

Four Winds

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION INSTITUTE

PO Box 58, Bluff, UT 84512, USA

www.indigenouseducation.org

IEI News: Website, Presentations, Trainings

January 2007

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Inside

IEI News

Astronomy 201

Meet Our Board

Evaluation News

From the Chair

Balinese Culture

Advisory Council

Board of Directors

Chair: Evelyn Conley (Norman, OK)

President/Executive Director:
Dr. Nancy C. Maryboy (Bluff, Utah)

Vice President: Dr. David Begay (Ganado, Arizona)

Vice Chair/Secretary: Dr. Polly O. Walker (Brisbane, Australia)

Treasurer: Patrick Toomey (Salt Lake City, UT)

Dr. VerlieAnn Malina-Wright (Honolulu, HI)

Julie Moss (Tahlequah, OK)

Dr. Lloyd Pinkham (Wapato, WA)

Claire U'ilani Pruet (Honolulu, HI)

Technical Specialist: Christopher Teren, Teren Solutions, Friday Harbor, WA

IEI members have been very busy this past year and have accomplished many projects in fulfillment of our mission and goals.

Website: Working with Ideam, a graphic arts company located in Albuquerque, and Dr. Isabel Hawkins from Space Sciences Lab at UC Berkeley, we have created a new and improved website. Please visit www.indigenouseducation.org.

Presentations: IEI Board Members and Advisory Council Members have traveled around the globe, giving presentations to prestigious organizations, many of which had never heard of Indigenous astronomy. Dr. Nancy Maryboy and Dr. Isabel Hawkins presented at CoSpar, Committee for Space Research, in Beijing. They were sponsored by Space Sciences Laboratory, UC Berkeley and NASA. Dr. Phil Sakimoto Advisory Council Member from Notre Dame University accompanied the group. While in Beijing they visited the Beijing Planetarium and gave out our educational materials to the Director, Dr. Jin Zhu. They also were guests at the Chinese Academy of Science and the Beijing Ancient Observatory.

Board Members Dr. David Begay and Dr. Nancy Maryboy, along with Advisory Council Members Troy Cline and Dr. Isabel Hawkins, collaborated on a presentation of western and Indigenous science at the As-

tronomical Society of the Pacific Annual Meeting in Baltimore, September 2006.

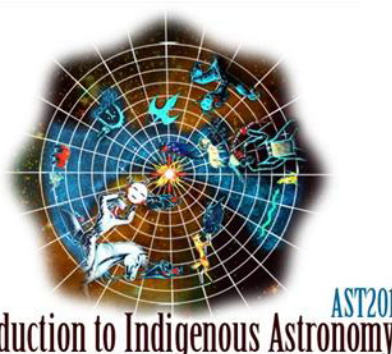


Dr. Maryboy and Dr. Jin Zhu in Beijing

Professional Development: IEI members gave many training sessions to teachers in Utah, New Mexico and Minnesota during the year. Subjects ranged from Indigenous Astronomy, to Culturally Relevant Curriculum to Strategic Planning and Evaluation.

Educational Materials: Visit www.sharingtheskies.com to see a complete list of IEI and World Hope Foundation educational materials. Included is our book *Sharing the Skies: Navajo Astronomy - A Cross Cultural View*, as well as a CD of Navajo Astronomy stories, posters of the Navajo Universe, tee shirts, tiles, mugs and more.

IEI Pilots AST 201—Introduction to Indigenous Astronomy



Dr. David Begay and Dr. Nancy Maryboy developed and taught the first-ever course in Indigenous Astronomy; delivered through the Department of Physics

and Astronomy at Northern Arizona University. The course was developed as an online course for distance learning. Students participated from Oregon to Massachusetts. It was very popular and will be given again during the spring semester, in 2 sections.

Many of IEI's Advisory Council members such as Dr. Isabel Hawkins, Dr. Paul Coleman, Lee Nichol, Dr. Leroy Littlebear, Amethyst First Rider, Dr. Oscar Kawagley and Gary Fujihara participated as Guest Professors. They contributed materials and engaged in dialogue with students during the time their modules were delivered online. The course will be delivered winter and spring semesters at NAU.

Goals of IEI

1. To initiate collaborative research involving traditional knowledge holders
2. To organize, articulate and develop strategic and realistic application of the research to indigenous education in order to provide cultural enrichment and empowerment to succeeding generations.

Meet our Board Members: Dr. Lloyd B. Pinkham

Dr. Lloyd B. Pinkham has been an IEI Board Member for many years. He is a member of the Yakama Nation, living in Wapato, Washington. Lloyd usually introduces himself as one of the River People.



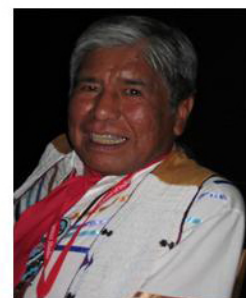
Lloyd and student on research boat in Puget Sound

Lloyd and his wife Joyce have traveled around the world, giving presentations about traditional culture and language of the River People. He directed the Gifted and Talented Program at Shonto Prep School on the Navajo Nation. He taught at Sheldon Jackson school in Sitka, Alaska, and he is currently teaching western science and Indigenous science at Union Gap Elementary School in Washington.

He is a Visiting Professor for North West Indian College in Bellingham, WA. He

participates in the SEED Science/Knowledge holder dialogues at the Language of Spirituality in Albuquerque, NM.

Lloyd is a valued language speaker and a cultural specialist. He is in great demand for presentations and trainings.



IEI Evaluation News: Law Enforcement



One of our Advisory Council members is Elizabeth Matlack, Director of the National Center for Biodefense Communications, located at Jackson State University, MS.

Through her efforts IEI has received a three year contract to provide evaluation for a U.S. Department of Justice project that provides training for law enforcement officers. The officers will be trained in the ap-

plication of remote sensing and GIS technology to law enforcement operations in Mississippi. This use of pictometry will lead to increased community readiness to deal with natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina, which devastated much of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. IEI will evaluate the training process and provide ongoing and summative recommendations.

Message from the Board Chair, Evelyn Conley

Greetings for a Happy New Year to everyone from the Chair. I just know that 2007 is going to be a good year for IEI and all those who have chosen to be involved. First of all the newsletter looks great thanks to our President. It is informative with some very impressive accounts of IEI activities that have taken place or are in progress or will be in the near future.

Second, I want to say welcome to all the new board members and new advisory board members who have decided to share in the progress of IEI goals and activities. We look forward to an excellent year of connecting with you and the expertise you bring to IEI as new members. Finally, I encourage everyone to be in correspondence with IEI officers to let

them know about your ideas in order that we may incorporate them towards the progress of IEI. We truly appreciate your participation, thoughts and ideas. Thank you.



Language Preservation in East Bali - Karma Budaya Foundation works to preserve ancient Lontar texts

One of our International Advisory Council members, **Ida Bagus (Gus) Nyoman Mantra**, is the Director of the Karma Budaya Foundation in Semarapura, Bali. Dr. Lloyd Pinkham and Dr. Nancy Maryboy met Ida Bagus when they were working together in Western Australia in 2005 and were fascinated by his work.

The Karma Budaya Foundation has been created to preserve and teach Balinese culture and language. One of their most significant projects involves the preservation and translation of the ancient Balinese text which has been carved onto lontar (palm

leaves). The ancient lontar include traditional knowledge of art, architecture, astronomy, herbalism, and social life. The Balinese script is derived from San-

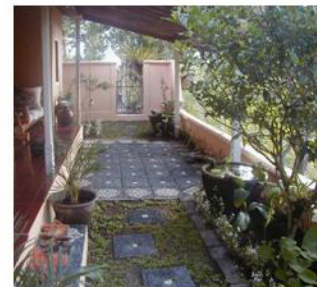


skrit and only a few people can read it today. In Bali the standard language used in schools is Indonesian, not Balinese. Ida Bagus and his colleagues are engaged in a major language preservation effort, much the same as those undertaken by Native American tribes today. Lontar text are being preserved and translated into Balinese and even into English for wider distribution.

The Karma Budaya Foundation also teaches Balinese and English to students in East Bali. They would welcome donations of books that could be used by students. For further information, please check the foundation's website www.freewebs.com/idamantra/ or contact Ida Bagus Nyoman Mantra directly at idamantra@hotmail.com

"One of the most sacred and important means of storing the Balinese language is lontar. The Balinese scripts are carved into lontar (palm leaves). It is a very long process."

Ida Bagus Nyoman Mantra



Karma Budaya Office in Bali

IEI International Advisory Council

IEI has an illustrious International Advisory Council composed of members from around the world. Each of them is renowned in their field and together they share their tremendous expertise with our organization.

- Robert Charlie, Alaska
- Troy Cline, NASA
- Dr. Paul Coleman, Hawaii
- Jerry Elliot, NASA
- Amethyst First Rider, Canada
- Gary Fujihara, Hawaii
- Dr. Isabel Hawkins, California
- Linda Hogan, Colorado
- Donna House, New Mexico
- Dr. Angayuqaq Oscar Kawagley, Alaska
- Keiki Kawai'ae'a, Hawaii
- Phil Lambert, New Zealand
- Dr. Leroy Little Bear, Canada
- Ida Bagus Nyoman Mantra, Bali
- Kenneth Maryboy, Utah
- Elizabeth Matlack, Mississippi
- Dr. Cheryl Metoyer, California
- Tjalaminu Mia, Australia
- Jill Milroy, Australia
- Dana Mitchell, Maine
- Pat Moss, Oklahoma
- Lee Nichol, New Mexico
- Dermot O'Hara, Ireland
- Prince Tjorkora Gede Agung Dharma Putra, Bali
- Leon Secatero, New Mexico
- Von Thater-Braan, California
- Dr. Shelly Valdez, New Mexico
- Dr. Polly Walker, Australia
- Emil Wolfgramm, Hawaii
- Yvonne Yazzie, New Mexico



Amethyst First Rider and Leroy Little Bear

Advisory Council Members

Visiting Chaco Canyon

**Indigenous Education
Institute**

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IEI

**The Indigenous
Education Institute
was created for the
preservation and
application of
ancient traditional
knowledge.**

Mark Your Calendar—2007

Space Science Symposium, DePaul University, Chicago, February 24
SEED Language of Spirit Conference, Albuquerque, August
NIEA Annual Meeting, Honolulu, October 25—28
WINHEC Annual Meeting, Chaminade University, Honolulu, October
AISES Annual Meeting, Phoenix, November 1-3



**Become a member of IEI and help support a grass roots organization
that is truly making a difference in Indigenous lives today.**

Membership

Categories

Student Membership	15.
General Membership	25.
Elder Membership	15.

Donations

East Circle	10. to 99.
South Circle	100. to 499
West Circle	500. to 999.
North Circle	1000. to 4999.
Grand Circle	Above 5000.

The Indigenous Education Institute is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations to IEI are tax deductible.

Please send donations and memberships to PO Box 58, Bluff, UT 84512.

All members and donors will receive our newsletter. Donations of 500. and above will receive an autographed copy of our book "Sharing the Skies."