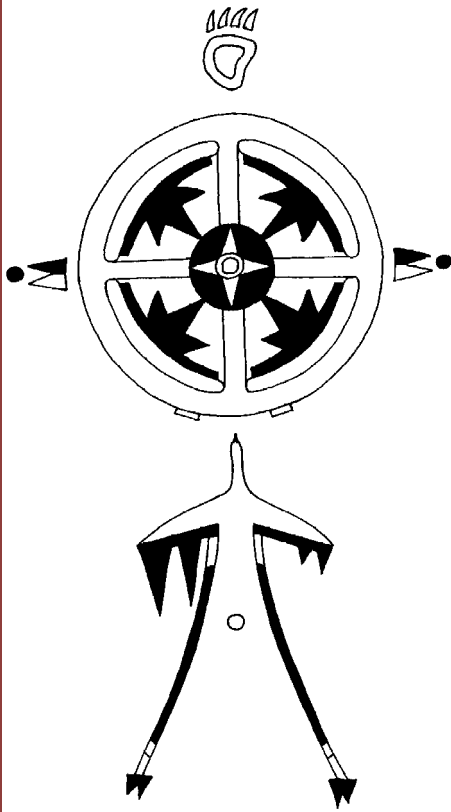


EARTH MEDICINE



**December
1996**

Haskell Environmental
Research Studies Center
and
Great Plains-Rocky Mountain
Hazardous Substance
Research Center

“All Things Are Connected” seminar program completes filming

Coping with environmental changes made by both humans and nature was the theme in filming the opening segment of, “The Biology Of The Earth—All Things Are Connected.” Dr. Henrietta Mann (Cheyenne), Professor of Indian Studies, University of Montana, Missoula, Montana, narrated the segment that is being produced by the Haskell Environmental Research Studies Center (HERS) at Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU). “The Biology Of The Earth—All Things Are Connected” will start the four-part seminar series that will address issues of land, air, water and living beings as they relate to environmental issues in Indian countries.

“You can replace a building, an airplane, a whole city. But you cannot replace the red tailed hawk, the coyote, or the bison,” said Dr. Mann, referring to the importance of maintaining balance between all living things.

For many years, people developed the land for their use at the expense of many species. Some of these species are extinct or are in danger of becoming extinct.

Some of human creation interferes with the natural processes of the ecosystem. The natural burnings that manage the prairies are limited because farmlands have replaced the prairies. The stones in the Flint Hills that made the land impossible to plow also made the land the best cattle grazing pasture.

“When we destroy the land at the rate we do now in the name of progress and development, we are flirting with ecological suicide,” commented Mann. The modern technologies developed to clean up contaminations in the land, water, and air do not bring back extinct species that once played an important role in the ecosystem.

“The Biology Of the Earth—All Things Are Connected,” will be a live satellite program scheduled to air on January 28, 1997. Dr. Mann’s 15-minute narration in this program will discuss the ways in which the plant and animal species are coping with environmental changes that occurred naturally or as a result of human activity. She will stress the importance of interconnectedness and interrelationships between

■ continued on page 3



“You can replace a building, an airplane, a whole city. But you cannot replace the red tailed hawk, the coyote or the bison,” says Henrietta Mann.

On page...

- 2 HERS Advisory Board
- 3 Workshops and Conferences
- 4 NAOMI Seminar Program

HERS Advisory Board makes changes and receives updates

The Haskell Environmental Research Studies (HERS) Center Advisory Board convened for their annual fall meeting on November 1, 1996. The group met at Haskell Indian Nations University to elect new officers, receive updates on HERS activities and discuss the future of HERS.

The first order of business for the HERS Advisory Board was the election of new officers. The Board has three elected positions, which are one-year terms. Gerald Wagner (Blackfeet) was elected to replace Don Aragon (Shoshone) as the chair of the HERS Advisory Board. Aragon, the executive director of the Wind River Environmental Quality Commission in Fort Washakie, Wyoming, had been chair since the Advisory Board's first meeting in January 1995. Gerald Wagner is the director of the Blackfoot Environmental Program in Browning, Montana.

Karl Burgher was re-elected to the position of vice-chair of the Advisory Board, a position he has held since the group first convened in January 1995. Burgher is the project manager of the Mine Waste Technology Center and a professor of mining engineering at the Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology in Butte, Montana.

Les Benedict (Mohawk) was elected to replace Kim Clausen as secretary/treasurer. Kim Clausen (Oglala Lakota) is an environmental specialist for the Oglala Lakota Nation's Natural Resources Regulatory Agency. Benedict is the assistant director of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe's environmental division.

In addition to electing new officers, the Advisory Board also added two new members to its ranks. Sadie Hoskie, Indian Coordinator for the Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII, Denver, Colorado; and Charley Shaiffer, the US Fish and Wildlife Service biologist at Mingo National Wildlife Refuge in Puxico, Missouri, were added as ex-officio, non-voting members. The HERS Advisory Board currently has one position open, which is being reserved for an elder and spiritual and cultural advisor.

The Advisory Board received updates on several HERS activities, including the Stone & Webster

partnership, the "All Things Are Connected: The Sacred Circle Of Life" seminar series, the pesticide technology curriculum for Native Americans project, the Environmental Analysis Training for the Great Plains Native American Nations, and the Roy F. Weston Internship program. HERS is partnering with Stone & Webster Environmental Technology and Services on a Total Environmental Restoration Contract through the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Representatives from Stone & Webster and the USACE met at HINU after the HERS Advisory Board meeting to discuss future work plans.

The "All Things Are Connected: The Sacred Circle Of Life" seminar series is a four-part series that will address problems and solutions to environmental concerns throughout Indian Country. Two of the programs in this series will be satellite uplink programs. For more information on this program, please refer to the article on page 1.

The Pesticide Technology Curriculum for Native Americans project will be an interactive text and will be available through video cassette and through the internet. The first prototype is scheduled to be ready in February 1997. The curriculum will have a strong Native American cultural emphasis.

Using funding from the Native American and Other Minority Institutions (NAOMI) program, environmental analysis training for the Great Plains Native American Nations will be conducted at Sinte Gleska University on November 20-22. For more information on this program, please refer to the article on page 3.

During Summer 1996, HERS coordinated the placing of one intern with Roy F. Weston, an engineering firm. Glen Tolle (Cherokee), a student from HINU, worked at a Roy F. Weston construction site in Louisville, Kentucky. HERS is working toward establishing a permanent internship program with Weston for students from all American Indian Higher Education Consortium schools.

The HERS Advisory Board will meet again in Spring 1997. The date and location have yet to be determined. ■

Sinte Gleska University coordinates environmental analysis training for Northern Great Plains Indian tribes

Environmental analysis training sponsored by Sinte Gleska University (SGU) and University of Nebraska-Lincoln was designed to train tribal technicians, tribal college and secondary school teachers and students in environmental monitoring. The November 20-22 training consisted of five elements.

The training participants were introduced to the environmental problems associated with contaminated surface and groundwater. Participants used field detection tools in the SGU laboratory. The field detection consisted of a discussion of the theoretical aspects and the interference of each test and actual hands on use of each method.

The third element in the training was sample collection where participants discussed sampling

protocols, documentation and the concepts of quality control.

The fourth part of the training was analyzing data. Participants took samples of water to analyze and interpret the data. The last element of the training was to demonstrate knowledge in the use of equipment and to transfer knowledge of each type of equipment and to learn to interpret data from each equipment.

The training was targeted at tribal college science faculty and students, tribal resource and environmental monitoring professionals and technicians. The training was made possible with a grant from the Native American and Other Minority Institutions program. ■

Seminar stresses the interrelationship between land, air and water with living beings

■ continued from page 1

species. Dr. Mann's introduction will be followed by a panel discussion of issues, implications and challenges Indian Nations are facing in following their ancient environmental philosophies.

This program will be moderated by George Tiger (Muscogee/Creek), host and producer of *Inside Native America*, broadcast on CBS affiliate KTOK TV. Possibly joining Tiger in the studio are Joseph Bruchac, writer, and Donna House (Navajo), ethnobotanist.

The second program, "The Land: Planning for Future Generations," will consist of a moderated panel discussion of tribal professionals knowledgeable of environmental problems associated with soil contamination. The key issues raised will revolve around pro-active steps that tribes can take to protect the land, including the importance of developing land use plans and policies for reservation areas. This program will be moderated by a former HINU student. Possible panelist are Oren Lyons (Onondoga); Dr. Steve Semken, Professor of Earth Sciences at Navajo Community College; and Jaune Quick-To-See-Smith (Salish-Kootenai), artist. The program will be distributed to seminar participants on video tape.

"Water: Going Beneath the Surface of an Issue," the third program, will incorporate footage of the wetlands of the Seminole Nation in Florida and the St. Lawrence River on the St. Regis Mohawk Reserve in New York and Canada. This program will discuss the importance of tribal access to environ-

mental technologies in relation to planning and management strategies for the effective exercise of tribal sovereignty. This studio production will be moderated by a former HINU student. Merv Tano, environmental programs director for the Council of Energy Resource Tribes, is a possible panelist. Les Benedict, assistant director of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe's environmental division, and James Grijalva, director of Tribal Environmental Law Project at the University of North Dakota, are confirmed as panelists for discussion.

The fourth program, "Air: Ensuring Quality for the Future," will feature the activities of the Navajo Nation's Air Quality Control Office. Like the first seminar program of this series, the program will be a live satellite uplink. The program will be moderated by George Tiger. Sharon Crowley, Native American liaison, United States Geological Survey in Washington, DC, and Jerry Pardilla, executive director of the National Tribal Environmental Council are possible panelists. Gerald Wagner, director of the Blackfeet environmental program in Browning, Montana, is a confirmed panelist who will join Tiger in the discussion. Viewers will be able to call in questions for discussion.

This four-part seminar series is coordinated by the Haskell Environmental Research Studies Center. Those interested in participating in the "All Things Are Connected: The Sacred Circle of Life," series are invited to contact HERS at (913) 749-8498. ■

Available videotapes

These tapes are available through interlibrary loan from Kansas State University's Farrell Library.

Geoscience Education in Native American Communities

Live Teleconference: An Environmental Legacy For Our Grandchildren

Comparison of Native American and European Worldviews: A Roundtable Discussion, Part II

The Badlands Bombing Range Project

Basin Creek Mine Closure Reclamation Techniques

Comparison of Native American and European Worldviews: A Roundtable Discussion

Topics in Pollution Prevention—Vehicle Maintenance

PCBs in Our Environment—The Legacy Continues

Comparison of Native American and European Worldviews: A European Viewpoint

Environmental Impacts of Gold Mining Operations Near the Fort Belknap Reservation

Comparison of Native American and European Worldviews: A Native American Viewpoint

The NAOMI Program and HERS: New Opportunities in Environmental Research

Hózhó Kéyah (Environmental Harmony in Business)

Hózhó Hooghan (Environmental Harmony at Home)

Team America: A Strategic Plan for the 1990's

Bold print indicates that a seminar was sponsored by the NAOMI Seminar Program.



Center Directors

George Godfrey and Dan Wildcat

Supporting Faculty

Carol Bowen, Bill Curtis, Tom Dixon
Chuck Haines, Dennis O'Malley, Mike Tosee

Editors

Wendy Griswold and Patterson T. Yazzie

Grants Administrator

Helen Gee

Medicine Wheel Graphic

Leslie Evans

Advisory Board Members

Don Aragon, Les Benedict, Sherry
Blackburn, Karl Burgher, Kim Clausen,
Shelia Crawford, Sharon Crowley, Ray
Haner, Rose Main, Ella Mulford, Jerry
Pardilla, Steve Semken, Graham Snelding,
John Trotter, Gerald Wagner, Benjamin
Whiting, Roderick Yeahpau

Earth Medicine is published bi-monthly by the Haskell Environmental Research Studies Center to serve as a means of communication for members of the center's consortium and the public. The Office of Research and Development, U.S. EPA, under agreement #R-819653, through the Great Plains-Rocky Mountain Hazardous Substance Research Center, provides \$1,101,757, or 70 percent, of the funding for this program and publication. The content of this publication does not necessarily represent the views of that agency. No official endorsement should be inferred.



Printed on recycled paper.



Haskell Indian
Nations University



Kansas State University

**EARTH
MEDICINE**

Haskell Foundation
Haskell Environmental Research Studies Center
155 Indian Ave., Box 1247
Lawrence, KS 66046
913-749-8498

Please send a free subscription of *Earth Medicine* to:

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone and FAX _____

Nonprofit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Lawrence, KS 66044

Permit No. 187