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NEBRASKA  
INDIAN  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

SUMMER  
2019  
NEWSLETTER



SANTEE

MACY







# SPRING 2019

## Powwow and Graduation Ceremony

### NICC Hosts Powwow and Graduation Ceremony for 2019 Spring Graduates

On Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> 2019, NICC held it's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Graduation powwow in honor of it's Spring 2019 Graduates. At 5:00 pm Grand Entry began, and flags representing Umo<sup>o</sup>ho<sup>n</sup> (carried by Allvin Parker) and Isanti (carried by DeWayne Wabasha) tribes were carried in. The powwow consisted of honor songs, inter-tribal, women's traditional (in honor of Alice Saunsoci), as well as others. Students were also honored with a feathering ceremony. The event was MC'd by Garan Coons and AD'd by Shannon Leroy. Host drums were Maza Kute and Bad Nation. The Head Man was Casey Saul, and the Head Lady was Crystal Ross. A meal was also provided and served by NICC Faculty and Staff.

Pictured at top of page: Female dancers walking in at Grand Entry. Pictured at bottom right: NICC friends and family embracing one another during honor song





Pictured above: The Umo<sup>ho</sup> flag being carried in during Grand Entry by Allvin Parker. Darrell Grant holding the traditional flag. DeWayne Wabasha carries in the Isanti flag.



Pictured above: Bad Nation drumming during the Graduation and 40<sup>th</sup> Anniverary Powwow.



Pictured above: NICC Faculty and Staff observing the powwow, proud of their graduates.

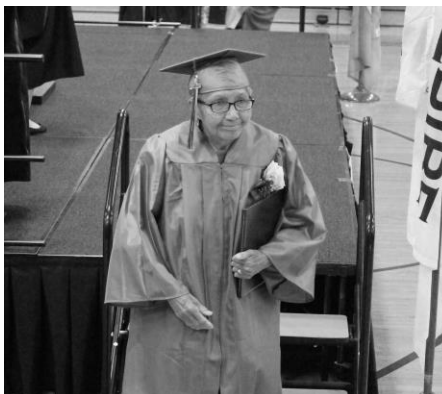




## Spring 2019 Powwow and Graduation Ceremony (ctd.)

Graduation took place the following day, Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 10:00 AM at Umo'ho'n Nation Public School in Macy. The graduates were led in by Traditional Dancers, Donelle and Dustin Lovejoy with Bad Nation on drums. Speakers included: President Dr. Michael Oltrogge (President's Acclamation and Acceptance of Class of 2019), Anthony Warrior (Valedictorian and Student of the Year), Dr. Jeff Hart (University of Nebraska Faculty Emeritus and Commencement Speaker), Academic Dean, Dr. Kristine Sudbeck (Conferral of Degrees), and Derek LaPointe in stead of Roger Trudell (Blessing of the Meal). Winona "Hawatay" Caramony was also honored as Faculty of the Year. The ceremony concluded with the Honor Song and Recession by Bad Nation and Traditional Dancers, Donelle and Dustin Lovejoy.

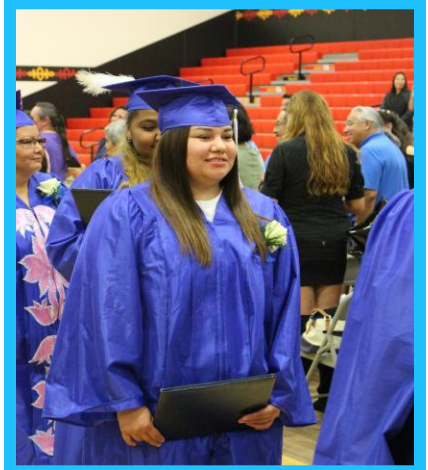
Pictured top: Graduates exiting the graduation ceremony, diplomas in hand. Pictured bottom left: Janelle Wolf walking offstage with her degree in Human Services in hand. Pictured bottom middle: Susan French shaking hands with President Dr. Michael Oltrogge, as well as Marcella Clark walking offstage after receiving her degree. Pictured bottom right: Ana Hahn all smiles after receiving her degree in Early Childhood Education.



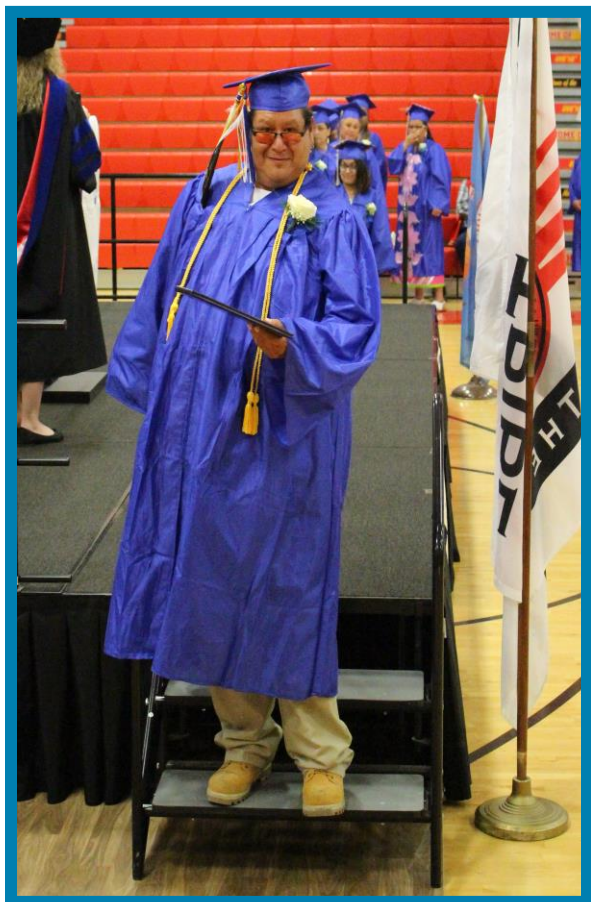


# Spring 2019 Powwow and Graduation Ceremony (ctd.)

Graduates from Macy Campus included: Early Childhood Education- HopeAnne Merrick and Isha M. Morris, General Liberal Arts- Susan French, Inessa Lyons, and Marcella S. Clark, Human Services with a Community Counseling emphasis- Christina M. Parker, and Yvette M. Doty, and Human Services Counseling with an emphasis in Alcohol & Drug Counseling- Janelle W. Wolfe Graduates from Santee Campus included: Business with an Administration and Marketing emphasis- Anthony L. Warrior, Early Childhood Education- Christine R. Bickerstaff, and General Science Studies- Lorraine M. Smith. Graduates from South Sioux City Campus included: Business Administration- Marcus Redwing, Early Childhood Education- Ana M. Hahn, and General Liberal Arts- Gerardo Garcia-Dobbs Jr. Recipients of the Nurse Aid Certificate were also honored including: Santee- Jamie Good Bird (Saunsoci) and Twila Rouillard, and Macy- Jae McCauley, Keeley May McCauley, and Sonya Elena Webster.



Pictured above (clockwise, from top left): Omaha Tribal Chairman Isaac Sherman, Santee-Sioux Tribal Treasurer Derek LaPointe in stead of Santee-Sioux Tribal Chairman Roger Trudell, Keynote Speaker Dr. Jeff Hart, Academic Dean Dr. Kristine Sudbeck, President Dr. Michael Oltrogge, Board of Directors (Diane LaPointe, Cheryl Kitto, and Danielle LaPointe of Santee Sioux Nation, and Linda Robinson and Wynema Morris of Omaha Nation; Faculty smudging, Inessa Lyons holding her degree in General Liberal Arts, Lorraine "Maddy" Smith shaking hands with President Oltrogge, Hopeanne Merrick giving Dr. Kristine a hug.



Pictured above: Student of the Year, Anthony Warrior walking offstage after earning his Business Administration degree. Warrior plans on attending Wayne State College in the Fall 2019 term with a degree in Business Management.

Pictured below: NICC's Spring 2019 Graduates exiting the Commencement Ceremony.



## STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Graduate Anthony Warrior was honored as NICC's Student of the Year and Valedictorian. He graduated Magna Cum Laude with a 3.92 GPA, as well as Deans List honors. Warrior enrolled at Santee's Campus in Fall of 2017 and graduated in two years with a Business Administration degree. "He was a joy to have in the classroom," says Business Professor, Jerome Proctor, "because he brought a lot of experience to the classroom."

New Wayne State College student, Warrior also runs a catering business called Warrior's Palette. Chef Anthony shared his recipe for success in his graduation speech, adding the ingredients necessary to create one hot dish of success.

### How do you decide to enroll at NICC?

My educational journey began 20 years ago. Then I took a break, and I entered the work force. I worked my way up through management... I applied for an executive position and was denied because I did not have a degree. We were getting ready to go up to Minnesota for a job, and I wanted to spend more time with the family. My mom said, 'Why don't you go to NICC?' Even my wife, when she found out I didn't get it because of the degree, she really pushed me. So I made the choice to take a step back and solidify the knowledge that I already had and add the education to it.

### What challenges did you face while at NICC and how did you overcome them?

One of the biggest challenges was the fear of going back to school, particularly the financial aid process. The biggest thing for overcoming the financial aid part was the help of the staff that got me through the process. After that, it was pretty smooth sailing for the next two years... it took stress off my journey.

### What activities were you involved in at NICC?

I did AIHEC my first year. I also got to work on the KZYK Radio. I got to cook at the school, which was a big, big plus. I got to network my catering business with the school and community. I got to center in on my business plan, and I got a better understanding of my market approach.

### What was one of your most memorable moments at NICC?

I think the most memorable thing was when I was told nonchalantly that I was valedictorian. Then a week before graduation... someone came up to me and asked what I was going to do for my speech. I was like, "What speech?" (laughs). Also, when I got my first dean's list letter.

### What advice would you give students who want to get involved in school but aren't sure how?

The main thing about it is keeping your communications open to be able to find solutions to every step of your process. Once you obtain that associates degree to see that it's powerful in its own way.

### What's next?

A bachelor's degree in Business Management at Wayne State, and a long-term goal is to enter back into the corporate world with the bachelor's degree that enhances my experience.



# Remembering Winona “Hawatay” Caramony

Described by countless students as irreplaceable, Winona "Hawatay" Caramony was awarded Faculty of the Year at Spring 2019's Commencement. Although she was not able to attend the event, her impact was evident by her students walking across the stage to receive their diplomas.

The following month, she left this world on June 20th, 2019 at age 94. Known affectionately as Grandma Winona, Hawatay's life is remembered through her passion and dedication to her students, community, and the Umoꞛhoꞛ language. In addition to teaching at NICC, Hawatay taught at Head Start for many years, served as a judge on Omaha's tribal court, and served as a member of Umoꞛhoꝼ Nation Public School's Board of Education. Her love of learning, language, and culture was shared with so many around her. On November 16, 2018, Hawatay was able to share the importance of language preservation far beyond the reaches of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska. She spoke at the Red Nation International Film Festival's award ceremony, where the documentary she had taken part in, "UmoNhoN Iye, The Omaha Speaking," had won Best Documentary Film.

Hawatay dedicated her life to education and preserving the Omaha language. Her impact can be seen across generations: from children missing their Grandma Winona to students moving to advanced language classes to community members pursuing life-long learning at any age. Hawatay is irreplaceable, and NICC hopes to honor her for generations to come.

Pictured top right: Grandma Winona at Macy campus. Pictured middle right: Grandma Winona and Wynema enjoying some time with NICC's Student Billing Vanessa Hamilton's grandson, Roman. Pictured bottom right: Grandma Winona with advanced language learner, Karen Tyndall and Dr. Sudbeck in the language room at Macy's campus.





Pictured above: Terrence "Terry" Easter was welcomed 2/17/2019. Terry's mom, Adrianna Duarte is a student at NICC, and his grandmother is Terri Grant-Wabasha, Santee's Student Services Advisor. He's pictured here with his older brother, Jerrod Jr. AKA Chaske. Duarte adds, "I hope to instill a positive perspective about school for both my children. I want them to understand that knowledge is power. So, no matter where or how, never stop going. Our youth is our future... We need change in our community. We set the example and our kids will follow."

Pictured below: Academic Dean, Dr. Kristine Sudbeck is all smiles with her future NICC student due in October.



Pictured on right: Cade Allen Grant born on 2/18/2019. Cade's mom, Sandra 'Winonah' Wilch is NICC's Vocational Counselor. From having his gender reveal party at NICC, Cade already has lots of love here. We also have to add that he has lots of style in his new NICC onesie.



## Future NICC Students

Several students, faculty, and employees welcomed little ones this semester or will be doing so shortly. We can't wait to see these little ones grow into future students and leaders in their communities.



Pictured above: We can't forget our older kids! Wilch's older sons Carter (stroller), Cole (kneeling), and Caleb (standing) are always willing to help out at parades. The kids in the truck are also part of the NICC family, including Crystal Ross's, the Student Services Advisor at Macy, son and Marcia Robertson's, NICC's Human Resource Director, grandson Jasper (standing in truck), who helps out with every recruiting event he can.

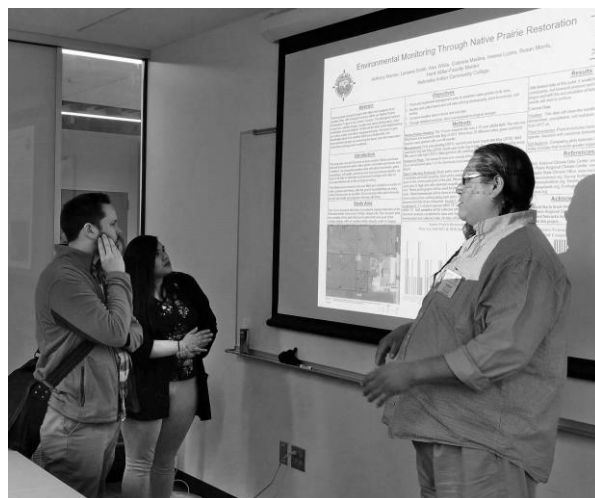




## NICC's NASA Students Present at Nebraska Academy of Sciences

On April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, NICC students presented their research at the Nebraska Academy of Sciences in Lincoln. The yearly conference focuses on scientific research, particularly emphasizing environmental research. NICC's NASA students worked on their grant-funded project throughout the year, and presented via poster presentation. Students were also able to see other scientific research throughout Nebraska. "[It's important to] give the students an opportunity to not only work on their presentation skills, but more importantly to see what everyone else is researching," says Dasha Weatherman, a Science Professor at NICC.

The students were provided stipends throughout the year, as well as quality research experience of their own, including a prairie restoration project. Weatherman adds, "They also like to socialize and spend time together as a cohort and build those personal bonds with each other". For those interested, "Students can be from any field, but need to sign up for NASA Fellow and be approved in March of the previous school year," says Weatherman.



Top photo (left to right): Hank Miller, Inessa Lyons, Gabrielle Medina, Brook Cayou, Susan Morris, LaVonne Snake, Dasha Weatherman, and Anthony Warrior. Bottom photo: Anthony Warrior presents his research.

# 2019 AIHEC Brings Student Excitement for Following Year

The 2019 American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) was held on March 16-19<sup>th</sup> in Billings, Montana. NICC students, Lucinda Sparks, Jennifer Ross, Kassie Phillips, David Walker, and Anthony Sharpfish attended. NICC staff and AIHEC coaches Crystal Ross, College Recruiter, and Carlton Edwards, Native American Studies Professor, also attended. The students were kept busy during the event with a wide variety of activities including: a t-shirt exchange, poetry slam, pow-wow, music and dancing, archery, art, handgames, knowledge bowl, and video games.

NICC was quick to get involved. Lucinda Sparks entered the artshow, and NICC performed in the knowledge bowl as well. Four students competed in archery, earning high marks: Kassie Phillips placed 11<sup>th</sup>, Anthony Sharpfish placed 19<sup>th</sup>, Lucinda Sparks placed 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Jennifer Ross placed 31<sup>st</sup>. David Walker also made it to the final four for the video game NBA 2k19. Another individual win was Anthony Sharpfish who received a chess win in only three moves.

The NICC students truly showcased teamwork in the handgames. Ross, Sparks, Sharpfish, Phillips, and Walker were allowed to compete with only five players instead of six. After an undefeated first night of hand games, NICC had a back and forth following day of close games. Despite being short a player, NICC ended up placing 4<sup>th</sup> overall. Coaches commented at the players sportsmanship and enthusiasm during handgames, and even pointed out some new fans cheering on NICC. (Continued on following page).

Pictured top (left to right): Crystal Ross, Carlton Edwards, Lucinda Sparks, Kassie Phillips, Jennifer Ross, and Anthony Sharpfish representing NICC and enjoying the Parade of Flags from tribes and tribal colleges across the country. Pictured middle (left to right): Lucinda Sparks, Carlton Edwards, Jennifer Ross, Anthony Sharpfish, Kassie Phillips, David Walker, and Crystal Ross all smiles. Pictured bottom (clockwise from bottom): Crystal Ross, Jennifer Ross, Carlton Edwards, David Walker, Anthony Sharpfish, Kassie Phillips, and Lucinda Sparks enjoying a photo op.





# 2019 AIHEC Brings Student Excitement for Following Year ctd.

Other highlights of the trip included the drive up to Montana, which included visiting: the Dignity: of Earth and Sky sculpture, Bear Butte spiritual site, and Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument.

Both coaches and students alike were excited to share about AIHEC- from the games to the sights to the people. "It was my first time traveling to Montana. When we got to Montana I couldn't believe how beautiful it was seeing a different place... I was able to meet a lot of people from all over the states." Already excited for next year, Walker says, "I hope we can get more students involved in next year's AIHEC trip. It's an experience that I will never forget, and I really look forward to going to next year's conference."

Pictured top: AIHEC students competing in archery. Pictured middle (clockwise from left): David Walker, Carlton Edwards, Anthony Sharpfish, Jennifer Ross, and Kassie Phillips after participating in the Knowledge Bowl. Pictured bottom right: Mom, Crystal Ross, and daughter, Kassie Phillips, ready to begin AIHEC after getting their gear. Pictured Bottom: Crystal Ross and Anthony Sharpfish carrying NICC's flag at the Parade of Flags.



Press release from Humboldt Forum Im Berliner Schloss  
Berlin, 4 June 2019

## Against the current: Francis La Flesche and the “Umónhon” (Omaha)

An inside look at preparations for one of the first temporary exhibitions

The **Humboldt Forum** will launch five temporary **exhibitions** in late 2020, including one conjointly with the **Nebraska Indian Community College** and **members of the Umónhon**, one of 573 federally recognised Native Nations in the United States located in North-eastern Nebraska and Western Iowa. Representatives are currently on their second working visit to Berlin. A **press workshop conversation** with them today provided some preliminary **insights** into the **principle of the temporary exhibitions** and the **specific preparations** being made for them. All those interested can engage in a **personal dialogue** with representatives of the NICC and Umónhon on **6 June 2019** as part of the *Long Night of Ideas*.

The first of the temporary exhibitions falling within the remit of the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss will be developed using objects from the collection of the Ethnologisches Museum of the SMB: while some of the exhibits will be on display for the first time, all of them will respond to various current issues, one of which relates to the provenance of the objects. The exhibitions are currently being devised by the SHF and SMB together with a range of primarily international partners in a process that is designed to be open-ended.

For the general director of the Humboldt Forum, Hartmut Dorgerloh, the temporary exhibitions are a clear example of “how we want to work at the Humboldt Forum. It is not the case that we determine the narrative ourselves; rather, we work closely together with communities in the countries of origin to develop a concept, engaging in a constant process of exchange – which means that the outcome is also open. I am looking forward to seeing the results.”

An insight into one such process came out of a workshop conversation conducted today with Ilja Labischinski, lead-curator of the exhibition on Francis La Flesche and the “Umónhon” (Omaha), and Pierre Merrick, Wynema Morris and Glenna Slater (Umónhon) . The temporary exhibition with the working title *Against the Current: Francis La Flesche and the Umónhon* will be showing around sixty objects from the Umonhon. The objects are connected by a very special history. From 1894 to 1898, the indigenous



ethnologist Francis La Flesche compiled the collection representing “his own Umónho<sup>n</sup> [Omaha] culture” on behalf of the then Berlin Museum für Völkerkunde, today the Ethnologisches Museum of the SMB. It is the earliest example of selfrepresentation on the part of an indigenous North American culture. Today the objects in the collection are the connecting link between past and present and the historical starting point for a new chapter in the relationship between the Umonhon and Berlin.

According to Lars-Christian Koch, director of collections for the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin im Humboldt Forum, “The joint work with the Nebraska Indian Community College and representatives of the Umónhon on these unique holdings is a perfect illustration of how important historical collections at the Ethnologisches Museum still are today and exemplifies the wealth of possibilities offered by exhibitions devised in collaboration with societies of origin. These cooperations have been a fixture in the work of the Ethnologisches Museum for many years and will also be a characteristic feature of the Humboldt Forum. The exchange of information and knowledge makes it possible for us to reconstruct the former significance and function of particular objects, to incorporate current interpretations and perspectives and thus recontextualise and reorganize the collections accordingly.”

The past and present of the Umónhon is shaped by their experience of racism, violence and land loss. The collection in Berlin is of special importance in this context, as it provides evidence of resistance against colonialism. It is an opportunity to reconnect with the ancestors and their way of life and to look and present their history with pride. Today, the exhibition is, above all, a means to convey their core message: “We are still here!”

Visitors will gain an insight into the world views espoused by the Umónhon, which will also be reflected in the architecture and design of the exhibition. As part of the **Long Night of Ideas** on 6 June 2019, the public is invited to meet representatives of the NICC and the Umónhon and watch films offering insights into their language and culture. For more information, please visit: [humboldtforum.com/en/events](http://humboldtforum.com/en/events)

The **temporary exhibitions at the Humboldt Forum** will open in late 2020 on the 2nd and 3rd floors. Together with the adjoining “intro rooms”, they will be under the responsibility of the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss. The spaces allocated to the temporary exhibitions and the intro rooms together comprise some 3,500 m<sup>2</sup>. They will be located between the permanent exhibitions organized by the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst (Asian Art Museum) of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin (SMB), which occupy an area of approximately 14.000 m<sup>2</sup>.

**Press images** [humboldtforum.org/press](http://humboldtforum.org/press)

**The Nebraska Indian Community College**, founded in 1973, provides post-secondary education on three campuses: on the Umónhon and Santee Sioux reservations and in South Sioux City, Nebraska. For the past forty-six years, the Nebraska Indian Community College has been and remains dedicated to providing higher education through unique and culturally relevant educational experiences. These experiences are geared toward all Umónhon (Omaha), Isanti (Santee Dakota), and any learners attending classes at one of our three campuses.

As the largest actor in the Humboldt Forum, **the Ethnologisches Museum** of the SMB will offer a comprehensive overview of the world's art and cultures that spans the ages as well as the continents and promises to open up new perspectives on the past and present cultures of Africa, the Americas, Asia, Australia and Oceania. The Ethnologisches Museum also intends to scrutinize and critically assess the legacy and consequences of colonial rule and the role played by Europe. The museum's goal is to stimulate interest in interaction and intercultural encounters and to promote a deeper understanding among the peoples of the world.

Inspired by the eponymous Alexander and Wilhelm von Humboldt and their delight in exploring the world and comprehending it as a system linking nature and culture in myriad ways, the **Humboldt Forum** will establish a new venue for experience, learning and encounter in the heart of Berlin. The organizations participating in the Humboldt Forum are the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz with the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Kulturprojekte Berlin and Stadtmuseum Berlin, and the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, with the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss at the helm.



# NICC Excels in a “Friendly Competition” of Handgames

NICC staff and students put their Umoho knowledge to the test against UNO's Umónhon Language class taught by Glenna Slater. Described by Vanessa Hamilton as, “friendly competition”, handgames were fun to be had by all. Hamilton explained that to prepare for the event both schools learned Umoho terms for each part of the handgames. NICC was the first one to win 4 games (or best out of 7), and they walked away with the winning buffalo (pictured below).



Pictured top right: Kristine Sudbeck, Vanessa Hamilton, and Marcia Robertson proudly holding the winning bison. Pictured top left: Robertson at the start of a new game with Monica Cook. Sititng at the table is Julia Wolf, Fran Vogel Peterson, Josphe Harlan, and Bryan Gordon. Pictured middle left: Mike Berger photographing Malcom Tyndall and Michael Littlecloud as they compete against Monica Cook and Dwight Robertson. Pictured bottom left: David Esau and Douglas Esau with The Young Bucks singing at the drum. Pictured bottom right: Joseph Harlan, MC, encourages players from the head table.



# NICC Gear Day!

NICC students and staff showed their school pride by dressing up in their favorite NICC gear. Organized by Crystal Ross, the three campuses got into school spirit and even showed off some of their favorite swag, which were a big hit for summer recruiting events.

Pictured top left: Macy campus showing off their NICC pride. Pictured top right: South Sioux City campus breaking out the mascot outfit. Pictured bottom: Santee campus showing off recruitment fans.







Pictured top: NICC intern Riley Galvin.

# NICC has a Successful Summer of Student Interns

"I didn't know what I wanted to do before, but now .... I know" stated Riley Galvin, a 2019 summer student intern, who was part of the Paid Internships at NICC this spring and summer. Through the internships, Riley and ten other students worked for pay and college credits while learning new skills and assisting with community and college projects. Riley worked with youth at the Omaha Nation Prevention Center. Tyler Grant and Kenneth Carufel worked maintenance and carpentry at Omaha Nation Housing and NICC. Anthony Warrior, Inessa Lyons, and Alex White helped with customer service and student services at NICC campuses in Santee and Macy. Janelle Wolfe and Terri Grant worked on hours toward their Provisional Licenses for Drug and Alcohol counseling. Archives and Language are part of the mission of NICC, and Donald Grant and Jennifer Ross supported the Language department at the Macy campus.

The grant for Paid Internship is supported under the umbrella of Project Success, which is funded by Ascendium through a Federal Student Aid grant. This grant project is expected to continue for another three years at NICC.

Following our best practices, NICC will continue to run these internships for one-year periods which allow students to have fiscal stability while they are attending school. NICC reported 100% retention on our first two groups of students that were part of the start-up of this grant project.

Paid Internships are an amazing opportunity to support the capacity of NICC and to fiscally support NICC students. If you would like to hear more about the paid interns at NICC or if your company is interested in hosting a paid intern, please contact Dawne Price 402-241-5908.

Riley Galvin summed it up best. "I would definitely recommend this internship to someone," she says.

## A new addition to the Macy Campus awaits students and community members for the fall semester.

A major construction project on the Macy campus has added the new North Wing Addition to the Macy Campus building. The multi-year project is providing critical additional space for the Macy Campus and will feature a new and improved library facility with a research room and archive, GED services office, Early Childhood Education lab, additional classroom space for courses, student study space and faculty offices.

The \$976,500 construction project was made possible by grant funding from the Rural Development Tribal Facilities Grant program, Department of Education Title III grant program, and additional cash match funding from Nebraska Indian Community College.

Pictured top right: Exterior of new wing. Pictured middle right: Construction crew finishing interior work. Pictured bottom right: Exterior view of new wing.



## New VTC Classroom enhancements ready for NICC Fall Students

A Video Teleconferencing Classroom “makeover” was completed for 6 NICC VTC classrooms at the Santee, Macy and South Sioux City campuses over the summer. NICC was awarded a grant for the NICC Video Teleconferencing (VTC) classroom enhancement renovation project by the generous support of The Sherwood Foundation Capital Grant Program.

The new tables are specially designed for VTC classroom instruction to enhance student experience and provide compatibility with modern technology necessary in the modern classroom. New chairs, designed for use with VTC systems, that accompany the new tables enhance the new design look to the VTC classrooms. This project provides classroom uniformity for technology systems and seating views for students and faculty users.

Pictured top left: The new VTC in Macy. Pictured bottom left: New VTC system in Sout Sioux City.





# NICC Student and Faculty Complete Summer Internship with Department of Defense in New Mexico

NICC's Division Head of Math and Science, Hank Miller, and NICC student, Estelle Farley, participated in a ten-week-long internship in White Sands, New Mexico. The "2019 Department of Defense Faculty/Student Fellow Research Team Program" ran from June 1<sup>st</sup> through August 14<sup>th</sup>, and was sponsored by AIHEC and the Department of Defense. Miller and Farley's internship was with White Sands Army Research Lab in the Chihuahuah Desert. While in New Mexico, Miller and Farley studied atmospheric influences on ground ecology in arid environments. They learned new ways to examine and monitor the environment, as well as weather and atmospheric relations with ecology. The fellows research team also developed new statistical methods to analyze and plot data. The two presented their research at the 2019 Department of Defense Summer Research Symposium in Aberdeen, Maryland on July 27<sup>th</sup>-August 1<sup>st</sup>, as well as did a final presentation over VTC for the Army Research Lab in Delphi, Maryland on August 14<sup>th</sup>.



Pictured left: Farley posing with her research presentation. Pictured middle: Farley with Monique Carver and Elliot Burns from Navajo Technical University, who were also presenting at the symposium in Maryland. Pictured right: Farley standing outside of the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

# Q and A with Student Services

**Q: I want to go to school, but I'm not sure where to start. What do I do?**

**A:** Start asking questions. What do you want to do? What are your interests? What's your passion? Think about the things you are passionate about and those passions could combine with school and a future career. When it comes to getting started, fill out an application. Then, take it one step at a time with your student services representative. -Terri Grant, Student Services at Santee Campus

**Q: How do I know what classes to take?**

**A:** Once you've declared a major, we look at your degree audit based on the classes you've already taken and those you still need. For people that are undecided, we start in generals and make decisions based on interest, course content, and available. – Terri Grant, Student Services at Santee Campus

**Q: I'm not sure what I want to study. Is that okay?**

**A:** If you are not sure what to study it is best to start the first year as a General Liberal Arts student. This way you can take required classes that are needed for all degrees, such as English, Math, Science etc.. Usually within that first year you will generally have an idea what type of degree you want to pursue. – Alvin Parker, Student Services at South Sioux City Campus

**Q: Are there opportunities to learn outside the classroom?**

**A:** Yes, NICC has internships available, on and off campus. NICC also participates with AIHEC-American Indian Higher Education Consortium, where students from Tribal Colleges and Universities come together to compete in Academic and Sports challenges. Interested students need to take the AIHEC course in the Fall semester and take at least 9 credit hours in the Spring semester. Usually takes place in mid-March. – Crystal Ross, College Recruiter at Macy Campus

**Q: I work during the day. Are there night or online classes?**

**A:** Yes, depending on what degree program you are interested in. We do offer evening and online classes. Some of the online classes are “Blended”, which means they will meet in person and have work online. NICC uses Canvas for our online platform. – Crystal Ross, College Recruiter at Macy Campus



Alvin Parker  
Student Services  
South Sioux City



Crystal Ross  
Recruiter  
Macy



Terri Grant  
Student Services  
Santee



This Newsletter is dedicated to  
Mrs. Wanda Henke, Santee Campus's  
librarian and writer of NICC's  
Newsletter. A teacher to so many  
children and adult learners alike, Mrs.  
Henke will be missed at NICC, as well as  
within the Santee Community.