling, and mentorship. She is passionate about the social and psychological aspects of students and faculty members’ success in the broad fields of STEM as well as the facilitation of systemic and institutional changes to enhance the professional advancement of diverse students and faculty members. Dr. Wu teaches undergraduate mathematics courses and content courses for pre-service 5-12 grade mathematics teachers and K-8 grade teachers. She also teaches graduate courses to graduate and doctoral students, as well as in-service teachers who seek advanced degrees in mathematics. Dr. Wu mentors and supports diverse students to succeed in STEM education and career. She has been involved with multiple NSF-funded projects working with Indigenous peoples and communities.
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The AISES Board of Directors is governed by a volunteer board of directors that are elected by the AISES membership. The Board also includes National Student Representatives who attend all board meetings as non-voting members.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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  - Board Term: Nov. 2018 - Nov. 2021
- **Vice Chair** – Mike Laverdure, *Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa*
  - Board Term: Nov. 2019 - Nov. 2022
- **Board Secretary** – Amber Finley, *Three Affiliated Tribes*
  - Board Term: Nov. 2019 - Nov. 2022
- **Treasurer** – Dr. Grace Bulltail, *Crow and Three Affiliated Tribes*
  - Board Term: Nov. 2017 - Nov. 2020

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- **Barney “BJ” Enos** (*Gila River Indian Community*)
  - Board Term: Nov. 2017 - Nov. 2020
- **Kristina J. Halona** (*Navajo*)
  - Board Term: Nov. 2017 - Nov. 2020
- **Dr. Adrienne Laverdure** (*Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa*)
  - Board Term: Nov. 2017 - Nov. 2020
- **Shaun Tsabetsaye** (*Zuni Pueblo*)
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  - Board Term: Nov. 2019 - Nov. 2022
- **Andrea Delgado-Olson** (*Ione Band of Miwok Indians*)
  - Board Term: Nov. 2019 - Nov. 2022
- **Jodi DiLascio**
  - Board Term: Nov. 2019 - Nov. 2022
- **William Tiger** (*Miccosukee Indians of Florida*)
  - Board Term: Nov. 2019 - Nov. 2022
- **Immediate Past Chair** – **Rick Stephens** (*Pala Band of Mission Indians*)

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- **Jayne Sandoval** (*Navajo*)
  - Senior National Student Representative
- **Adrian Riives** (*Sault St. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians*)
  - Junior National Student Representative
- **Brielle Thorsen** (*Saddle Lake Cree Nation*)
  - Canadian Senior National Student Representative
- **Jacob Calderone** (*Fort Nelson First Nation*)
  - Canadian Junior National Student Representative
AISES Advisory Councils

AISES currently has eight Advisory Councils, the Corporate Advisory Council (CAC), Government Relations Council (GRC), Academic Advisory Council (AAC), Professional Chapter Council (PCC), Canadian Indigenous Advisory Council (CIAC), Tribal Nations Advisory Council (TNAC), Winds of Change (WOC) Editorial Advisory Council, and the Council of Elders. Each of these Councils play an important role in advising AISES in its work for their respective sectors; with the Council of Elders advising the board and the organization on traditional and cultural matters.

- **Academic Advisory Council (AAC) Chair**
  Dr. Mary Jo Ondrechen *(Mohawk)*, Northeastern University

- **Canadian Indigenous Advisory Council (CIAC) Co-Chairs**
  Melanie Howard *(Mohawk, Kanehsatake)*, Queen's University
  Dennis Michaelson, Ph.D. *(Métis-Cree, Métis Nation of Ontario)*, Western University

- **Corporate Advisory Council (CAC) Co-Chairs**
  Laurence Brown *(Navajo)*, Sandia National Labs
  Christopher J. Payne *(Cherokee)*, The Boeing Company

- **Council of Elder Members**
  Dr. Bret R. Benally Thompson *(White Earth Ojibwe)*
  Antoinelle Benally Thompson *(Navajo)*
  Steve Darden *(Navajo/Cheyenne/Swedish)*
  Rose Darden *(Navajo/Ute)*
  Norbert Hill, Jr. *(Oneida)*
  Phil Lane, Jr. *(Yankton Dakota/Chickasaw)*
  Stan Lucero *(Laguna Pueblo)*
  Cecelia Lucero *(Acoma Pueblo)*
  Dr. Henrietta Mann *(Southern Cheyenne)*
  Faith Spotted Eagle *(Ihanktonwan Band of the Dakota/Nakota/Lakota Nation of South Dakota)*

- **Government Relations Council (GRC) Co-Chairs**
  Marcellus Proctor *(Piscataway-Conoy)*, National Aeronautics and Space Administration
  James Daugomah *(Kiowa)*, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
  Noller Herbert *(Navajo)*, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

- **Professional Chapter Council (PCC) Chair**
  Joe Connolly *(Haudenosaunee of the Onondaga Nation)*, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

- **Tribal Nations Advisory Council (TNAC) Chair**
  John Lewis *(Gila River Indian Community)*, Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority

- **Winds of Change (WOC) Editorial Advisory Council Members**
  Hehewutei “Cody” Amakali, Exxon Mobil
  Brittany Anderson, University of Colorado
  Dr. Grace Bulltail, Cornell University
  Joe Connolly, National Aeronautics and Space Administration
  Katherine Crocker
  Kayla DeVault, Arizona State University
  Sheridan Evans, University of Oklahoma
  Daniel R. Howard, University of New Hampshire
  Melanie Howard, Queen's University
  Laurel James, University of Washington
  Lisa Oxendine, Methodist University
  Al Qo'yawma, AISES Co-founder
  Isaiah Sato
  Althea Walker, Arizona State University
  Lynette Wasson
AISES Student Representatives

- **Region 1**
  Brook Thompson *(Yurok Tribe)*, Portland State University

- **Region 2**
  Desiree Brazeau *(Seneca Nation of New York)*, Loma Linda University

- **Region 3**
  Katherine Jacobs *(Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians)*, Arizona State University

- **Region 4**
  Adarius Begay *(Navajo)*, University of Oklahoma

- **Region 5**
  Makayla Mather *(Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska)*, University of North Dakota

- **Region 6**
  Abigail Reignier *(Comanche Nation)*, Rochester Institute of Technology

- **Region 7**
  McKalee Steen *(Cherokee Nation)*, Vanderbilt University

- **U.S. Senior National Representative**
  Jayne Sandoval *(Navajo)*, Northern Arizona University

- **U.S. Junior National Representative**
  Adrian Riives *(Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians)*, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

- **Canadian Senior National Representative**
  Brielle Thorsen *(Saddle Lake Cree Nation)*, Queen’s University

- **Canadian Junior National Representative**
  Jacob Calderone *(Fort Nelson First Nation)*, Queen’s University

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Angelika Silva, Director of Accounting & Human Resources
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