

# Native Peoples Law Caucus Newsletter

NPLC Newsletter  
Summer 2010



## Inside this issue:

ASU Award	1
Mersky Award	2-3
Book Bank	4
NPLC Workshop	5
Book Reviews	6
News from NILL	7
	8

## Excellence in Marketing Award Best Use of Technology

Arizona State University Ross Blakely Law Library

The Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law Indian Law Portal

<http://law.asu.edu/library/indianlawportal>

Please join me in congratulating Alison Ewing and the other Law Librarians at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law (Arizona State University) on receiving the Excellence in Marketing Award in the category of Best Use of Technology for their Indian Law Portal.

The purpose of the portal is to provide subject materials that support the curriculum of the ASU College of Law Indian Legal Program. It is hoped that the portal will also benefit the Indian legal community by providing links to comprehensive, authoritative, free materials for their use. ASU subscription materials are available for use in the library. ASU Librarians have selected the best resources for you from the thousands available.

The portal links to electronic and print resources and brings together in one place many legal and interdisciplinary resources that the University purchases for its students and faculty, including databases, indexes, full text electronic journals, authoritative websites, and print resources. The portal also provides some unique resources created specifically for American Indian law researchers, including a chart on Arizona Tribal Law Sources, compiled legislative histories for selected important laws related to Native Americans, and an historical timeline that links to primary legal documents.

If you need assistance in using the portal, check out our guide on [How to Use the Indian Law Portal](#) (it is also available as a [presentation](#)) or [Ask a Librarian](#) for further assistance.



Alison Ewing,  
Reference Librarian  
ASU Law Library

## David Selden, 2010 Mersky Spirit of Law Librarianship Award Winner



The Roy M. Mersky Spirit of Law Librarianship Award Committee is pleased to announce that David Selden, Law Librarian at the National Indian Law Library/Native American Rights Fund, is the 2010 recipient of the award. The Committee thanks everyone who submitted nominations.

David is best known in the law library community for his work to make United States Tribal law, codes, and constitutions more accessible to the public, attorneys, and researchers. However, his public service passion is promoting efforts to increase environmental sustainability and reduce climate changing greenhouse gas and carbon emissions.

From 2006 to 2009, David initiated and coordinated a Colorado Adopt-A-Highway volunteer litter control program for National Indian Law Library (NILL) and Native American Rights Fund (NARF) employees on a two-mile stretch of highway in the Boulder area. This project increased NARF's visibility in the community and modeled good stewardship of the environment.

Since 2004, David has served as the volunteer race director for the Colorado Indian Bar Association's Red Rock Scramble, an annual run/walk event to raise funds for American Indian law student scholarships. In this capacity, David planned and directed the 2008 event as the first officially certified Race Without a Trace in Colorado. This event was both zero waste and carbon neutral and included other sustainable features. Zero waste and carbon neutral features continue to be a standard part of this popular annual event.

David became a volunteer Eco Auditor for a project in his home town of Lyons, Colorado, in 2007. This program trains community members as eco auditors, in order to help other interested community members live more sustainable lives. Homeowners in the program learn how to measure and evaluate their energy use, consumption, and overall impact on the climate and environment, and are presented with solutions for a more sustainable lifestyle. To date, nearly 100 families have participated in this Green Heart Community Initiative.

David is a member of the Lyons Sustainability Advisory Council, which works to solve environmental problems on the local level. This organization empowers citizens and businesses in Lyons to become more sustainable and work with governments and other organizations to implement positive change. David's concentration relates to transportation issues and sustainable events. Since David joined the Council in 2008, the intergovernmental regional transportation service has added a popular 8:15am bus from Lyons to Boulder for morning commuters, and the Red Rock Scramble has become a model for other environmentally sustainable events held in Lyons.

In early 2010, David initiated and coordinated a Colorado Adopt-A-Highway volunteer litter control program for the [Lyons Community Foundation](#) (LCF) on a two mile stretch of highway at the southeast entrance to Lyons. This project increases LCF's visibility in the community and models good stewardship of the environment.

David has consistently integrated his concern for the environment with his professional life. He initiated and chaired the Native American Rights Fund Green Office Committee. From 2007 to 2009, his efforts resulted in a 21% annual carbon emissions reduction in the Fund's Boulder offices. David personally performs annual eco audits of the offices to create baseline energy consumption data for goal setting. David and his committee accomplish these goals by successfully implementing projects such as:

- Zero waste policies and procedures. These initiatives include recycling and composting programs that allow employees to recycle and compost materials collected at their homes and in their offices.
- A Green Office Purchasing Plan for supplies, appliances and equipment.
- A Green Office Education Program for employees, which includes presentations on energy consumption and carbon footprint, weekly "Green Office Tips" via email, sale of composting kits, and loans of a Kill-A-Watt meter to employees to measure energy use in the office and at home.
- A "hard to recycle program" for library books, fluorescent and CFL light bulbs, plastic bags, office equipment, etc.
- A Carbon Offset Fund for NARF and NILL employees to voluntarily purchase carbon offsets for personal and business airline flights.

Three of David's responses to the Member to Member questions have appeared in AALL Spectrum:

- Why environmental sustainability is the most important political issue of our time
- Top three green tips for law librarians
- Making my dream library environmentally sustainable

David's environmentally-focused column, tentatively titled The Eco-Conscious Librarian, will debut in the September 2010 issue of AALL Spectrum.

David reduced his travel-related carbon footprint by carpooling in his hybrid vehicle with a colleague to the 2008 AALL Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon, as well as to the 2009 WestPac Annual Meeting in Bozeman, Montana. The carbon footprint reduction was about 75% as compared to flying to these conferences.

In March 2009, David presented a well-attended and well-received program addressing how law and special libraries can become more environmentally sustainable. Colorado Association of Law Libraries and Rocky Mountain Special Libraries Association members attended, and several participants asked to use his slides to make similar presentations in their workplaces.

David was named a Special Libraries (SLA) "Knowledge to Go Green" Champion in February 2009. This award recognizes individuals who apply "green" principles and make changes to the way they perform their work on a day to day basis.

As these many and varied examples illustrate, David is an excellent advocate for environmental sustainability and carbon reduction issues. As he wrote in his Sustainability Management Certificate scholarship application:

"While the problems of sustainability and climate change are immense and complicated, each person or organization that I interact with can have a direct beneficial impact on this problem."

From the Tarlton Law Library, Jamail Center for Legal Research  
(<http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/slla/announcements.html>)

# NPLC BOOK BANK

Continues to Provide Gently-Used Books to Tribal Libraries, Tribal Attorneys, Tribal Cultural Centers and Tribal Museums.

Native Resources Law Librarian, Faye Hadley, (University of Tulsa College of Law, Mabee Legal Information Center) drove from Tulsa, Oklahoma to Portland, Oregon in October 2009 with a car load of books to give away at the National Tribal Librarians, Archivists, and Museum Curators Conference. This conference presented a wonderful opportunity to distribute over 300 books that had been collected from various sources (primarily from TU Law faculty discards) along with books donated by John O'Donnell (Head of Public Services, Whittier Law School). The books were distributed free of charge to appreciative librarians who work at Tribal Libraries & Archives, Tribal Cultural Centers and Tribal Museums. Faye continues to collect surplus legal books (no older than 2002). Areas of particular interest are Indian/Native law, Constitutional law, Property law, Natural Resources/Environmental law, and Copyright law. Another focus of the Native Peoples Law Caucus Book Bank is to distribute copies of ***American Indian Law in a Nutshell*** as well as copies of Stephen Pevar's ***The Rights of Indians and Tribes*** to provide a basic guide to Indian law to under-funded tribal libraries. Faye Hadley also continues to participate in the Oklahoma Library Association's Ad Hoc Tribal Libraries Committee which attempts to increase visibility and provide training opportunities for Tribal Librarians and their Libraries. If you have surplus books that are looking for a second home, please contact Faye Hadley at [m-hadley@utulsa.edu](mailto:m-hadley@utulsa.edu) or phone: 918-631-2457.



## Native Peoples Law Caucus (NPLC) members present a (sold out!) workshop on tribal law research on 7/10.

NPLC members Sherri Thomas and David Selden along with Jill Tompkins, tribal judge and director of American Indian Law Clinic at University of Colorado are presenting the workshop: *Researching Native American Tribal Law-the Law of the Third Sovereign*. This workshop filled to capacity in about two weeks. Topics covered by the workshop include:

What is tribal law and what are sovereign Indian nations?

Description of tribal governments

Description of tribal courts

What research resources are available?

What resources are being developed?

Research demos & exercises

Why are more resources not available?

Tips on obtaining law from tribes



If you were unable to attend the workshop and would like to see the PowerPoint slides and other materials, go to:

[http://www.narf.org/nill/triballaw/aall\\_2010.htm](http://www.narf.org/nill/triballaw/aall_2010.htm)

### Tools of the Researcher: Social Bookmarks

By Maria Protti

It's easy to find blogs about Native Peoples Law by searching on sites featuring collaborated bookmarks such as digg.com and delicious.com. Once you find a useful blog, use RSS to get updates effortlessly. Here are interesting blogs found by searching shared bookmarks.

1. **West Coast Environmental Law** <http://wcel.org>  
Relevant to the current Gulf of Mexico oil leakage, this site from Vancouver, Canada, discusses environmental law and indigenous biological knowledge, including laws that preclude oil spills in coastal waters.
2. **Turtletalk** <http://turtletalk.wordpress.com> Created  
at the Indigenous Law and Policy Center at Michigan State University College of Law, this popular blog emphasizes daily news, as well as posts related to Indian tribes in Michigan and the Great Lakes region.
3. **Last Woman** <http://LastWomen.wordpress.com>  
Julia Good Fox (Pawnee) comments on the impacts of law on Native Americans. Ms. Fox teaches at the Indigenous Nations and American Indian Studies Department at Haskell Indian Nations College in Kansas.
4. **Native Americans, Discovered and Conquered** [http://lawlib.lclark.edu/blog/native\\_america](http://lawlib.lclark.edu/blog/native_america)  
Robert J. Miller, Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, contemplates current issues, such as the President's response to claims of cultural rights.
5. **Native Unity** <http://NativeUnity.blogspot.com>  
Bobbi Hart O'Neill, a journalist, facilitates collaborative discussion of law and public policy. Topics include the prevalence of smoking, and involvement in renewable energy projects.
6. **For the Seventh Generation** <http://tribal-law.blogspot.com>  
News and opinions about Federal Indian Law and tribal governance by law professors who teach in the field.

## New Books

Here is a list of recently published (or soon to be published) titles that might be of interest to NPLCers:

—*The Last Great Battle of the Indian Wars: Henry M. Jackson, Forrest J. Gerard, and the Campaign for the Self-Determination of America's Indian Tribes*, by Mark Trahan. Cedars Group (Release date July 21 in Seattle, July 22 in Minneapolis). ISBN 0982758103, 9780982758106.



—*The Real AIM of Ward Churchill: and the Murder of Anna Mae Aquash*, by David Seals. Northern Arizona Press University (Released May 8, 2010) ISBN 9780557477685.

—*Emerging Issues in Tribal-State Relations: Leading Lawyers on Preserving Tribal Sovereignty, Responding to New Regulations, and Improving the Tribal-State Relationships*(Aspatore 2010) ISBN 9780314926777.

—*In the Courts of the Conqueror: The 10 Worst Indian Law Cases Ever Decided*, by Walter Echo-Hawk, Speaker's Corner, (June 2010) ISBN 9781936218011.

—*The Oglala Sioux: Warriors in Transition*, by Robert H. Ruby, University of Nebraska Press (2010) ISBN 9780803226227.

—*The New Media Nation: Indigenous Peoples and Global Communication*, by Valerie Alia, Berghahn Books (2010) ISBN 9781845454203.

—*Native Americans and the Legacy of Harry S. Truman*, ed. by Brian Hosmer, Truman State University Press (2010) ISBN 9781931112925.

—*Navajo Courts and Navajo Common Law: A Tradition of Tribal Self-Governance*, By Raymond D. Austin, University of Minnesota (2009) ISBN 9780816665358.

—*Canada's Indigenous Constitution*, by John Borrows, University of Toronto Press (2010) ISBN 978442641037.

—*Sequoyah Rising Problems in Post-Colonial Tribal Governance*, by Steve Russell, Carolina Academic Press (2010) ISBN 9781594607165.

—*The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma A Legal History*, by L. Susan Work, University of Oklahoma Press (2010) ISBN 9780806140896.

—*Aboriginal Title and Indigenous Peoples Canada, Australia and New Zealand*, by Louis A. Knafila and Haijo Westra University of British Columbia Press (2010) ISBN 97880774815604.



## National Indian Law Library (NILL) Updates Tribal Law Gateway Web Site Pages

<http://www.narf.org/nill/triballaw/index.htm>

NILL has made some important improvements to its Tribal Law Gateway web pages in an effort to make tribal law research easier. **Improvements include:**

- Updated all links to our Comprehensive List of Tribal Codes and Constitutions to include direct links to catalog records for each code and constitution in the NILL collection in addition to online copies.
- Updated links to electronic copies of codes and constitutions found on web sites outside of NILL
- Audio/visual demos on how to do different types of research
- Updated information on new tribal law content

In addition, NILL will be updating its tribal law research article this summer. Suggestions and comments on the Gateway are encouraged.

## ASU Hosts Indian Legal Research Seminar

In May 2009, ASU hosted a seminar "Indian Legal Research: Unlocking the Secrets to Researching Indian Law." The seminar was attended by nearly 60 people from nine Indian nations, members of tribal courts, the BLM, the BIA, and many law firms. The conference was the brainchild of Alison Ewing, library liaison for the Indian Legal Program at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.

Professor Rebecca Tsosie said that the seminar was the first of its kind she had seen anywhere, and was particularly timely as Indian law may soon be tested on the Arizona State Bar Exam.

The seminar was an outgrowth of the Indian Law Portal (see p. 1) set up by Alison Ewing, which serves as a resource for ASU law students, the legal community and Indian Country.

"Indian law is a very interdisciplinary subject that draws on many disciplines, including environmental, cultural property, genetics, business, economic development, and so on."

Alison Ewing





*American Association of Law Libraries*  
MAXIMIZING THE POWER OF THE LAW LIBRARY COMMUNITY SINCE 1906



**Please join us for our Native Peoples Law Caucus  
Annual Meeting Monday, July 12, 2010 from 12:00  
p.m. until 1:15 p.m., in room 208 of the Colorado  
Convention Center.**

**NPLC Officers:**

Chairperson - Sherri Nicole  
Thomas  
Webmaster - Open  
Newsletter - Faye Hadley  
Treasurer - Open  
TLC - David Selden

**Mission Statement of the Native Peoples Law Caucus:**

The aim of the Native Peoples Law Caucus is to provide a forum in which Native law and other issues that impact Indigenous Peoples worldwide can be discussed, ideas shared, information exchanged, and education offered. The Caucus encourages and facilitates the analysis, cataloging, collection, dissemination, management, organization, and preservation of Native law in accordance with cultural tradition. WEB SITE: <http://www.aallnet.org/caucus/nplc/>

**NPLC Sponsors Tribal Law Research Workshop  
on 7/10/10, 9:30am - 12noon.**

