

# The NDSU Tribal Colleges Partnership Program & Native American News

**MAY 2015**

## **4H Club News**

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The 4H Club would like to thank Gabe Brien and Ann Schluter for performing fiddling and jigging on April 17th at the Agassiz Building in Fargo. Gabe shared information on the Metis culture while teaching the group how to jig to fiddle music. Here are pictures from that fun evening. Also, a big shout out to the NDSU Native American Student Association for volunteering their time to help with setting up the room, serving food, and cleaning up.

(Photos by Darlene Boyle and Jered Pigeon.)



# Congratulations to NDSU Native American students on your achievements!

Conferred Degrees for August and December 2014			Spring 2015 Candidates*	
Allard, Austin	Master of Science	Civil Engineering	Bigboy, Stefan	Psychology
Askegaard, Garth	Bachelor of Science	Zoology	Brady, Cheyenne	Psychology
Azure, Brock	Bachelor of Science	English	Butenhoff, Rebecca	Equine Studies
Bridge, Sarah	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Cardinal, Amber	Master of Public
Cain, Nicki	Master of Public Health	Public Health	Cogger, Tim Gene	Zoology
Calavera, Savannah	Bachelor of Science	Sociology	Cunningham, Anna Rachel	Civil Engineering
Clark, Christopher	Bachelor of Science	Pharmaceutical Sciences	Davis, Jacob	Master of Public Health
Conley, James	Bachelor of Science	Sociology	Davis, Kara Maria	Dietetics
Crane, Alison	Master of Science	Animal Sciences	Eagle-Bluestone, Jessica	Geology
Donahue, David	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Fox, Joanie Yvonne	Criminal Justice
Flute, David	Bachelor of Science	Public History	Gourneau, Braydon	Pharmacy
Flute, Josh	Master's Degree	Business Administration	Jacobs, Cheyanne Star	Geology
Gjerde, Michael	Bachelor of University Studies	University Studies	Larsen, Austin Lee	Psychology
Gourneau, Claudette	Master of Science	Ed. Leadership	Lunday, Jestin James	Hospitality & Tourism
Meyers, Nicolaus	Doctor of Musical Arts	Music	Miller, Katie Jo	Criminal Justice
Okeson, Cody	Bachelor of Science	Zoology	Miller, Megan Mae	Human Development & Family Science
Sargent, Emily	Bachelor of Science	Psychology	Pohto, Amber Delia	Psychology
Solberg, Kaila	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Robb, Delilah Mae	Health Communication
			Thorton, Esley Guy	Exercise Science
Summer 2015 Candidates*			White Bear, Sharon L	University Studies
Archambault, Sarah J	Veterinary Technology		Williamson, Brent Thomas	History
Charging, Cadence	Emergency Management			
Coghill, Cassandra	Women and Gender Studies			
Hall, Kylie	Master of Public Health			
Trottier, Rossi Lynn	Zoology		* Bachelor of Science unless noted otherwise	

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## Native American Student Association



L-R: Jered P., Adrian H., Tyra, P., Nicole W., & Taryn P.

The Native American Student Association, aka NASA, is seeking members for their student organization. During Spring Semester 2015, they met weekly, elected officers, volunteered in the community, met with NDSU Native American faculty members, visited with USDA officials, dined with Dr. Duane Champagne, and had a picnic in a local park. This group has been busy and are full-time students at NDSU.

**President:** Tyra Payer, Turtle Mountain, Psychology (major), Junior

**VP:** Nicole Welch, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, Emergency Management, Freshman

**Treasurer/Activity Coord.:** Adrien Henderson, Food Science, Sophomore

**Secretary:** Taryn Payer, Turtle Mountain, Medical Lab Science, Freshman

**Advisor:** Jared Pigeon, NDSU Office of Multicultural Programs Program Coordinator

Contact Tyra Payer if you wish to join: [t.payer@ndsu.edu](mailto:t.payer@ndsu.edu)

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issue:**

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## FEATURED JOURNAL ARTICLE

### **Retention Strategies Rely Upon Tradition, Innovation**

*By Laura Paskus*

Within the pages of the summer issue of Tribal College Journal, our writers explore a daunting topic: the recruitment and retention of Native students at tribal colleges and universities (TCUs).

As you'll read in Pember's story, many TCUs, including Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Community College, Cankdeska Cikana Community College, Fort Peck Community College, and Leech Lake Tribal College, are reaching out to male students in particular.

In fact, tribal colleges across the nation are figuring out innovative ways to recruit and retain students. Many, like the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, are trying to improve student success through the formal development of comprehensive retention plans. But not all plans focus solely on the classroom.

In Montana, for instance, Fort Belknap College has partnered with five other Montana tribal colleges—Fort Peck College, Blackfeet Community College, Salish Kootenai College, Stone Child College, and Little Big Horn College—to form the Montana Tribal College Basketball League.



**HEAVY LIFTING.** Students from United Tribes Technical College are putting their skills to work. United Tribes News photo by Dennis Neumann.

**Read the full article at:** <http://www.tribalcollegejournal.org/archives/3000>

May 13th, 2011 | By [lpaskus](#) | Category: [22-4: Honoring Student Success](#), [Editor's Essay](#), [Opinion](#)

# The NDSU Tribal Colleges Partnership Program & Native American News

**Staff Spotlight: Meet Vanessa Tibbitts** | by wayne eastman



Vanessa Tibbitts, PH Education Project Manager

If I had to describe Vanessa with a single word I would convincingly say sunny. She greets you with a bright smile and converses with a pleasantly warm personality. Vanessa is from Rapid City, SD and is a part of the Oglala Lakota Nation. She's currently the Public Health Education Manager for the AIPHRC. Rightfully so, she has been working in public health for a number of years and actually started working with Don before joining the resource center team. Vanessa worked as Dr. Don Warne's assistant and then with his wife Maylynn Warne on a tobacco prevention project.

Prior to becoming involved in Public Health, Vanessa was in a legal career, obtaining a paralegal degree and working for a couple of law firms. Despite the visible

contrast in these two fields, the unifying motivation behind both career decisions was always the awareness of disparities and her drive to make a difference. In her current role at the AIPHRC, she seeks to get Public Health education introduced into tribal colleges and communities with the vision of seeing these/her people healthier overall.

I notice as we discuss her life events she consistently reflects back to her influencers or heroes, what she has learned and taken away from each of them. Like a true educator, she is insightful on how and where she gains new knowledge and as I asked my questions she was very proficient at taking her in depth experiences and articulating in a way that was very easy to grasp.

In her free time, Vanessa enjoys spending time with her family. She has three children and they can all be found watching Netflix or going on a hike, which she admits that in Fargo, we just call walks.

To wrap up the interview, I posed two questions to Vanessa and here are her responses:

## **Pepsi or Coke?**

Pepsi, as soon as I tried it I said oh I like this better

## **If you were 80 years old what would you tell your children?**

Help people. That is how you will be a happier person.



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## **NDSU student crowned Miss Indian World**

*By - Associated Press -  
Sunday, April 26, 2015  
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.  
(AP) -*

A North Dakota State University student has won the title of Miss Indian World.

Pageant officials say 22-year-old Cheyenne Brady was crowned Saturday night at the 32nd annual Gathering of Nations at the University of New Mexico arena in Albuquerque.

Brady, a member of the Sac and Fox tribe, was chosen among 21 Native American women from different tribes and traditions.

As Miss Indian World, Brady will travel around the world and

serve as a cultural ambassador for a year.

The crowning closed three days of festivities at what is considered North America's largest powwow. The event draws hundreds of competitive dancers and tens of thousands of spectators from across the U.S. and parts of Canada and Mexico.

Twenty-five-year-old Ashley Pino of Acoma, New Mexico, was first runner-up.

Read more: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/apr/26/miss-indian-world-crowned-at-albuquerque-powwow/#ixzz3YhpX7u14>



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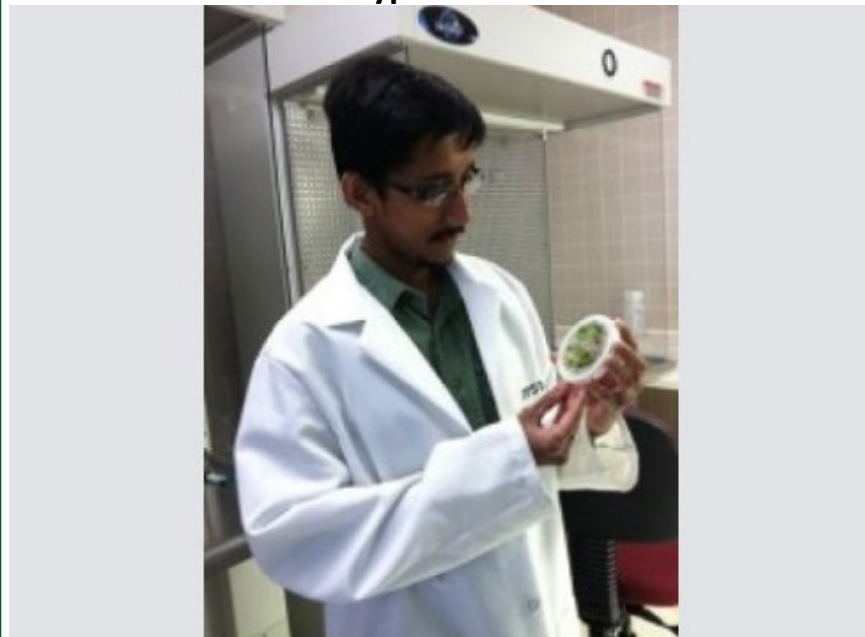
### Pears could be part of a healthy diet to manage diabetes

*Date:* April 13, 2015

*Source:* North Dakota State University

*Summary:*

**While the phrase "an apple a day" is a popular saying, a new study suggests that pears, as part of a healthy diet, could play a role in helping to manage type 2 diabetes and diabetes-induced hypertension.**



Dipayan Sarkar, now at North Dakota State University, Fargo, previously at the University of Massachusetts with co-authors Kalidas Shetty, Chandrakant Ankolekar and Marcia Pinto, found that in vitro (test tube) lab experiments provided metabolic insights into how two varieties of pears could play a role to better manage early stage diabetes and associated hypertension. More research would be needed to determine if the results of the in vitro studies can be replicated in humans.

*Credit: NDSU*

[Full Story](#)