

Labriola National American Indian Data Center Newsletter

Vol. XVI No. 1

Joyce Martin, Curator

Spring 2008

Labriola Spring Services

- **The Labriola Center is open from 9-5 Monday – Friday**
- **Coming soon the Labriola Center will have a new web page to host all the course and subject guides the Center creates to help students research American Indian topics at ASU**

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Gila River Elders Visit ASU and the Labriola Center

The Labriola Center along with the American Indian Policy Institute and the American Indian Studies Department hosted a group of over fifteen elders from the Gila River Indian Community at ASU on October 23rd.

The visit included a tour of the Agriculture Building which holds the American Indian Studies Department, the American Indian Student Support Services, the American Indian Policy Institute and the Office of the Special Advisor to the President on American Indian Affairs. Additionally they visited the Labriola National American Indian Data Center.

While in the Labriola Center the elders were able to listen to the Ralph Cameron Oral History Collection. The Ralph Cameron Oral History Collection contains seven audio tapes recorded by Mr. Cameron (Pima-Maricopa) of Phoenix,

Arizona. It was donated to the Labriola National American Data Center on August 8, 2000, by his son, LeRoy Cameron.

Mr. Cameron discusses education at both Phoenix Indian School and



Gila River Elders tour



American Indian Programs conference room

Sherman Institute in Riverside, California, World War military exploits, community activities, speaking to his grandchildren, and children's stories. Transcripts are available for tapes 1-4. The call number is LAB

LO-1:1-7

Among those attending this visit was Mr. Cameron's widow and the experience of listening to Ralph Cameron's voice seemed to be quite emotional for several participants.

The Ralph Cameron Collection had recently been preserved through digitization and part of a larger project and is a collection the Labriola Center is very proud to house. Mr. Cameron spoke in the indigenous language of Maricopa for a portion of the tapes.

Dr. Peterson Zah and various American Indian Studies faculty met with the Elders during a luncheon held at the ASU

Labriola Center Open House



Open House attendees

ing photographs of American Indian faculty at ASU and a sampling of their publications.

A blessing was given by Michael Begaye, director of the American Indian Student Support Services. And Dr. John Howard and Curator Joyce Martin spoke about the ASU Libraries' continued commitment to American Indian Programs at Arizona State University.

A nice mix of ASU faculty, librarians, American Indian Programs

The Labriola Center hosted an Open House the afternoon of October 18th to announce the hiring of a new curator, Joyce Martin and librarian Melanie Toledo.

The Center also debuted the new exhibit *American Indian Scholars at Arizona State University* featur-



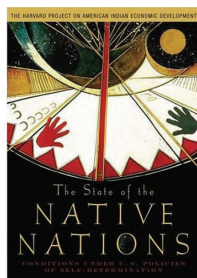
Exhibit poster

directors, staff and students joined with the Labriola Center staff to eat good food and celebrate the upcoming academic year.

New Arrivals article by Ann Leonard

Here is a sampling of some exciting new additions to the Labriola collection this Spring semester:

The State of Native Nations: Conditions under U.S. Policies of Self-Determination. (Oxford University Press, 2008)



Primarily a reference textbook and collection of essays, this work was compiled by scholars and Native leaders brought together by the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development. The text aims to analyze the current state of Indian Country by covering issues such as tribal governance, land and natural resources, economic development, arts and culture, the ever growing off-reservation Native population, and federal Indian policy. Currently this

work is being used as the textbook for Michelle Hale's Federal Indian Policies and Tribal Governance courses here at ASU American Indian Studies Department.

Border Citizens: The Making of Indians, Mexicans, and Anglos in Arizona. By Eric V. Meeks (University of Texas Press, Austin, 2007)

Focusing on Mexican Americans, Mexican immigrants, Yaquis, the Tohono O'odham, and Euro-Americans, Meeks shines light on the race relations in South-Central Arizona between 1880 and 1980. While both a social and ethnic study, this book also aims to serve as a reference to nation-state building and the political economy along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Like a Loaded Weapon: The Rehnquist Court, Indian Rights, and the Legal History of Racism in America. By Robert A. Williams, Jr. (University of Minnesota

Press, 2005)

Through a dissection of Chief Justice John Marshall's court in the early nineteenth century and a study Chief Justice William Rehnquist's judgments until 2005, Robert Williams asserts that the U.S. Supreme Court used racist language, racial stereotypes and depictions of Native cultural inferiority within their Indian Law decisions. With unapologetic chapter titles such as "The Most Indianophobic Supreme Court Indian Law Opinion Ever", Williams text makes a bold request of the current Supreme Court to confront the origins of Indian Law.

Like a Loaded Weapon will be shown by the Center's Curator, Joyce Martin, to Professor James Riding In's American Indian Sovereignty and the Courts class on January 23rd as an example of one of the many texts within the Labriola collection which analyze Indian Law .

Enemy Slayer: A Navajo Oratorio

As part of The Phoenix Symphony's 60th Anniversary Season, the orchestra has commissioned a work to celebrate the vibrant musical and cultural heritage of Arizona. This celebration will culminate in the world premiere performance of *Enemy Slayer: A Navajo Oratorio* with li-



Dr. Laura Tohe
bretto written by Associate Professor of English at Arizona State University Dr. Laura Tohe.

A poet and scholar, Tohe's work has been published in the journals *Ploughshares*, *New Letters*, *Calyx* and others. In 1999 Dr. Tohe's book of poetry, *No Parole Today* was awarded Poetry of the Year by the Wordcraft Circle of Native Ameri-

can Writers and Storytellers. Her new book, *Tséyi', Deep in the Rock*, a book of poetry with photography by Stephen Strom, was listed as a 2005 Southwest Book of the Year and in 2007 won the Glyph Award from the Arizona Book Association for Best Poetry and Best Book.

The oratorio depicts the journey of Seeker — a war veteran — as a contemporary retelling of the ancient Navajo story of the Enemy Slayer. A revered mythological figure, Seeker is born to protect the Navajo people and rid the world of monsters.

At the outset Seeker returns from the Middle East to a heartfelt welcome by his people. But while he has left the war behind, Seeker's battles

are not over. The pressure of combat plagues him, and he soon discovers his problems are more than emotional: demons haunt his dreams. Representing the Diné culture's traditional cycle of life, *Enemy Slayer: A Navajo Oratorio* follows Seeker's personal quest toward balance and wholeness.

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(Text for this story from the Phoenix Symphony web site at <http://www.phoenixsymphony.org/events/navajo-story.html>)

The Phoenix Symphony and the Phoenix Symphony Chorus will perform *Enemy Slayer: A Navajo Oratorio* on Thursday February 7th at 7:30PM and Saturday February 9th at 8PM in Symphony Hall. For more information call the box office at 602-495-1999 or 1-800-776-9080.

Mobile Library Reference Services by Melanie Toledo

The Labriola Center offered remote library reference services to students at the American Indian Student Support Services (AISSS) during the previous Fall semester.

American Indian Student Support Services aims to serve all American Indian students needing and seeking support to become academically and personally successful at Arizona State University. <http://www.asu.edu/clas/aiss/>

While offering my assistance at AISSS, it was great to make connections with some of the students which prompted them to visit the



American Indian Student Support Services

Labriola Center to seek additional help with their research and utilize our resources.

Offering library reference services to the students was rewarding because it allowed me to interact with students and answer their

questions in person. Sometimes academic terminology can create confusion, for example, "What are peer reviewed journals?" or "What is an AP article?" It allowed me to explain and demonstrate how to find the proper articles.

Some other positive feedback I received from the students was, "I should have come to you first!" after fruitless searches on the Internet. In addition, a few of the students took advantage of making appointments outside of our normal hours—even coming in to research on Saturdays!

Library instruction and an introduction to RefWorks were also offered to the students at AISSS.

I look forward to offering reference services this semester and meeting even more new faces.

ASU LIBRARIES

Labriola National American Indian Data Center
PO Box 871006
Tempe, AZ 85287-1006
<http://www.asu.edu/lib/archives/labriola.htm>

Phone: 480-965-6490
Fax: 480-965-0776
E-mail: archives@mainex1.asu.edu



The Labriola National American Indian Data Center was officially dedicated on April 1, 1993. The Center was made possible by the vision of Frank and Mary Labriola, whose generous endowment gift supports its work. It is their wish that "the Labriola Center be a source of education and pride for all Native Americans."

The Labriola National American Indian Data Center, part of the ASU Libraries, is a research collection international in scope that brings together in one location current and historic information on government, culture, religion and world view, social life and customs, tribal history, and information on individuals from the United States, Canada, Sonora, and Chihuahua, Mexico.

Everyone Loves a Slice of Hot, Cheesy Pizza !! by Rhonda Singer

The Labriola Center knows how to kick off the end of the semester. Joyce Martin, Melanie Toledo and the student workers at the Center thought it would be a great gesture to invite the ASU American Indian students to view a movie and have some food as a reward for all their hard work throughout the Fall semester.

The movie shown was the award winning film *Christmas in the Clouds* directed by Kate Montgomery. It is a romantic comedy about a ski resort owned and run by American Indians. *Christmas in the Clouds* won two film festival awards; (Audience) 2001 Best Com-

petition Feature Film and (Luminaria) 2001 Best Native American-Themed Film.

I worked at the Labriola Center's reference desk during the showing of the film and directed the visitors into the Labriola classroom. There was a student who was so thrilled that he got to eat in the library. I just giggled at his excitement.

The turnout for the festivities was great. We had faculty and other personnel from Hayden Library come in and eat. The pizza came from local favorite family owned Red Devil Pizza. There was plenty of pizza and soda for everyone.

"The turnout for the festivities was great." Rhonda Singer



Since the event was successful, the Labriola Center may hold another pizza party at the end of the Spring semester.