



AIR Newsletter



SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Special points of interest:

- Semester completes for two of our programs
- AIR Sr. film review
- AIR Jr presentation review



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AIR Jr. and AIR Sr. final meetings—Thank you for a great Semester

In concluding this semester, for these two programs, we must give credit to all those who have helped us throughout this semester. In this particular case, we first thank the community members that promoted our programs by bringing our students to our programs and assisting us in our development. You folks have made our program the success it was this semester. For those who may not realize, these dedicated community members drove our students 10 to 50 miles (one way) to bring them to our program. Truly, you can see the commitment and character of these people who care for our American Indian communities.

We must also give exceptional thanks to our mentors who have volunteered their time to bring our workshops, tutor, and mentor our students. It is great to know that within our colleges and universities our future leaders are taking great strides in helping all our communities through un-selfish community service that will promote our future leaders in becoming the best that they can be.

This year, has been a year of many “*Firsts*” within our program. It was the first time we have been funded (and the difference is that our success has skyrocketed—we thank the **Administration for Native Americans**). We attempted 3 programs this semester (with great strain but we have had success in our application) and this Monday we conclude two of them. Our program has partnered with 4 universities and colleges (SDSU AIS, USD, UCSD, and Palomar College). We have also partnered with many of our American Indian Organizations in San Diego County (IHRC, SCAIR, SDIC, San Pasqual Indian Education, IHS Rincon NARCH, and Santa Ysabel Social Services). So many programs and institutions that have all combined to be our AIR Program. Truly, our success is the overall success of these combined institutions that have determined to bring the success to our American Indian Community.

We cannot say enough for all these programs and people that have made our programs successful. But our true thanks comes from our students who after many great field trips and learning experiences they will leave with the possibility of hope and a promise of a greater future. Thank you, to all those who have been involved within our program.

AIR Sr. News

The semester is coming to a close and all our filming and editing is complete. The objective of the semester program was to research cancer and to record our findings through film. Our overall goal was to use this research to familiarize the students with our university's research facilities, motivate and promote higher education, give workshops on pursuing higher education, and help tutor our students toward their academic success. Our big moment occurs this Monday when we get to review our films.

We are sure that academy awards will be issued as a result of these great performances. As a result of this we will post some of the films (mini-films/video) on our website and invite the community to see an example of what the students have done. We realize that we have had only a handful of hours to research but based on all we wanted to accomplish these will be great to watch.



AIR Sr. students editing film at USD



Students at SDSU

AIR Jr. News

On our next to last meeting for AIR Jr. we went to San Diego State University to visit the Astronomy lab. This is fantastic stuff as the speaker gave us great information on everything dealing with the stars and our universe. Discussions ranged from the biggest telescope (maybe the one in Puerto Rico) to Dionne Warwick (astrology-ha). The speaker compared many of the early views of the solar system from the Greeks to some of our Native American Tribes.

In fact many of our Native American Tribes were able to use the stars to determine the seasons and time to plant and harvest. This is what made our cultures so great and significant. Today, some of our colleges and universities adopt their ideas in examination of the stars which has led to greater global understanding of our solar system.

Overall, this semester, we have tried to show our students professions that have been derived from our higher education institutions. We hope that this may motivate and lead to our students pursuit within the educational realm.

This Tuesday will be our last meeting and we will be able to see the power point presentations that the students developed as a result of these experiences. Some will be posted to show what we have accomplished this semester.



Students at SDSU Astronomy Lab

Thank You Anna Prochter for your help!

We just wanted to thank Anna Prochter for all her help within our program. She will be leaving us in May in pursuit of her teaching credential and we wish her the best.

We will always be thankful for your time and leadership within our program.



Left: students at SDSU Above: Anna and students



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PALOMAR COLLEGE
Learning for Success



AIR Leadership and Juvenile Justice Forum

More and more research for our Leadership students. One of the objectives within the leadership forum is to have the students think outside the confines of American Indian ideals and understand the concepts of the non-Indian community. By doing this they can now conceptualize what our American Indian communities will have to combat in order for our community to retain what remains of our culture and sovereignty.

We examined the three Cherokee cases (sometimes called the Marshal trilogy) that defined Federal Indian Law. Next we used the "ex Parte Crow Dog" case to understand them and understand where we stand in the context of the Federal and State Governments. This led to the discussion on why we are at odds with the states, why we have gaming, and Indian Health Services.

This upcoming week we will be going to the Southern California Tribal Courts office in Escondido, CA., to speak with a Tribal Judge. For the Judge, we are prepared with many questions that we will give to him to answer.



The AIR Program is a proud recipient of the Administration for Native Americans Grant



Above: USD Professor Jacob