



Strategic Planning Meeting

Committee Information

July 12, 2010

Melissa Brodt is a graduate of the University of Central Oklahoma with a bachelors in History. In 2006 Melissa served as the Conference Assistant for the 2007 Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums National Conference. Prior to joining the Oklahoma Department of Libraries in 2009 as Tribal Project Manager, Melissa worked as an event and program manager at Oklahoma City Beautiful, Inc., a local non-profit.

Letitia Chambers is the Director of the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona. Dr. Chambers was nominated in 1996 by the President and confirmed by the Senate to be U.S. Representative to the United Nations General Assembly, a position of ambassadorial rank. In 1992, she served on the Clinton/Gore transition team as Chief Budget Advisor, leading the Budget Policy Group and developing drafts of the President's Economic Plan. In 1981, Dr. Chambers founded Chambers Associates Inc., a public policy consulting firm based in Washington, D.C., which she served as CEO. She sold the firm in 2001 to Navigant Consulting, a Chicago-based firm with global outreach. In 2004-05, Dr. Chambers took a leave of absence from Navigant to head up the system of higher education for the state of New Mexico where she worked to reform key aspects of the system. Prior to founding Chambers Associates in 1981, Dr. Chambers served as Staff Director of the U.S. Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources, which had jurisdiction over education, labor law, and social service programs. She was the first woman to head the staff of a major standing committee of the U.S. Senate. Before she moved to Washington DC in the mid 1970s, Dr. Chambers held senior management position in state and local education agencies. A graduate of the University of Oklahoma, she holds a doctorate in educational research and curriculum development from Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Kevin Cherry is Senior Program Officer at the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the primary source of federal support for the nation's 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Through its grants, research, and convenings, IMLS works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. Kevin helps coordinate IMLS' largest discretionary program, the 21st Century Librarian Program, which seeks to support the development of the nation's information workforce. Kevin has worked in public, community college, and research libraries, as well as a state library agency, and has taught in a school library media program. While consultant for special collections at the State Library of North Carolina, he was manager of one of the nation's first statewide digitization programs, NC ECHO (Exploring Cultural Heritage Online) where he became a well-known advocate for small- to medium-sized cultural collecting agencies. Before coming to IMLS, Kevin was active in the governance of the American Library Association, serving on that organization's council. A native of Denver, NC, he has an MSLS and a PhD from the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Michelle Cooke is from Plano, Texas. She has both a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master's Degree in English from Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas and has also completed her Ph.D. coursework in Rhetoric from Texas Woman's University. Michelle began working for the Chickasaw Nation in July of 2007 in the Division of Education and has been with the Division of History and Culture since October 2007. She is currently serving as the director of the Library, Archives & Collections Department in Ada, Oklahoma and looks forward to transferring to the Holisso Research Center on the Chickasaw Cultural Center campus in Sulphur this summer where she will also serve as director. Her responsibilities include overseeing the genealogy, archeology, and archives collections as well as the tribal library in Ada. Although Michelle enjoys all aspects of her position, the ones she finds most fascinating are collecting and identifying old family photographs for the archives and discovering rare books pertaining to the tribe's history.

Walter Echo-Hawk wears 4 hats: (1) Justice, Supreme Court of the Pawnee Nation; (2) Chairman, Board of Directors, Native Arts and Cultures Foundation, a brand new national and permanently endowed foundation to support Native art and culture; (3) Of Counsel, Crowe & Dunlevy, Oklahoma's oldest and largest law firm; and (4) Adjunct Professor, Tulsa University School of Law (2010). From 1973-2008, he was a staff attorney of the Native American Rights Fund (NARF), where he represented Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians on significant legal issues during the modern era of federal Indian law. A lawyer, tribal judge, scholar, author, and activist, his legal experience includes cases involving Native American religious freedom, prisoner rights, water rights, treaty rights, and reburial\repatriation rights. He is admitted to practice law before the United States Supreme Court, Colorado Supreme Court, Oklahoma Supreme Court, U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Eighth, Ninth, District of Columbia, and Tenth Circuits, and a host of federal District Courts.

Susan Feller is the Development Officer for the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and the Project Director for the IMLS-funded Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums Initiative. Her previous work was in the arts and entertainment field, having served as President/CEO for the Ventura County Arts Council, as well as the Executive Director for the New West Symphony and the Inland Empire Symphony in California. Susan's event development and management experience include serving as the director of the 2007 National Conference of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums, as well as the 2008 Institutes for Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums. As an advocate for tribal cultural sovereignty, Susan secured funding from the National Historic Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) to assist Oklahoma tribes in establishing or expanding archival holdings. Susan directs the "Threats to Your Collection" project which provides funding and training to help archival repositories provide the best possible stewardship for collections. In addition to these activities, Susan has written training manuals and produced events that deal with public relations, foundation fund raising, special event management, oral history project management, digitization projects, fund raising for tribal libraries, the care of historic photos, conservation and preservation of historical materials, community history, genealogical research, and other topics. Susan serves as a grant reviewer for several federal funding agencies, is directing tribal programs for the 2010 American Association of State and Local History Annual Meeting, and serves on a national task force sponsored by Heritage Preservation that is addressing emergency preparedness needs of tribal cultural institutions.

Miguel Figueroa is the director of the American Library Association's (ALA) Office for Diversity. Prior to his position at ALA, he worked as Network Services Coordinator for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Middle Atlantic Region at NYU's Ehrman Medical Library and as Associate Director of Publishing for Neal-Schuman Publishers. He is co-editor of the book "Staff Development Strategies That Work!: Stories and Strategies from New Librarians" (Neal-Schuman, 2008). Figueroa graduated in 2003 from the Knowledge River Program, part of the School of Information Resources and Library Science at the University of Arizona (Tucson).

Alison Freese is a Senior Program Officer at the Institute of Museum and Library Services with the Native American and Native Hawaiian Library Services Programs. She has worked to help develop library and information services in Native American communities for 19 years. Before she began at IMLS in 2003, she worked as the Tribal Libraries Consultant for the New Mexico State Library in Santa Fe, NM, and as Information Specialist at the University of New Mexico Native American Studies Resource Center in Albuquerque, NM.

David George-Shongo, Jr. graduated from St. Lawrence University in 1998 with a BA in Anthropology. While at college he participated in many internships with the Seneca Iroquois National Museum. One of these internships was writing letters to museums about what items in their collection needed to be repatriated under NAGPRA. After college he worked as an adjunct professor at Jamestown Community College teaching Physical Anthropology and then he worked for the Seneca Nation of Indians Tribal Historical Preservation Office. Seven years ago he started working as the first archivist for the Seneca Nation. In this time, he has become the first chairperson of the Society of American Archivist's Native American Archives Roundtable in 2005. For 2006 David was unanimously re-elected chair of the SAA Native American Archives Roundtable. He was twice chairperson of the Seneca Nation Library Board of Trustees. He has given many workshops on tribal archives issue for the Society of American Archivist and the National Conference for Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museum. His archives received the Excellence in Archives Award from the 2009 National Conference for Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museum held in Portland, Oregon. He participated on a national review panel which was sponsored by the National Preservation, the National Institute for Conservation, in Washington DC. The topic of discussion for the May 2010 meeting was Emergency Preparedness for Native American Cultural Resources. In addition, he participated in the international gathering in Flagstaff, Arizona (April 2006) that drafted best practices for the respectful care and use of Native American archival materials, which produced the Protocols for Native American Archival Materials. He is currently serving on the SAA Native American Protocols Working Group that aims to bring more awareness to the use and dissemination of the Protocols.

Mary Anne Hansen is an Associate Professor and Reference Librarian at the Montana State University Libraries, also serving as The Libraries' Distance Education Coordinator. She also co-coordinates The MSU Libraries' annual Tribal College Librarians Institute with her colleague James Thull; TCLI is a week-long professional development opportunity for librarians serving the information needs of Native college students and faculty. Mary Anne earned her MLS through the University of Arizona's distance program in Library & Information Science. Additionally, she holds a Master's in Adult and Higher Education with a Counseling and an undergraduate degree in Modern Languages, both from Montana State University. Her research interests include Native American education issues, leadership, mentoring, information literacy, and distance education. She is active in the American Library Association, the Association of College and Research Libraries, the Montana Library Association, and the Pacific Northwest Library Association. Mary Anne feels

very fortunate to live and work in her hometown of Bozeman, MT. Her husband is a jazz musician, and they both love to spend time on the hiking trails with their two red labs.

Joy Harjo was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma and is a member of the Mvskoke Nation. Her seven books of poetry include *She Had Some Horses*, *The Woman Who Fell From the Sky*, and *How We Became Human*, *New and Selected Poems*. Her poetry has garnered many awards including the New Mexico Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writers Circle of the Americas, and the William Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry Society of America. She has released four award-winning CDs of original music and performances including her most recent, *Winding Through the Milky Way*, for which she just won a NAMMY for Best Female Artist of the Year. She recently received a Rasmusson: US Artists Fellowship for 2009. She performs internationally with the Arrow Dynamics Band. Her one-woman show, *Wings of Night Sky*, *Wings of Morning Light* premiered at the Wells Fargo Theater in 2009. She is a founding board member of the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation. Harjo writes a column "Comings and Goings" for her tribal newspaper, the Muscogee Nation News. She lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Barbara Harjo is business manager for husband and artist Benjamin Harjo, Jr., has served as curator on major exhibitions at the Wheelwright Museum in Santa Fe, New Mexico and Oklahoma State University, Gardiner Gallery in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Barbara also served as a consultant with the Oklahoma Centennial Commission on the 2007 Epcot International Food and Wine Festival in Orlando, Florida, and at the Cherokee Nation's Cherokee Art Market. Barbara is currently on the board of directors for the Art Has Heart Scholarship Foundation.

Zachary Jones obtained a MA in Comparative History from the College of William & Mary in Virginia in 2008 and a Certificate of Archival & Records Administration from University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee in 2009. Since 2007 Jones has been the Head of the Sealaska Heritage Institute's Special Collections Library in Juneau, Alaska, which is an Alaska Native repository representing the three tribes of Southeast Alaska, the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian people. Jones is also an Adjunct Instructor of History at University of Alaska Southeast, where he teaches European history and archival science. Jones sits on a number of state and regional archival boards, is a member of numerous scholarly organizations, and serves as an editor for two scholarly journals. Although not Alaska Native, Jones is a strong advocate for Alaska Native issues and Native American issues of national significance.

Ally Krebs

Rita Lara has been employed by the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin since 1991. Currently, Ms Lara manages and directs the operations of the Oneida Nation Museum combining Oneida and Iroquois culture, arts, and history into an active, vital, and living resource for the Oneida people and greater public. Ms Lara has been a chair of the National Native American Museum Professional Interest Committee for the past three years and the treasurer of the Brown County Federation of Historical Museums. Ms Lara has also served as a grant reviewer for the Institute of Museum and Library Services in Washington DC. Ms Lara has conducted presentations for the American Association of Museums, Midwest Museum Association; IANTA, National Institute for Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums and other Native American organizations. Ms Lara has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Management in which she graduated with honors – Magna Cum Laude. In addition, she has a Master of Science Degree in Management and Organizational Behavior.

Anne McCudden was born and raised in Evanston Illinois. Anne attended Loyola University in Chicago and graduated cum laude in 1992 with a bachelor's degree in History. In 1994, Anne moved to South Florida where she worked for seven years at the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc. as a field technician completing Phase I and II archaeological work in Florida. In 1996, Anne began her graduate work at Florida Atlantic University, she received her degree in August of 2002 earning a Masters in History. Between 2002 and 2004 Anne worked as the Lab Director for the FAU Anthropology lab as well as an adjunct professor in the Anthropology Department at the University of Miami. Since 2002 Anne has worked for the Seminole Tribe of Florida's Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum on the Big Cypress Reservation. She began her work as the Curator of Education then moved to the position Curator of Collections in 2003. Since March of 2004 she has been serving as the Museum's Director. During her tenure as the Director, the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum was awarded full accreditation by the American Association of Museums. Anne also serves on the boards of the Florida Association of Museum Foundation and the American Association of State and Local History.

Susan McVey became Director of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries in 2001. McVey had served the agency as Deputy Director for the previous five years. Prior to joining ODL as a legislative reference librarian in 1986, McVey served as a reference librarian and later director of the library at Oklahoma City University. She earned a masters in library science degree from the University of Texas at Austin and a masters in public administration degree from the University of Oklahoma. McVey has previously administered the Jan Eric Cartwright Memorial Library, a branch of ODL located in the State Capitol Building. McVey has been a member of the Oklahoma Library Association (OLA) since 1976 and served as president from 1987-88. Among numerous other offices, she was a former editor of OLA's publication, The Oklahoma Librarian. McVey has been active in regional and national library professional organizations as well. She is currently the vice president/president elect of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA), an organization of state librarians. McVey is a recipient of OLA's Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor given by the Association for exemplary service to the state's library community.

Mary Ellen Meredith (Cherokee) of Oklahoma City is currently President of the Board of Trustees of the Cherokee National Historical Society, her main passion. She has been published several times over, many articles and books regarding Cherokee interests and Oklahoma history. Her own publishing company, Noksi Press, has published several bilingual (Cherokee/English) books. She has served on the Trail of Tears Advisory Board, and is currently on the Oklahoma Humanities Council.

Alexis Meyer

Sandra Narva is a Senior Program Officer in the Office of Museum Services at the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in Washington, DC, where she directs the Museums for America and Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services grant programs. Prior to joining IMLS five years ago, she was the Director of Scheduling and Exhibitor Relations at the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) where she oversaw outreach efforts and placement of Smithsonian exhibitions to venues around the country for seven years. She has also held positions in the Smithsonian's Office of Product Development and Licensing and the National Museum of American History, as well as the National Endowment for the Humanities. She earned a BA in History from Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, PA, and a MA in American Studies for the George Washington University, Washington, DC.

Dr. Lotsee Patterson having educated hundreds of students in librarianship in her role as a university professor she has also worked in libraries at Riverside Indian School, Anadarko, Norman Public Schools and Oklahoma City where she was Director of Library Media Services for the school district. She is best known, however, for her work with tribal libraries. She is a recipient of the Oklahoma Library Association's highest honor receiving their Distinguished Service Award in 1997. Dr. Patterson has also been honored for her work with tribal libraries and for recruiting and mentoring American Indian Librarians by the American Library Association with three awards including Honorary Membership and by the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS). Through her association with NCLIS she helped secure some permanent federal funding for tribal libraries. Today, most of Oklahoma's thirty nine Indian tribes are benefiting from this source of revenue which helps them provide basic library services to their communities. An enrolled member of the Comanche Nation she is currently working with Comanche Nation College where she is leading efforts to develop their library collection into one which integrates Comanche culture and values with core library resources.

Dr. Loriene Roy advisory Editor of The American Mosaic's "The American Indian Experience," is Professor in the School of Information, the University of Texas at Austin. She teaches graduate courses on public librarianship, basic reference, library instruction and information literacy, reader's advisory, and indigenous librarianship. She was the 2007-2008 President of the American Library Association. Her current professional service includes appointments to the ALA Committee on Rural, Native, and Tribal Libraries of All Kinds, International Relations Round Table's Advisory Group on the ALA Presidential Citations for Innovation in International Librarianship, ALA-Allied Professional Association's Promotion and Fundraising Committee, RUSA's Margaret E. Monroe Library Adult Services Award, and is the Convener of the IFLA Special Interest Group on Indigenous Matters. In 2009 she was elected Trustee to the LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund. She has current advisory board appointments with the International Children's Digital Library, Outreach Connections: Native Health Information Wiki, and WebJunction. She is founder and Director of "If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything," a national reading club for American Indian students. She has delivered nearly 500 professional presentations and authored over 200 books, articles, book chapters, reports, and newsletter accounts. She serves on the editorial boards for Praeger Publisher's "Academic Solutions: Database for American Indians," "The Electronic Library," and "The Journal of Children's Literature." Her forthcoming publications include a co-edited monograph on tribal libraries, archives and museums for Scarecrow Press, several book chapters, articles in "Multicultural Review," "Public Library Quarterly," and "The Electronic Library," and a new column on the teaching of reference in "The Reference Librarian." She is Anishinabe, enrolled on the White Earth Reservation, a member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe.

Teresa Runnels Sac & Fox/Muscogee Creek, is the Coordinator of the American Indian Resource Center at the Tulsa City-County Library. Her professional library activities have included service in the following areas: Oklahoma Library Association's Ad Hoc Committee for Tribal Libraries, Archives, and American Indian Collections, American Association for State and Local History Annual Conference Tribal Committee, Bartlett-Carnegie Sapulpa Public Library's Euchee Tribal Historical Records Project, Peer Review panel for the Oklahoma Tribal Heritage Re-Grant Project, Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museum National Conference Local Planning Committee, IMLS Native American Library Services Enhancement Grant reviewer, and established the free Oklahoma tribal libraries listserv, Oklahoma Native Issues. She is currently working on a Master of Library and Information Studies degree at the University of Oklahoma; she holds a Master of Science degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Oklahoma State University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education from Northeastern State University.

Gwen Shunatona “Taking care of each other” is what Gwen sees is the defining essence of a tribe. To that end, healing and success for all members of tribal families call for tribal leadership with strategic planning and political will, not just tribal politics as usual. Taking care of each other has been the basis for Gwen’s career choices as President of ORBIS Associates; a teacher in public and BIA schools; an administrator at Stanford University; an educational planner at the Institute of American Indian Arts; a manager for the USDE Office of Indian Education and for the Administration for Native Americans; and working for her Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and the Pawnee Nation. Currently conducting planning, grant writing and professional development for the Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Oklahoma and volunteering as a Trustee on the Board of the Pawnee Nation College keep Gwen focused on taking care of others. Participating in tribal ceremonies, dancing at tribal events, and studying tribal languages also keep Gwen focused on taking care of her “self.”

James Thull holds a Masters of Arts in History, a Masters of Library and Information Sciences and a Graduate Certificate in Non-Profit Management from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He currently works as a Reference Librarian and Assistant Professor at Montana State University-Bozeman and has been the Junior Coordinator of the Tribal College Librarians Institute since 2005.

Joan Timeche is executive director of the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy at The University of Arizona. A citizen of the Hopi Tribe from the village of Old Oraibi, she received a B.S. in social work and an M.B.A. from Northern Arizona University. Her past work experience has included serving as program director of Northern Arizona University's Center for American Indian Economic Development; and eight years as director of the Hopi Tribe's Department of Education. Joan helped establish two state-wide Native organizations, the Arizona American Indian Tourism Association (AAITA) and Arizona Native American Economic Coalition, and one national organization, the American Indian/Alaska Native Tourism Association. She continues to serve on the board of directors for AAITA as well as of the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development, the Economic Development Authority of the Tohono O'odham Nation, and was formerly chair of the board of directors of the Hopi Tribe Economic Development Corporation. She is a regular speaker at both regional and national conferences on topics related to Indian economic development and tourism, is a recognized expert on doing business on Indian lands, and founded the Native American Youth Entrepreneur Camp, which NNI continues to operate. Joan also serves as a consultant on topics such as board training, strategic planning for tribal enterprises and Native organizations, and as a facilitator.

Sharilyn Young is employed by the Cherokee Nation as their lead Program Development Officer and Grant Writer for Education Services with specific responsibility for the development of the tribal archives and The Virtual Library of Cherokee Knowledge. Previous to this position Young served as the Development Consultant for the Cherokee National Historical Society and the Cherokee Heritage Center, that following a 40 year career in the non-profit human service arena in positions of program administration, project management and development. Young’s volunteer contributions with additional tribal projects have included service on the Boards of Red Earth, Inc. in Oklahoma City, Five Civilized Tribes Museum, Jacobson House at the University of Oklahoma and the Mid America All Indian Center in Wichita, Kansas. She is an avid collector of Native American baskets and art work.