## UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PEMBROKE

## - UNCP is North Carolina's Historically American Indian University.

- UNCP has the largest enrollment of American Indian students east of the Mississippi River.
- UNCP is the only institution in the Southeastern United States to offer a Bachelor of Arts in American Indian Studies.
- The Museum of the Southeast American Indian features exhibits on Native peoples of the region, with a focus on the Lumbee.
- The Southeast American Indian Studies Program was established in 2012 with a goal for UNCP to become the premiere institute for the study of Southeastern American Indians.

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# Southeast Indian Studies Conference



## April 16-17, 2015

University Center Annex The University of North Carolina at Pembroke www.uncp.edu/ais/sisc

## Welcome

Thank you for attending the eleventh annual Southeast Indian Studies Conference (SISC). The SISC was created to provide a forum for discussion of the cultures, histories, art, health and contemporary issues of Native Americans in the Southeastern United States. Thus, the conference serves as a critical venue for scholars, students and all persons interested in Southeast American Indian Studies. We welcome your participation, and hope you will join in during the discussions.

This year marks the eleventh year of our conference, and the Department of American Indian Studies (AIS) is proud and excited to have so many distinguished researchers and scholars coming together at UNCP. Our keynote speaker is Dr. LeAnne Howe (Choctaw Nation). Dr. Howe is the Eidson Distinguished Chair in English at the University of Georgia in Athens. Please take time to review our program and attend all of the presentations.

The SISC dinner at Berea Baptist Church is a popular component to our conference that we are continuing this year. Several of our participants requested that we have a dinner on Thursday evening for out-of-towners and conference participants. This year we are using the gathering to honor Dr. Linda E. Oxendine (Lumbee), Professor Emeritus of AIS at UNC Pembroke. Dr. Oxendine has been awarded the Order of the Longleaf Pine. This is a special North Carolina Governor's award in recognition of her service to the State of North Carolina. We invite you to join us for that dinner.

At the end of each day you will have an opportunity to share with us your thoughts and suggestions for next year's SISC, to be held April 14-15, 2016. Please complete and return an evaluation for each day's events. Additionally, as you are listening and thinking about the presentations, please consider presenting your research or scholarship at next year's SISC. You will find our 2016 call for papers inserted in your packet.

Thank you for attending and we hope you will tell your friends and colleagues about this event.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Jacob

Mary Ann Jacobs (Lumbee), Ph.D. Associate Professor and Chair Department of American Indian Studies

## About the Southeast Indian Studies Conference

Held annually since 2005, the Southeast Indian Studies Conference (SISC) is the only national conference dedicated solely to the unique history and cultures of Southeastern American Indians. Past keynote speakers include Dr. Charles Hudson, Dr. Melanie Benson-Taylor (Herring Pond Wampanoag), Dr. Donald Fixico (Shawnee, Sac and Fox, Muscogee Creek, and Seminole), Dr. Arlinda Locklear (Lumbee) and Dr. Karenne Wood (Monacan).



The symbol for the conference is the sassafras leaf. According to Dr. Stanley Knick (2001), professor of Anthropology at UNC Pembroke, "Arthur Barlowe recorded in the 1580s that among Indian people in eastern North Carolina one of the most commonly used plants was sassafras. A hundred and twenty years later, John Lawson

reported that the most commonly used medicinal plant among eastern North Carolina Indians was still sassafras - used as an effective treatment for a variety of things, from cuts and bruises to reduction of fevers and even purifying blood. Two hundred and eighty years after that, my research among the Lumbee showed that sassafras was still the most commonly reported traditional plant remedy." (Knick, Stan. 2001. "Diet, Sassafras and Isolation: Understanding from Native America." *New Life Journal* [Volume 3, #1])

Join us for the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Southeast Indian Studies Conference on April 14-15, 2016. To learn more about the conference, visit www.uncp.edu/ais/sisc

## About the University of North Carolina at Pembroke

UNC Pembroke is situated in the heart of the Lumbee community. The university, with its unique designation as "North Carolina's Historically American Indian University" and Southeast American Indian Studies (SAIS) Program, Department of American Indian Studies (AIS) and Museum of the Southeast American Indian (MSAI), makes an ideal setting for the SISC.

SAIS, an administrative unit that links AIS, MSIA and other Native-related UNCP programs, was established with the goal of becoming the premiere teaching and research program for the study of Indians of the Southeast.

UNCP, established in 1887 to train Lumbee Indian teachers, today confers more undergraduate degrees to Indians than any institution east of the Mississippi River and is in the top 10 nationally. The student body was all-Indian until 1952. Between 1939 and 1953, the institution was the only statesupported four-year college for American Indians in the United States.

**On the Cover:** Catawba tripod pot with effigy heads (1984) by Catawba potter Sara Ayers (1919-2002). Permanent collection of the MSAI.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2015

#### 8:30 – 9:15 AM MORNING REFRESHMENTS AND REGISTRATION University Center Annex

9:15 – 9:30 AM INTRODUCTIONS Dr. Mary Ann Jacobs

## **OPENING CEREMONY & INVOCATION**

Southern Sun Singers Dr. Stan Knick

## WELCOME TO UNCP

Chancellor Kyle Carter

**GREETINGS FROM LUMBEE TRIBE** Chairman Paul Brooks

## 9:30 - 10:45 AM SESSION I

Dr. Stan Knick, session chair

- Mr. Marty Richardson, UNC-Chapel Hill, Racial Choices and Haliwa-Saponi Native Authenticity: A Correlation Between the 1835 North Carolina Constitutional Amendment and Indian Removal
- Dr. Matthew Jennings, Middle Georgia State College, Macon Campus, "Trail of Cheers?": Historical Memory and Amnesia in 1970s Macon

## 11:00 – 12:15 PM SESSION II

Dr. Mary Ann Jacobs, session chair

- Mr. Jesse Rouse, UNC Pembroke, Shell-bearing Cultural Landscapes of the Southeastern US
- Ms. Meghan E. Harter, UNC-Chapel Hill, Walking on Egg Shells: Native American Students, UNC, and Higher Education
- 12:30 1:30 PM LUNCH

## 1:30 – 2:45 PM KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. LeAnne Howe, University of Georgia, "Native Literary Transformations: Or, Braking Bad"

## 3:00 – 4:15 PM SESSION III

Dr. Jesse Peters, session chair

 Homecomings and Transformations: LeAnne Howe, the Southeast, and Beyond. Dr. Eric Anderson, George Mason University, Panel Chair. Presenters: Dr. Gina Caison, Georgia State University, "Life Everlasting, Native Human Remains, and Repatriation: The Political Stakes of LeAnne Howe's Shell Shaker"; Dr. Kara Thompson, College of William and Mary, "Posthuman Ecologies and Miko Kings"; and Dr. Kirstin Squint, High Point University, "Choctalking as Code Talking in the Works of LeAnne Howe"

## 4:30 – 5:00 PM POSTER SESSION IV

Dr. Jane Haladay, session chair

- Dr. Ronny A. Bell, Wake Forest School of Medicine, Development and Implementation of the Native Proverbs 31 Health Project
- Ms. Jessica Markey, UNC Pembroke, *Service Learning Within American Indian Studies*
- Mr. Nathan Phillippi, UNC Pembroke, Mapping Lumbee Family Name Clusters in Robeson County, NC

#### 5:30 PM DINNER AT BEREA BAPTIST CHURCH Across from UNC Pembroke campus

The dinner will feature the presentation of The Order of the Longleaf Pine to Dr. Linda E. Oxendine, professor emeritus and former chair of American Indian Studies at UNC Pembroke.

## The Order of the Longleaf Pine

Among the most sought after and valued awards conferred by the Governor of North Carolina is The Order of the Longleaf Pine, which is presented to outstanding North Carolinians who have a proven record of service to the State. Persons who have demonstrated a lifetime of service to the State may qualify. Also, state employees may upon retirement be nominated if they have at least thirty years of exemplary service to North Carolina.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2015

#### 8:30 – 9:15 AM MORNING REFRESHMENTS AND REGISTRATION University Center Annex

9:15 – 9:30 AM WELCOME Dr. Mary Ann Jacobs

#### 9:30 – 10:45 AM SESSION V

Dr. Michael Spivey, session chair

- Mr. Jamie K. Oxendine, "Spiders, Panthers, Snakes & Hawks, Ob My?" South Eastern Native American Symbols
- Dr. Troy A. Richardson, Cornell University, Etchings in Place: Indigenous Technologies of Relatedness and Their Disappearance

## 11:00 – 12:15 PM SESSION VI

Dr. Rose Stremlau, session chair

- Mr. Eric McDuffie, Duke University, An Evaluation of Societal Implications of Environmental Education Through the Integration of Indigenous and Westernized Practices in the Piedmont Region of North Carolina
- Dr. Ulrike Wiethaus, Wake Forest University, American Indian Incarceration in North Carolina: Issues and Experiences
- 12:30 1:30 PM LUNCH

## 1:30 – 2:45 PM SESSION VII

Dr. Jane Haladay, session chair

 Ms. Danica Cullinan, NC State University, Film: First Language-The Race to Save Cherokee

#### 3:00 – 4:15 PM SESSION VIII

Dr. Mary Ann Jacobs, session chair

- Mr. Caleb Hicks, UNC-Chapel Hill, Linguistic asymmetries of 'subject' and 'object' in Alabama, Cherokee, and Yuchi
- Ms. Rebekah Shim, University of Georgia, and Mr. Samiron Dutta, Charlotte, NC, The Catawba Language and the Potential for Crowdsourcing in Native Language Revitalization Efforts

## **4:30 PM EXHIBITION STICKBALL GAME** Field directly north of Lumbee Hall

Exhibitors: Josh Riley (Choctaw Nation) and Billy Eagle Road (Choctaw Nation), Tvshka Homma Stickball Captains

The Choctaw game of Ishtaboli, or Stickball, is regarded as the grandfather of all field sports' in North America. The excitement of the game is comparable to the Olympics and Super Bowl. Ishtaboli is called the "Little Brother of War." The game is used to settle diplomatic decisions within the tribe and neighboring tribes, instead of going to war.

A bundle of sticks is used to count the number of days until the day of the appointed game. The teams prepare by dancing and purifying their bodies with herbal purification drinks. Each team utilizes a medicine man to invoke an advantage by trying to place a hex on the other team as a means to securing a victory for their team. The game begins with a jump ball at the center of the field, and a pair of stickball sticks, or kappucha, is used to catch the ball and strike the pole for scoring. Each score counts as one point. A predetermined, winning score was agreed upon before the game began. A bundle of sticks is used to count the score, one stick per point. A significant point of interest in this method of scorekeeping is evident in the usage of tally marks today.

Defensive action permits a player with the ball to be tackled to keep him from scoring. No specific number of players is needed to play on a team. Everyone participates, and there are no substitute players. Women are allowed to encourage the players by switching or whipping, the players with a switch. In ancient times, women were allowed to wager material possessions against the opposing team. The women of the winning team distributed the winnings among themselves.

Traditionally, the uniform of the player consisted of a breechcloth, a beaded belt, a horse's mane, and a horsetail to emulate the speed of the animal. Players' bodies were painted team colors resembling painted socks on their feet and decorative diamond designs on their arms and legs, thus the first uniform is team sports in North America. Shoes are not permitted to be worn during the game. Offensive and defensive skills are important to securing a victory.

## Conference attendees are encouraged to participate. Please dress appropriately.

## Keynote Speaker: Dr. LeAnne Howe (Choctaw Nation)



Dr. Howe writes fiction, poetry, screenplays, scholarship, and plays that deal with Native experiences. An enrolled citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, her first novel *Shell Shaker* (Aunt Lute Books, 2001) received an American Book Award in 2002 from the Before Columbus Foundation. The French translation *Equinoxes Rouge* was a 2004 finalist for Prix Medici Estranger, one of France's top literary awards. *Evidence of Red* (Salt Publishing, UK, 2005) won the Oklahoma Book Award for poetry in 2006. Howe's second novel, *Miko Kings: An Indian Baseball Story* (Aunt Lute Books, 2007) was

chosen by Hampton University in Virginia as their 2009-2010 Read-in Selection.

Her most recent books, released in 2013, are Seeing Red, Pixeled Skins: American Indians and Film (MSUP Press), co-authored with Harvey Markowitz and Denise Cummings, and Choctalking on Other Realities, New and Selected Stories, A Memoir (Aunt Lute Books).

Howe was awarded a 2012 USA Artist Ford Fellowship, a \$50,000 grant from United States Artists, a not for profit organization. Howe joins a class of 2012 awardees that includes Annie Proulx, Coco Fusco, Guillermo Gomez-Pena, David Henry Hwang, Edgar Heap of Birds, Adrienne Kennedy, and many others.

Among Howe's other awards, in 2012, she was named the winner of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writers Circle of the Americas. She was also awarded the 2011 Tulsa Library Trust's "American Indian Author Award" at Central Library in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Howe was a 2010-2011 J. William Fulbright Scholar at the University of Jordan, Amman. Her novel-in-progress, *Memoir of a Choctaw in the Arab Revolts* 1917 & 2011 is set in Bilaad ash Sham, and Allen, Oklahoma.

She makes her homes in Ada, Oklahoma, Amman, Jordan, and Athens, Georgia where she is currently the Eidson Distinguished Chair in English at the University of Georgia.

## Keynote Address: "Native Literary Transformations: Or, Braking Bad"

According to Howe, "In my lecture I discuss duration, one of four core story principals that my research partners and I developed for a SSHRC project titled *Indigenous Knowledge and Contemporary Performance*. I connect the duration of a Choctaw creation story with Harvard professor Atul Gawande's work in health systems innovations, and link those stories with a research project that Choctaw Chief Ben Dwight conducted in the early 1950s on weather predictions. Duration is a storying tool that all writers and scholars may find useful, and one of the essentials that Natives used to shape the Southeast."

## **Presenters**

Eric Gary Anderson earned his Ph.D. from the Rutgers University and is an associate professor of English at George Mason University, where he coordinates the interdisciplinary undergraduate minor in Native American and Indigenous Studies and serves as faculty adviser for the Native American and Indigenous Alliance. His forthcoming work includes contributions to *The Oxford Handbook to the Literature of the US South* and *Undead Souths: The Gothic and Beyond in Southern Literature and Culture*, co-edited with Daniel Cross Turner and Taylor Hagood and forthcoming from Louisiana State University Press in fall 2015. Email: eandersd@gmu.edu

**Ronny A. Bell** (Lumbee) earned his Master's degree in Epidemiology from the Wake Forest School of Medicine and his Ph.D. in Nutrition from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He is a professor in the Division of Public Health Sciences, Department of Epidemiology and Prevention, at Wake Forest School of Medicine, where he is also the director of the Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity. Bell's primary research interests are chronic disease prevalence, risk factors, and prevention, with particular emphasis on ethnic minority populations. Bell is a charter member and chair of the North Carolina American Indian Health Board and serves on several other health-related boards and councils. Email: rbell@wakehealth.edu

**Gina Caison** earned her Ph.D. from the University of California at Davis and is an assistant professor in the Department of English at Georgia State, where she teaches courses in southern and Native American literatures. Currently, she is at work on a monograph titled *Red States*, a book-length project that explores the recurrent use of Native American history in literary and cultural texts of the U.S. South. She is also the co-producer of the forthcoming documentary film *Uneasy Remains*, which explores the collection, study, and repatriation of American Indian human remains within the University of California system. Email: gcaison@gsu.edu

**Danica Cullinan** is the Media Producer at the North Carolina Language and Life Project, which is the umbrella organization for sociolinguistic research and outreach at North Carolina State University. Fluency in Spanish and experience working with North Carolina's Hispanic community afforded her the opportunity to work on her first feature-length documentary, *Spanish Voices* (2011). Soon after, she joined producer Akram Khater to film and edit a second feature length documentary, *Cedars in the Pines: The Lebanese in North Carolina* (2012). Additionally, Cullinan has created many short educational videos to represent and promote academic departments, libraries, and oral history projects. Her most recent project, *First Language – The Race to Save Cherokee*, was directed and produced in collaboration with Neal Hutcheson. Email: danica.cullinan@gmail.com

**Samiron Dutta** received three engineering degrees at the University of Georgia in 2008. He is currently an engineer in Charlotte, NC, and hopes to start medical school in the next year. Email: samirondutta1986@gmail.com

**Meghan Harter** (Shawnee Nation, United Remnant Band) is a doctoral student in Education, Cultural Studies and Literacies at UNC-Chapel Hill, where she is a recipient of the Native American Initiative Fellowship and the Samuel M. Holton Graduate Fellowship in Foundations of Education. She also received a M.A.T. in Special Education, Mild to Moderate Disorders, and completed a graduate certificate in Academically or Intellectually Gifted (AIG) Education from Western Carolina University. She is researching diaspora studies in relation to identity formation within Jewish and Native American populations and culturally relevant pedagogy within project-based learning. Email: mharter@live.unc.edu

**Caleb Hicks** is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Linguistics at UNC-Chapel Hill. His work includes a regional focus on indigenous North American languages. Hicks is particularly interested in the use of multimedia and webbased platforms for endangered language documentation and the development of community-centered language materials. Email: linghix@live.unc.edu

Matt Jennings earned his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign and is an associate professor of History at Middle Georgia State College. His research interests include Native American history, early American history, and the history of violence. He is currently studying the relationship between Native American peoples and the mounds at Ocmulgee National Monument, and the intertwined history of tourism and archaeology at the site. His book *New Worlds of Violence: Cultures and Conquests in the Early American Southeast* came out in 2011. He edited a collection of William Bartram's writings on Native Americans, published in 2014 as *The Flower Hunter and the People: William Bartram in the Native American Southeast.* He's also contributed to *Mapping*  the Mississippian Shatter Zone and Creating and Contesting Carolina. He's just finished a picture history of Ocmulgee National Monument, and, along with the poet Gordon Johnston, is working on a new concise guide to Ocmulgee. He serves as vice president of the Ocmulgee National Monument Association board and as the secretary of the Georgia Association of Historians. Email: matt.jennings@mga.edu

**Jessica Markey** (Lumbee) is a first year student at UNC Pembroke. She is double majoring in American Indian Studies and History and also works as a Hawk Assistant for the Southeast American Indian Studies Program. Email: jrm038@bravemail.uncp.edu

**Eric McDuffie** received his Master's degree in Environmental Leadership and Management from Duke University and is a Ph.D. candidate in Environmental Studies at Antioch University, where his dissertation research focuses on the power of storytelling from indigenous points of view within the human landscape. He also is a science teacher and department chair at C.W. Stanford Middle School. He has been recognized multiple times as the North Carolina Environmental Educator and Conservation Communicator of the Year. He serves as a board member for the Environmental Educators of North Carolina. Email: emcduffie7@gmail.com

Jamie K. Oxendine (Lumbee/Creek) earned a Master's degree from Bowling Green State University. He is a speaker, writer, educator, storyteller, musician, and activist. He lectures on Native American cultures for schools, universities, and organizations across the United States and performs at Native American ceremonies, celebrations, gatherings and powwows throughout the country. Oxendine is director of the Black Swamp Intertribal Foundation, which is a non-profit organization dedicated to the education of Native Americans. He is editor at www.powwows.com and serves on several boards, including that of the Ohio Humanities Council.

Nathan Phillippi is the Senior Lecturer of Geography in the Department of Geology and Geography at UNC Pembroke, where he has been teaching for eight years. His areas of interest focus on cultural and economic geography. Email: nathan.phillippi@uncp.edu

Marvin "Marty" Richardson (Haliwa-Saponi) is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History at UNC-Chapel Hill. His dissertation explores how the group now known as the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe emerged after Indiandescendants of Halifax and Warren Counties, North Carolina, made racialized choices in the South between 1835 and 1971. Richardson, who earned his undergraduate degree in American Indian Studies from UNCP, also holds a Master's degree in Anthropology from Indiana University and a Master's degree in History from UNC-Chapel Hill. Email: mmrichar@live.unc.edu

**Troy A. Richardson** (Saponi/Tuscarora) earned his Ph.D. from the University of Utah and is an associate professor in the American Indian program at Cornell University. As both a philosopher of education and scholar in American Indian Studies, his research, scholarship and pedagogical efforts center on expanding the philosophical and conceptual foundations of education to include the intellectual traditions of Indigenous communities. Email: tar37@cornell.edu

Jesse Rouse is an instructor in the Department of Geology and Geography at UNC Pembroke. His primary research focus has been on prehistoric cultural landscapes in the eastern U.S. This is done through the use of geospatial technologies to examine and model the locations of and relationships within landscapes. Email: jesse.rouse@uncp.edu

**Rebekah Shim** is a senior at the University of Georgia studying Religion and Anthropology. She is also getting a certificate in Native American Studies. Email: rshimmy@uga.edu

**Southern Sun Singers** is comprised of members of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina along with members from other tribes from North Carolina and the United States. Southern Sun was established in the late 1970s and has been sharing Southern Style Plains singing at events throughout the region since then until today. This group is unique in that it is not made up of professional musicians but mainly young professionals including lawyers, doctors, college professors, and tribal government officials. In 2009, Southern Sun was rated one of the up and coming Southern Drums in Indian Country by *Indian Country Magazine*. They are the official drum of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina.

**Kirstin L. Squint** earned her Ph.D. from Louisiana State University and is an assistant professor specializing in U.S. multi-ethnic literature at High Point University, where she is also serving as Interim Chair of the Department of English. Her work has been published in several journals. She is currently completing a monograph on Choctaw writer LeAnne Howe. Email: ksquint@highpoint.edu

**Kara Thompson** earned her Ph.D. from the University of California at Davis and is an assistant professor of English and American Studies at the College of William and Mary, where she specializes in Native American and latenineteenth century American literature. She is working on a book manuscript entitled *A Future Perfect: Indigeneity in Reserve.* She currently serves as co-chair of the local host committee for the 2015 annual meeting of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association. Email: ktthompson@wm.edu

**Ulrike Wiethaus** earned her Ph.D. from Temple University and holds a joint appointment as full professor in the Departments of Religion and in American Ethnic Studies at Wake Forest University. Her research interests include the history of Christian spirituality with an emphasis on gender justice and political history, and more recently, historic trauma, religion, and the long-term impact of US colonialism. She is the 2013 recipient of WFU's Donald O. Schoonmaker Faculty Award for Community Service. Email: wiethaus@wfu.edu

## Save the Date

12th Annual Southeast Indian Studies Conference April 14-15, 2016 www.uncp.edu/ais/sisc

Call for Proposals and Posters Presentations deadline is January 22, 2016.

## **Sponsors**

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## Native South focuses on the investigation of Southeastern

Indian history with the goals of encouraging further study and exposing the influences of Indian people on the wider South. The journal does not limit itself to the study of the geographic area that once was encompassed by the Confederacy, but expands its view to the areas occupied by the pre-contact and the post-contact descendants of the original inhabitants of the South, wherever they may be. To subscribe, contact the University of Nebraska Press online at www.nebraskapress.unl.edu or toll-free at 800-755-1105.

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