Supreme Court Upholds Tribal Sovereignty in U.S. v. Lara

In a 7-2 decision, the United States Supreme Court upheld the cause of tribal sovereignty in the case of U.S. v. Lara. The facts of the case concerned an Indian (Billy Joe Lara) who was arrested on the Spirit Lake Nation Reservation in North Dakota. Lara is not a member of Spirit Lake, but he is a member of the Turtle Mountain Ojibwe Tribe of North Dakota. Subsequent to Lara's arrest he was convicted in Spirit Lake Tribal Court and now faces the possibility of another conviction in Federal Court. The Court, in reversing the lower court’s decision, held that the separate prosecutions did not violate the Constitution's guarantee against double jeopardy.

The Spirit Lake Tribe of North Dakota acted as an independent sovereign in the prosecution of Lara, the majority found. Justice Stephen Breyer, writing for the majority, determined that because the Spirit Lake tribe was not acting as a surrogate for the federal government, the federal government may still bring its own case against Lara for committing a federal crime.


Lara had pleaded guilty to three charges in tribal court, admitting that he was drunk, punched a police officer and resisted arrest. He received a 155-day sentence for the 2001 altercation.

This case arose when federal prosecutors then sought to convict him of assault on a federal officer, a crime that could mean a sentence up to 20 years. Two lower courts agreed with the federal government that the prosecution was constitutional, including a panel of the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The full 8th Circuit, however, reconsidered the case and ruled for Lara by a vote of 7-4.

The case is United States v. Lara, 03-107.


Native Peoples Law Caucus meets in Boston, Monday, July 12, 2004

This is to announce that this year the Native Peoples Law Caucus will be meeting as a group on Monday evening, July 12, at 5:15pm. (Location TBA). Over the past year we have been working on developing our membership base via an e-mail list. We also have some exciting issues on our upcoming agenda, including organizing a surplus book bank for recycling to needy tribal libraries all of those discards that are the result of libraries weeding their collections, along with launching a NPLC web site. So come on out and bring your ideas and enthusiasm and let’s see what we can come up with to show our collective support for Native People.
California Crucible: Indian Gaming (Again)
By Nancy Carol Carter, Legal Research Center Director and Professor of Law, Univ. of San Diego

California tribes established some of the earliest reservation gambling operations and have been in the legal spotlight ever since. This is a review of California Indian gaming legal highlights and a preview of emerging challenges. What follows is a brief history of Indian gaming in the Golden State.

California tribes overcame legal objections to their right to conduct commercial gambling operations on reservation lands for themselves and other tribes in the United States Supreme Court case of California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, 480 U.S. 202 (1987).

The controversy over this court decision led to the passage of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C.A. §§ 2701-2721) with its requirement that states and tribes bargain in good faith to reach agreement on a compact for casino-style gaming operations.

Bargaining stalled in California when Governor Pete Wilson rigidly backed an agreement that tribes found too restrictive. After years of frustration, California tribes successfully forced the issue with a state ballot proposition in 1998. “Proposition 5” engendered one of the most expensive political campaigns in California history, but it won overwhelming voter support. By adopting Proposition 5, the people of California commanded the governor to finalize gaming compacts more acceptable to the tribes (http://ca.lww.org/lwvc.files/no98/id/prop5.html). The new governor, Gray Davis, was favorably disposed to Indian gaming and quickly complied. Sixty-one tribes signed a Tribal-State Compact in 1999.

Almost immediately, a state constitutional challenge to the legality of casino-style gambling was raised. Once again, tribes called upon the voters. Proposition 1-A was adopted in 2000. It amended the California Constitution and removed the last legal impediment to Indian gaming in California (http://ca.lww.org/lwvc.files/mar00/pc/prop1A.html).

The contracts, or compacts, between California and the tribes run for 20-years. Two revenue sharing schemes are included. One is a per-machine charge that ranges from $9,000 down to $1,999 for each slot machine over a baseline of 350. The other assessment is based on revenue for all slot machines beyond a baseline of 200. The revenue assessment ranges from seven to 13 percent. These assessments are paid into state trust funds, one of which aids non-gaming tribes in California.

With the bursting of the dot-com bubble, California headed into a steep economic decline. There were costly droughts and fires across the state and an energy crisis that drained billions of state dollars when electrical costs soared. With their once fiscally healthy state government falling into deficit, discontented voters backed the recall of Governor Gray Davis. While successfully campaigning in favor of the recall and his own election as governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger called upon Indian tribes to “pay their fair share” to help the state solve its financial crisis.
California State Negotiations and New Voter Initiatives
By Nancy Carol Carter (con’t from previous page)

Today, almost one-half of California’s 107 federally recognized tribes are running gambling operations. Newly-elected Governor Schwarzenegger has started discussions aimed at renegotiating Tribal-State compacts far in advance of the end of their 20-year term. His representatives are meeting with tribal leaders to change the contracts so that deficit ridden state coffers benefit from a much larger bite of Indian gaming’s golden apple. The tribes may be willing to renegotiate if they can get some benefits, such as more slot machines and a longer compact term. Tribes also see an agreement with the governor as a way to derail a harsh Indian gaming voter initiative now gathering signatures. These negotiations may be concluded as early as Spring 2004.

Whatever the outcome of the governor’s negotiations, expect additional legal challenges to the existing Tribal-State compacts. Three Indian gaming initiatives have been certified by California’s Secretary of State (www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections_j_0031704.htm). One is dormant, but signature campaigns for the other two are underway. If a sufficient number of voters sign petitions, the California state ballot will include competing Indian gaming initiatives in November 2004. An expensive television advertising campaign began in April 2004 in support of 1027 which opponents are calling “the Flynt initiative.”

Initiative 1027 is sponsored by card clubs and racing tracks which have seen their revenues decline as casino gambling on reservations has spread across California. If adopted, the governor is instructed to renegotiate compacts to require tribes to pay 25% of gaming revenues from slot machines and other devises to the state. Tribes also must agree to State of California jurisdiction and to comply with a variety of state laws. Unless all gaming tribes agree to these terms within 90 days, 16 specific race tracks and card clubs are authorized to install 30,000 slot machines. To make this sizeable expansion of gambling into urban areas more acceptable to voters, the initiative includes a provision for using 33% of revenue from the 30,000 new slot machines to support public safety and social programs. Famously, one of the backers of Initiative 1027 is Larry Flynt, owner of Hustler Magazine and other businesses, including card clubs.

Initiative 1046 is inspired by the Agua Caliente Tribe as a counter to 1027. It would instruct the governor to renegotiate gaming compacts to increase the tribal contribution to the State of California in return for a guarantee of the tribal monopoly on casino gambling, a lifting of the cap on the number of slot machines, and an extension of the term of the gaming compacts to 99 years. Gaming tribes would annually give the state a contribution based on the prevailing state corporate tax rate. Tribes also would offer public notice and comment periods and fund off-reservation environmental impact statements when building or expanding casinos.

Under California law, voter adoption of either of these initiatives will obviate any new compact terms arrived at through the governor’s negotiations. If both initiatives are adopted, the one with the most votes is likely to prevail under the California judicial test. Initiatives 1027 and 1046 are likely to be viewed as “conflicting” initiative measures instead of “complementary or supplemental” measures where all the non-competing provisions of both initiatives would become law.†

† Taxpayers to Limit Campaign Spending v. Fair Pol. Practices Com. 51 Cal. 3d 744, 770 (1990)(only the measure receiving the most votes will be operative when conflicting initiatives are passed by the voters) and Yoshisato v. Superior Court 2 Cal. 4th 978, 988-89 (1992)(when complementary or supplemental propositions are approved in the same election all non-competing clauses are put into effect).
JOINT NEWS RELEASE - SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR GALE A. NORTON & ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES
JOHN W. CARLIN:
INTERIOR AND NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION SIGN AGREEMENT TO CREATE NATIONAL
REPOSITORY FOR AMERICAN INDIAN RECORDS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SEPT. 12, 2003

CONTACT:
MARK PFIEFFE/JOHN WRIGHT (DOI): 202-208-6416
SUSAN COOPER (NARA): 202-501-5526

(WASHINGTON) - Interior Secretary Gale A. Norton and Archivist of the United States John W. Carlin today signed
a joint agreement creating a national repository for American Indian records to be maintained at a regional records service
facility of the National Archives in Lenexa, Kansas. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of the Interior
(DOI) and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) ensures that the highest standards will be observed
in the preservation and protection of American Indian records, including fiduciary trust records.

The agreement also creates an archival records management studies program to be jointly developed by NARA, DOI
and Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas. Haskell University president Karen Swisher met with Secretary
Norton and Mr. Carlin following the signing of the agreement at the National Archives this afternoon.

"This agreement ensures the consolidation and permanent storage of the voluminous American Indian records that are
in the possession of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Office of the Special Trustee, including related fiduciary trust
records," Secretary Norton said today. "The National Archives maintains the documents that are at the foundation of our nation
- from the original Constitution of the United States and the Declaration of Independence to the many less famous records of
the Federal Government. Our new partnership with the Archives will protect American Indian records in accordance with the
highest standards for document storage and preservation.

Our joint partnership with Haskell Indian Nations University will also result in a highly-trained, Native American
workforce that will help protect these records for future generations."

Archivist John W. Carlin said, "On behalf of the National Archives and Records Administration, I am pleased to be a
signatory to this agreement creating an American Indian Records Repository at our new facility in Lenexa. As the agreement
recognizes, a core function of NARA is to assist agencies in the management of their records to ensure that essential documentation
is available to Government officials, today's citizens and future generations. Through this agreement, NARA can perform
a useful role in facilitating the long-term preservation of American Indian records at our new regional facility in Lenexa,
in accordance with our standards for the storage of Federal records. We also are looking forward to working with Haskell Indian
Nations University to develop an archival and records management studies program that will help support the management
of American Indian records to be stored at NARA's facility."

The agreement signed today creates the American Indian Records Repository at the National Archives' underground
storage facility at Lenexa, Kansas - southwest of Kansas City, Kansas. The repository will house consolidated American Indian
records in the possession of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians, and
other fiduciary trust records.

The archival and records management studies program, to be developed by DOI, NARA and Haskell Indian Nations
University, will build a skilled workforce to support the ongoing management of government American Indian records and of
the records repository. Haskell University is an accredited four-year college operated and funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
Its core mission is to serve as a national inter-tribal center for teaching, extension and research related to the study of
American Indian Nations culture and affairs.

[Editor's Note: A copy of the joint Memorandum of Understanding is available on the Internet at
SEARCHABLE TREATY CD TO BENEFIT INDIAN LAW STUDENTS - NOW AVAILABLE

By Kristina Proskus, Acquisitions Librarian, Ross-Blakley Law Library / Arizona State University

The Indian Legal Program at Arizona State University College of Law is proud to announce the release of a CD-ROM full text searchable collection of Colonial and American Indian Treaties. The collection contains more than 700 agreements, some dating to the early Seventeenth Century. The Arizona State University College of Law compiled the texts for use by students and teachers of American Indian history and Federal Indian Law as well as for practitioners of Federal Indian Law.

An introductory essay by the faculty of ASU's Indian Legal Program discusses the history of treaty making with the Indian nations and demonstrates the contemporary importance of these foundational documents.

Kate Rosier, Director of the Indian Legal Program, says, "This CD will save hours of research time spent on scattered materials. It is a must have for Tribal Leaders, Law Librarians, American Indian Studies Programs, practitioners of Indian Law, and everyone interested in Indian history".

The CD is available to purchase online at a cost of $100 (including shipping). To order, visit the website at www.law.asu.edu/ILPTreatyCD. The net proceeds from the sale of the CDs will go towards Indian Legal Program student scholarships.

The Indian Legal Program was established in 1988 to provide legal education, scholarship, and public service to tribal governments. It was designed to help train Indian lawyers and promote an understanding of the differences between the legal systems of Indian Nations and the United States. Under the leadership of Professors Rebecca Tsosie, Robert Clinton, Kevin Gover, and Mary Wynne, the program has become one of the best in the nation, educating students in Indian law and providing students with practical work experience.

Currently, the program includes 39 students representing over 25 tribal nations. This represents one of the largest groups of Indian law students in the nation. Additionally, the Program has over 90 alumni. The program's alumni go on to work in various positions, including private firms, non-profit organizations, tribal communities, federal agencies, state offices, and the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. Some alumni are currently serving as Superior Court and Tribal Court Judges.
“Life Ain’t Like the Movies”
Rennard Strickland Presents Inaugural Lecture at the University of Miami
By Kay Mackey, Reference Librarian, University of Miami School of Law

Recent United States Presidents have demonstrated an inability to distinguish between reality and legend regarding contemporary Indian society, according to Professor Rennard Strickland, the renowned Indian law scholar. Professor Strickland, of Cherokee/ Osage descent, the Philip H. Knight Professor of Law and former dean of University of Oregon Law School, was the inaugural speaker at the University of Miami Presidential Debate Lecture Series on March 9th. The program, “What the Presidential Candidates Need to Know About 21st Century Native Americans”, is the first in a series of lectures designed to lead up to the first Presidential debate scheduled for University of Miami on September 30th. The debate is being underwritten by the Miccosukee Tribe.

Professor Strickland indicated that most contemporary Native American battles occur in legislatures. He noted that Indians are almost never mentioned in Presidential addresses and called for an end to “Presidential illiteracy” in Native American issues. In furtherance of that objective, he outlined ten things the candidates should know:

1. Indian policy is a continuing obligation of the United States;
2. Contemporary tribes are distinct, with diverse traditions, values, and issues;
3. Indian nations are sovereign governments, not clubs or fraternal organizations;
4. Native Americans are capable of self governance;
5. The federal government has a trust responsibility which has been ignored and defiled;
6. Treaties and land rights do not expire;
7. Native Americans are regulated and subjected to limitations not imposed on any other citizens;
8. Stereotypes are widespread and debilitating;
9. Atrocities, discrimination and bias are not just 19th century phenomena;
10. Native Americans share values with non-Native Americans.

During his presentation, Professor Strickland singled out members of the audience, including University of Miami President (and former Secretary of Health & Human Services) Donna Shalala, former Attorney General Janet Reno, Professor Dexter Lehtinen, and Chairman Billy Cypress of the Miccosukee Tribe for their efforts on behalf of Native Americans.

Professor Strickland quoted Felix S. Cohen, an early expert in Indian legal affairs: “like the miner’s canary, the Indian marks the shift from fresh air to poison gas in our political atmosphere.” At the conclusion of his comments, Professor Strickland suggested that the Presidential candidates have much to learn from Native American values.
Book Review: *Looking Both Ways*

(This review was originally published in *Alaska History*, Vol. 17, Nos. 1 & 2, pp. 69-70 (Spring/Fall 2002))


*Looking Both Ways: Heritage and Identity of the Alutiiq People* is the catalog for an exhibit of the same name, touring selected cities in 2001-2003. An abbreviated exhibit may be viewed at http://www.mnh.si.edu/lookingbothways. The exhibit is a product of the Arctic Studies Center, Department of Anthropology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution and the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository. At the time the exhibit was produced Crowell was the Alaska Regional Director of the Arctic Studies Center, Steffian was Deputy Director of the Alutiiq Museum, and Pullar was the Director of the Department of Alaska Native and Rural Development, College of Rural Alaska, University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

The Alutiiq region consists of the islands and coastal areas of southern Alaska from the lower (southwestern) Alaska Peninsula through the Kodiak Island group, outer Kenai Peninsula, to the east side of Prince William Sound. These are the people anthropologists termed Pacific Eskimo. Their name for themselves at contact was Sugpiaq. The Russians called them Aleut, which in Sugpiaq was rendered as Alutiiq (Alu'utiq in the most recent orthography (p. xi)).

The book consists of seven chapters. Chapter 1 introduces the Alutiiq people and region and explains the purpose and name of the exhibit—to examine and teach the Alutiiq past, from both within and from the outside so that the culture and its ideals/values may be continued into the future. Chapters 2, 3 and 4 introduce the reader to Alutiiq archaeology, anthropology, post-contact history and contemporary affairs and identity. Chapter 5 describes the wild foods the Alutiiq formerly (and currently) harvested, and explores the spiritual connections between the natural world and many Alutiiq hunting and gathering tools and practices. Chapter 6 sheds light on the spiritual world itself, describing ceremonies, concepts and beliefs from both pre-contact times and two centuries of Russian Orthodox presence. Chapter 7 ends the book with nine Alutiiq Elders' accounts of growing up and living in, and struggling to preserve, Alutiiq culture and values, and developing their own sense of Alutiiq belonging.
Looking Both Ways... is a pleasing book. The binding and paper are sturdy, the type face and size are readable. It is profusely illustrated with high quality, well chosen color and B/W photographs. The maps and tables are well done and complement the text. There is a glossary of Alutiiq and Russian terms. Chapters 1-6 have end notes tied to the references. The book is not without errors: Don Dumond is identified as Donald Dumond (p. 8). Don is correct; and his last name is misspelled Dumond in the Index (p. 258). Discussing archaeological cultures, the text (p. 106) switches Takli Alder and Takli Birch, incorrectly cross-comparing Ocean Bay I with Takli Birch, and placing the Takli Alder later in time; Table 91 (p. 104) shows the relationships correctly. The Index is seriously incomplete: the essays which give the book much of its distinctive flavor are not found in the Index.

Looking Both Ways... is not written just for academics. It is not typical ethnography, it is not packed with jargon, it does not attempt to fit a set of observations into an academic model. It is a unifying and bonding agent for people of Alutiiq heritage; by emphasizing what is important to Alutiiq culture, values, unity and self-image, it is true to its stated goal of examining and teaching the past so that Alutiiq culture and ideals will be carried on through time. The liberal use of “personal essays” from Alutiiq Elders and leaders as well as from non-Alutiiq researchers gives the book a very person-oriented tone. Looking Both Ways... is serious scholarship made accessible by its language, style, and emphasis on real people.

Gerald Clark
(San Francisco Law Library)
San Francisco, CA
(gerald.clark@sfgov.org)

Photo and Map from Looking Both Ways Exhibit web site:
http://web8.si.edu/nmnh/lookingbothways/data/frames.html

Native Peoples Law Caucus Page 8 of 12
Carolyn Wilson New Program Attorney at NTJC
By Randy Snyder, Law Librarian, National Judicial College

The National Judicial College is pleased to announce that Carolyn Wilson has joined its Academic Department as Program Attorney for the National Tribal Judicial Center (NTJC). The NTJC was formed at the College to provide tribal judges with knowledge and information particularly relevant to the administration of justice in Indian Country. The main objective of the Center is to improve tribal justice systems through educational programs offering training directed toward enhancing judicial proficiency, competency, and understanding. The Center is funded through a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, a division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Wilson has a wealth of knowledge on the challenges facing tribal justice systems throughout Indian Country. Wilson is a former employee of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Wilson was the founding Director of Lenape Legal Aid, a tribally-funded legal services program offered by the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Wilson also served as the Project Director for the Delaware Tribal Court Reform Project. In her capacity as Project Director, Wilson initiated and managed the development of tribal codes and procedures and drafted a Five-Year Comprehensive Plan for the development of the Tribal Court of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Wilson is a member of the Oklahoma Bar. Her previous experience included representation in criminal and general civil litigation in state courts and social research for a private consulting firm.

Wilson is a member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians and is a descendant of the Sioux and Arikara tribes. A native of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Wilson holds a Bachelor of Art degree with a major in Fine Art from Cornell College of Iowa and a Juris Doctor from the University of Arizona College of Law.
Would Keyword Searching Have Been Easier if Columbus Had Been Searching for Turkey?

By Victoria A. Santana, Electronic Services and Reference Librarian, Oklahoma City University Law Library

Keyword searching on Indian law matters is never easy. On top of the usual Indian OR “Native American” there are the endless spelling variants of tribal names. Then there are the strange results for tribe that make you realize what an extremely prolific and cited author Lawrence Tribe really is.

Usually we are adding some additional terms that shorten the result list, but what about setting up a persistent search, one that you want to use to scan future activity?

I faced this problem when I set up a Lexis “Eclipse” search to monitor new cases for the Indian Law professors. I chose Lexis so that I could cut and paste the case summaries of worthy cases and email them to the professors. I was amazed at the number of cases and soon had to set it to run daily.

A significant portion of the results were not relevant. Maybe half were citations from prior Indian law decisions that are used as precedent on non-Indian matters, most notably Seminole Tribe v. Florida, 517 U.S. 44 (1996), which is now always cited on cases involving the sovereign immunity of state governments. That problem I had anticipated from preparing a legal history for my Tribe when I was one of the Tribal Attorneys.

What I did not anticipate were the other cases. First of all, there is an important non-Indian case, Indian Towing Co. v. U.S., 350 U.S. 61 (1955). Although it has been repeatedly distinguished, it has been cited 844 times. It is on federal sovereign immunity and the FTCA. One new one with a growing number of cites is the Indian Chef cases, which I often seemed to misread as “indian chief.” These are a series of federal district court insurance cases coming out of the 911 disaster.

Then there were the many cases involving the Cleveland Indians and the Indian Motorcycle Company. Also included was a bewilderingly large selection of place names that include the term “indian.” Unfortunately one of the places is a county in Florida that is often mentioned in Florida state court opinions.

So I modified my search string, double checked for months and have now settled down with a string I find workable. You have to realize when you are editing, that some results may be modified beyond what you expect, editing out “indian county,” for example, ended up editing out a large number of references on the order of “…matters should be construed liberally in favor of the Indians. County of Oneida v. Oneida Indian Nation, 470 U.S. 26, (1985)…”

Here is my search string as it now stands, arranged for Lexis, though it is easily modifiable for Westlaw:

native american or indian and date after xx/xx/xxxx and not(indian pre/1 chef or cotton or county or creek or harbor or head or hill or hollow or lake or motorcycle or nationality or oaks or ocean or prairie or ridge or river or springs or towing or village or wells) or cleveland indians

This is truly still a work in progress. I am now growing tired of East and West Indian and will consider adding them next. I usually test a new term by running double searches covering a three to six month term. So far I have always ended up adding the term. My results lists are smaller, though I am still running them daily. There is no way to edit out the older cases, and as someone who practices Indian Law for over 20 years, it is gratifying to see how much law we made.
Tribal Law Collaborative Collection Development -
a Status Report

By David Selden at the National Indian Law Library

The National Indian Law Library (NILL) has been making slow, but steady progress on a collaborative collection development plan. As a result of last year's Round Table on Tribal Law Collaborative Collection Development at the AALL conference, NILL has posted two or three e-mail messages to interested librarians relating to the group's need and ability to collaborate on developing collections of tribal codes, constitutions and intergovernmental agreements. The purpose for these e-mail discussions was to get some kind of consensus from the group as to what our goals and roles would be in a collaborative project. Since discussion related to the e-mail postings was fairly limited I think it would be more effective for us to develop a survey to distribute to interested librarians/libraries to determine the goals and priorities of this project. Ideally, it would be nice to distribute the results of the survey by or before the July AALL meeting in Boston for discussion at the Native Peoples Law Caucus meeting. If you have experience designing surveys and/or would like to help design a survey, or have any other ideas on how to proceed with this project, please contact David Selden (dselden@narf.org) ASAP. Related to this collaborative project, NILL is pleased to report that it is finalizing a portal or gateway to tribal law that will be launched on the NILL web site this summer. The purpose of this gateway is to provide a central, comprehensive index to accessing tribal law. This gateway will provide an A-Z listing of Indian tribes, pueblos, nations, and native villages with pointers to where copies of codes and constitutions exists in print and electronic format. In addition, the gateway will provide tribal contact information to allow researchers to easily contact tribes for more information about their laws. We hope to add tribal court opinions and intergovernmental agreement information to the gateway in the future as well as information about historical copies of law.

Indigenous Peoples Law & Policy Program Adds New Degree

By Jacquelyn Kasper, Law Librarian for IPLP Program.

The Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy (IPLP) Program at the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law will begin offering an SJD beginning Fall semester 2005. The SJD proposal, approved by the University, is at the Arizona Board of Regents for final approval. The IPLP Program currently offers an LLM Masters of Law and Clinical Program. For more information, contact

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Special thanks to all members of the Native Peoples Law Caucus who attended the meeting in Seattle and generously gave enough money to not only cover the printing of last year's newsletter, but also covered the printing of this year's newsletter. Many, many thanks to you all. This is a wonderful group of people. Thanks again!

New Native Peoples Law Caucus Web Site Goes Online
Check out the newest resource for sharing information related to Native Law: http://www.aallnet.org/caucus/nplc/index.html. There's a member Directory and a list of useful web sites—feel free to suggest other web sites for inclusion on the NPLC site. In the near future look for a breaking news section and a message board for bulletins.

See you all in SAN ANTONIO in 2005!