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Our Mission

The purpose of the Caucus is to encourage and facilitate the analysis, cataloging, collection, dissemination, management, organization, and preservation of Native Law in accordance with cultural traditions. The Caucus is concerned with the law of all indigenous peoples.

--Adopted by Consensus of the Caucus,
1992 Business Meeting

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Please send all inquiries and submissions of original copy to:
Maria Protti, Editor, AALL, 53 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 940, Chicago, IL 60604
Articles published elsewhere are not accepted. Unless otherwise attributed, the editor wrote all articles.
The Philadelphia Business Meeting

The Business Meeting will be held at the year 2000 American Association of Law Libraries General Meeting, Monday, July 17, 5:00pm - 6:00 PM at the Philadelphia Convention Center, Room 102 (B), in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Items on the agenda are the consideration of the AALL Board of Directors response to our scholarship proposal (as outlined in the Volume 6, 1999 issue of this newsletter), program planning, and the placement of this newsletter on the Internet. A big thank you to Steven Perkins, Head of User Services, Rutgers University Law School Library, who has generously volunteered to place issues of this newsletter online. This will make the contents of the newsletter easier to obtain, and the Caucus will consider attendant issues of copyright and upkeep. And, of course, Caucus members will mingle with other information gatherers from all over the country who share our interests.

Shown here is a pouch and Moccasins made by early Pennsylvanians.
United American Indians of Delaware Valley

While you are attending the AALL Meeting in Philadelphia, be sure to visit the United American Indians of Delaware Valley Cultural Center (UAIDV). Located in Old City Philadelphia, at 225 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106 (215-574-9020), it is within walking distance of the Convention Center. The cultural headquarters is well worth seeing. The gift shop is appealing, and the headquarters is listed as a museum in many of the books geared toward tourists. The UAIDV supports a varied program of vocational, supportive services, and cultural events.

The UAIDV is famous for hosting its annual Tamanend Celebration in May. The festival honors Tamanend, a Lenape leader who worked with William Penn and helped to structure the Philadelphia government experiment, which led to the founding of the City. (Europeans later renamed the Lenape "the Delaware"). There is a statue of Chief Tamanend in Philadelphia at Front and Market Streets. Until 1868, the colonists celebrated Tamanend Day annually on May 1. The UAIDV revived the celebration and now honor Tamanene yearly with a Sunrise Ceremony, scholarly workshops, a gallery reception, and an Indian Market. Any Native American, no matter what tribal affiliation, can belong to the UAIDV.

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Native Americans Reference Collection:  
Creation of subject heading and name authority records in a major microforms project on OCLC  
by William W. Toombs  
toombsww@slu.edu  
Saint Louis University Law Library

In 1993 the Saint Louis University Law Library, under the supervision of Richard Amelung, Head of Technical Services, and William Toombs, the Microforms Cataloger, began cataloging the University Publications of America's (UPA) microfilm set Native Americans Reference Collection: documents collected by the Office of Indian Affairs as an OCLC major microforms project. The first record was entered in June 1993; currently the Library has almost completed reel no. 20 of the first set for a total of 2123 records. The second installment of cataloging records should be available from OCLC within two months.

In conjunction with this project, a web site was created Federal Indian Law in the 19th Century (http://law.slu.edu/faculty/toombs/indian, which is incomplete and experimental at the moment), to provide information related to maps of Indian land areas (especially, the Royce volume). Furthermore, revisions were made to the Law Library Microform Consortium’s (LLMC) microfiche set Native Americans: a legal/historical collection (http://www.llmc.com/catalog10.htm), a major reference source for the cataloging of the UPA set. The LLMC set was completed by another library as a major microforms project but contained inaccuracies and missed some monographic publications and title changes to serials in the set. The Law Library has since taken over the project symbol for the collection and is slowly rectifying these problems as we find duplications between the two microform sets.

The Law Library’s microforms cataloger felt the most important step in the process of cataloging this UPA set was the establishment of many new and necessary subject headings in the Library of Congress’ subject heading file and name authority records in the NACO program in order to provide the greatest access to a microforms set with a large number of very similar and non-descriptive titles. The creation of authority records for the project has proven to be the most time consuming part of the project and is the major reason for the slow progress in cataloging the set.

The process of submitting subject headings to the Library of Congress was an extremely long and laborious process back in the early 1990s, taking as long as several months. Over the years the Law Library has been able to add several hundred new subject headings to LC’s subject heading file thanks to the patience and time of several members at the Library of Congress. Subject headings were created in two major areas: historical, abandoned or diminished reservations, and important topical subject headings, such as Indian country (United States law), Federal-Indian trust relationship, and Off-reservation boarding schools. The establishment of many Indian reservations subject
headings (and please remember that reservations are subject headings and not part of name authority), was a top priority for us. The best examples of these type of subject headings are several important Indian reservations in Oklahoma: the Cheyenne and Arapaho Reservation, the Iowa Reservation, the Pawnee Reservation, the Ponca Reservation, the Pottawatomie Reservation, the Quapaw Reservation, the Sac and Fox Reservation, and the Wichita Reservation. A brief look at several of these authority records will reveal the various references sources used to construct the subject headings. Of course, usage in the work cataloged is the most important source, however, basic reference works such as Kappler, Royce, Executive orders relating to Indian reservations, and the List of cartographic records of the BIA support the subject heading proposal and the necessary cross references.

Topical subject headings proved the most challenging. LC was always concerned about sufficient documentation in order to establish any new subject heading that do not have a recognized “pattern”. One of the first topical subject headings and probably most important was Indian allotments, since so much of the UPA set involved the period of Indian allotments. Later we established many topical headings in order to differentiate various types of Indian land, which were important in the 1880s and 1890s such as, Checkerboard reservations, Executive order Indian reservations, Treaty Indian reservations, Diminished Indian reservations, Abandoned Indian reservations, and Indian title. Of course, these distinctions are not recognized today.

The Law Library was one of the very first libraries involved in the creation of name authority records for NACO and has always provided all name authority records to support many of the major microform projects that it has cataloged. The UPA set was no exception. We have contributed hundreds of records representing members of Congress, Indian agencies in the 19th century, tribal names and many specific treaties. These records provide important access points for the microfilm set. One simply has to browse the agency records under: United States. Office of Indian Affairs ... to see the large historical record of the many name changes that have been evident within the Indian agencies in the 19th century. These records are often long and involved but are necessary to provide access to historical records of the changing position of the Native American in the West.

Tribal names were the most interesting aspect in this creation of corporate names. Glancing through the various bands of Chippewa Indians is enough to understand how such records are created. Of primary importance, as with subject headings, is usage of the tribal name in the work being cataloged. There is a surprising consistency in the many reference works available to the cataloger (Kappler, Royce, old and new Cohen, etc.) and the sources of important cross references. Anyone interested in creating such records should make use of these records as examples. We are of course not experts, but 2000 records later, we have gained some insight and hope that others interested in the historical questions concerning Indian lands and peoples will profit from our experiences.
American Indian Materials in Special Collections Held By
United States Colleges and Universities

Compiled by Maria Protti

Often, colleges that are not known commonly to hold such materials keep primary materials on U.S. American Indian Law (and related subjects of policy and culture). As a guide to the unknown, here are short subjects relating to hidden holdings in colleges, and the address of each respective college or university.

This is a nonexhaustive listing of collections held by colleges and universities. It is meant to serve as an introductory guide for the researcher who is at the beginning stage of the research process and thereby aid in the crucial decision of what collective sources to review. The attending collection librarians have supplied most subject descriptions.

I. Collections Supporting General Studies and Historical Research

Eastern Arizona College, Learning Resources Center, 6100 Church Street, Thatcher, Arizona 85552

Palomar College, Library/Media Center, 1140 West Mission Road, San Marcos, California 92069

University of California, Riverside; The University Library, P.O. Box 5900, Riverside, California 92517

Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library of the Yale University Library, 1603-A Yale Station, New Haven, Connecticut 06520

Kendall College Library, 2408, Orrington Avenue, Evanston, Illinois 60201

Calumet College, College Library, 2400 New York Avenue, Whiting, Indiana 46394

Morningside College, Hickman-Johnson-Furrow Library, 1501 Morningside Avenue, Sioux City, Iowa 51106

Haskell Indian Junior College, Academic Support Center, P.O. Box H-1305, Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Louisiana State University, Middleton Library, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

Unity College, College Library, RR 78 - Box 1, Unity, Maine 04988

College of St. Scholastica, Library, 1200 Kenwood Avenue, Duluth, Minnesota 55811

St. Paul School of Theology, Dana Dawson Library, 5123 Truman Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64127

Montana State University, University Libraries, Bozeman, Montana 59717

Northern Montana College Vande Bogart Library, P.O. Box 751, Havre, Montana 59501

Northern Nevada Community College, Learning Resources Center, 901 Elm Street, Elko, Nevada 89801

Centenary College, Learning Resources Center, 400 Jefferson Street, Hackettstown, New Jersey 07840
II. Regional Materials

Eastern Woodlands
Glassboro State College, Savitz Library, Glassboro, New Jersey 08028
Hartwick College, Hartwick College Library, Oneonta, New York 13820
Saint John Fisher College, Charles J. Lavery Library, 3690 East Avenue, Rochester, New York 14618

Great Basin
University of Nevada, Reno, Noble H. Getchell Library, Ninth and Center Streets, Reno, Nevada 89557

Great Lakes 796, 1785
Lake Superior State College; College Library, Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan 49783
St. Francis Seminary, Salzmann Library, 3257 South Lake Drive, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

Great Plains
Wichita State University, The Ablah Library, Box 68, Wichita, Kansas 67208
Minot State University, Memorial Library, Ninth Avenue Northwest, Minot, North Dakota 58701
Northeastern State University, John Vaughan Library/ Learning Resources Center, Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74464
Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Henry G. Bennett Memorial Library, Durant, Oklahoma 74701
University of Tulsa, McFarlin Library, 600 South College Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74104
Northern State College, Williams Library, South Jay Street and 12th Avenue, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401

Midwest, Upper
Augustana College, Denkmann Memorial Library, 639 38th Street, Rock Island, Illinois 61201
Bemidji State University, A.C. Clark Library, 1500 Birchmont Drive ME, Bemidji, Minnesota 56601

Pacific Northwest
North Idaho College, Kildow Memorial Library, 1000 West Garden Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814
University of Idaho, University Library, Moscow, Idaho 83843
Northwest Christian College, Learning Resource Center, 828 East 11th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97401

Southeast
Samford University, Harwell Goddwin Davis Library, 800 Laskershore Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35229

Southwest
Navajo Community College, Learning Resource Center, Tsi'ála Rural Post Office, Tsi'ála, Arizona 85556
Scottsdale Community College, Library, 9000 East Chaparral Road, Scottsdale, Arizona 85256
Fort Lewis College, College Library, College Heights, Durango, Colorado 81301
University of Texas at Arlington, UTA Libraries, Box 19125, Arlington, Texas 76019

West of the Mississippi
University of California, Davis, Peter J. Shields Library, Davis, California 95616
Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library of the Yale University Library, 1603-A Yale Station, New Haven, Connecticut 06520
Eastern Montana College, College Library, 1500 North 30th Street, Billings, Montana 59101
Princeton University, University Library, Princeton, New Jersey 08544
University of Oklahoma, University Libraries, 401 West Brooks, Norman, Oklahoma 73019
Marquette University, Memorial Library, 1415 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233

Wyoming
Casper College, Goodstein Foundation Library, 125 College Drive, Casper, Wyoming 82601

III. Tribal Materials

Arapahoe
Casper College, Goodstein Foundation Library, 125 College Drive, Casper, Wyoming 82601
Central Wyoming College, Learning Resources Center, 2660 Peck Avenue, Riverton, Wyoming 82501

Cherokee
Mars Hill College Memorial Library, Mars Hill College, North Carolina 28754
Flaming Rainbow University, Learning Resources Center, 419 North Second Street, Stilwell, Oklahoma 74960
Northeastern State University, John Vaughan Library, Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74464
University of Tulsa, McFarlin Library, 600 South College Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74104
University of Tennessee at Knoxville, John C. Godges Library, 1015 Volunteer Boulevard, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996

Cheyenne
Casper College, Goodstein Foundation Library, 125 College Drive, Casper, Wyoming 82601

Choctaw
University of Oklahoma, University Libraries, 401 West Brooks, Norman, Oklahoma 73019
Creek
Troy State University, Lurleen B. Wallace Library, Troy, Alabama 36082
University of Tulsa, McFarlin Library, 600 South College Avenue, Tulsa
Oklahoma 74104

Crow
Casper College, Goodstein Foundation Library, 125 College Drive, Casper,
Wyoming 82601

Dakota
Casper College Goodstein Foundation Library, 125 College Drive, Casper,
Wyoming 82601

Iroquois
State University of New York College at Buffalo, E.H. Butler Library, 1300
Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14222

Lakota
Oglala Lakota College, Learning Resources Center, Box 310, Kyle, South Dakota
57752

Lumbee
Pembroke State University, Mary Livermore Library, Pembroke, North Carolina
28372

Menomonee
Saint Norbert College, Todd Wehr Library, De Pere, Wisconsin 54115

Nez Perce
University of Idaho, University Library, Moscow, Idaho 83843

Ohlone
Ohlone College, Learning Resources Center, 43600 Mission Boulevard, Fremont,
California 94539

Ojibwa
Bemidji State University, A.C. Clark Library, 1500 Birchmont Drive NE,
Bemidji, Minnesota 56601

Paiute
Southern Utah State College Library, 531 West Center Street, Cedar City, Utah
84720

Seneca
State University of New York College at Buffalo, E.H. Butler Library, 1300
Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14222

Shosone
Central Wyoming College, Learning Resources Center, 2660 Peck Avenue,
Riverton, Wyoming 8201
Idaho State University, Eli M. Oboler Library, P.O. Box 8089, Pocatello, Idaho
83209

Sikika
Casper College, Goodstein Foundation Library, 125 College Drive, Casper,
Wyoming 82601

Sioux
Bemidji State University, A. C. Clark Library, 1500 Birchmont Drive NE,
Bemidji, Minnesota 56601
Huron College, Ella McIntire Library, Huron, South Dakota 57350
Oglala Lakota College, Learning Resources Center, Box 310, South Dakota
57752
University of South Dakota, I.D. Weeks Library, 414 East Clark Street,
Vermillion, South Dakota 57069

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The Latest Best Website for Native Peoples Law: 

Indianz.com

Caucus members are raving about the new, dynamic website called indianz.com <http://indianz.com>. Today's websites featuring Native Peoples Law are numerous and too often ordinary. Many are updated infrequently, reprint the text of laws without commentary, analysis, or search features, and use poor design with outdated HTML and wallpaper backgrounds. In contrast, what makes indianz.com so beneficial to the reader is its timeliness and comprehensiveness; it focuses on immediate, pressing issues in the law, as well as ensuring access to older treaties and tribal law.

The developers of indianz.com certainly are cognizant about contemporary issues. They are Mia Merrick (Omaha) and Acee Agoyo (San Juan Pueblo). They make a strong attempt to focus on contemporary legal issues and their efforts have paid off in a highly usable and resource packed site. Let's hope that they are not dissuaded from dedication to this site that is a little more than a year old.

Tribal law dominates this site, and the focus that enables the reader to gain a quick overview of pertinent subjects. The editors have developed background briefings on: Federal Recognition, Treaty Resources Online, Indian Law and the Environment, Finding Circuit Court Case Law and Finding Federal Case Law.

One of the unique features of the site is the display and linking to news headlines and articles. Each day newspaper and internet stories from all over the world are shown. The stories are in a browsable archive. It makes easy keeping up with new developments in legal disputes. There is also a "Week in Review" feature made up of important stories chosen by the editors.

Once a week a tribe is introduced with facts and background on the subject tribe. For example, the editors will present a particular tribe's websites, history, official name, traditional name, enrollment, and leaders. This is not your typical website about tribes that seem to be geared to Miss Nancy's Romper Room Class. Here is usable information for lawyers who need to find quickly legal information on tribal government.

Search Injuntm Directory allows searches in the categories of: agencies (BIA, DOI, DOJ . . . ), Concepts (Recognition, Indian Country . . . ), Decisions (Tribal, Federal . . . ), Issues (The Trust Fund), Laws (Arts & Crafts Act, NAGPRA . . . ) Organizations (Local, National . . . ) and Web Resources (Directories, Links . . . ).

Focusing on Alaskan native, Canadian Aboriginal, and Federal Indian Law, a well written, scholarly electronic journal is also included. The latest article is an analysis of the constructions of culture in Canada's system of jurisprudence by a Ph.D. anthropology candidate at McGill University. The article centers on the role of the anthropologist to help establish native rights in advancing and asserting self-determination.

The website clearly sets forth its user agreement, disclaimer of warranties and a privacy policy. An installment of "Dear Indianx.com" helps to answer questions involving the site. It would be a good idea to contact the site developers to give them encouragement.

Not only does indianz.com link and describe other noteworthy websites on Native Peoples law--weekly, it critiques a new legal site, showcasing what the editors like and dislike about the site. Aside from the links connecting other websites that can be found by using indianz.com, Caucus members recommend The Index of Native American Legal Resources on the Internet for its links to general law resources, legal sources related to indigenous issues, college programs, legal practices, Canadian law, and Latin American Country Reports on human rights practices and indigenous law in other countries. The website for the index is at <http://www.hanksville.org/NAresources/indices/NAlegal.html>.

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The Elkus Papers

The Elkus' papers are primary resources outlining the history of Federal administration and reform in the area of American Indian Affairs, mostly during the period from the 1930's to the 1950's. The papers on Indian matters were accumulated at the same time as Charles Elkus, an attorney and leader in the Indian reform movement wrote the materials.

Through legal advice, friendship, and work within public support groups, Elkus helped the Pueblo regain control over land and water taken by squatters, restructure of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and develop the Indian Arts and Crafts Act. Elkus was instrumental in the programming of the Roosevelt's administration of the "Indian New Deal" of the 1930s.

Mr. Elkus worked with the Commissioners of Indian Affairs in the Department of the Interior and corresponded regularly with Commissioner John Collier and Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, urging government officials to visit the tribes so that they could understand better the interplay between the workings of the U.S. government and the tribes.

Today, the papers are held at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco, and number over 3,360 documents. Researchers can refer to a catalog of these papers, noted for their rich historical content, through a free text search feature at <http://research.calacademy.org/lib/elkus/elkussearch.html>. Each catalog record includes a document summary and list of related subjects.

Editor
AALL Native Peoples Law Caucus Newsletter
53 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 940
Chicago, IL 60604