

To: Planning Group, "Northwest Native American Cultural Studies"

From: Betsy Diffendal

Subject: Potential for awarding Evergreen credit for workshops, etc. given by other organizations in Native American communities.

In our second planning meeting we discussed the idea that outreach by Evergreen might be improved by the college's granting credit to members of Native American communities who attend workshops sponsored by such national organizations as the Indian Law Institute in Washington, D.C., the National Indian Training Center in Utah, etc. I have been doing some telephoning to find out more about these organizations and the kinds of things that they might be doing in the Northwest for which credit might be generated. I have found out the following so far:

a) Institute for the Development of Indian Law - This non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C. is currently beginning the third year of a curriculum development project in the area of Indian Law funded by the Office of Native American Programs (ONAP). Under this grant in the past two years, they have provided training to members of tribal governments in four major areas of the country - the Pacific Northwest included. This coming year they plan to service more communities. In addition to workshops which they provide to a specific tribe, they conduct at least one 4-5 day intensive workshops in the Pacific Northwest region, open to anyone. These workshops are taught by attorneys who specialize in treaty law and in the legal relationship between the Federal government and Indians. As a part of the grant, the Law Institute has developed a group of self-paced learning units in treaty law, the federal trust relationship, etc. which I have copies of here. To date, they have not explored the possibility of granting credit for these workshops and were very enthusiastic about the possibility of Evergreen's involvement in this way. As their schedule is firmed up, they will get back to us on specifics.

b) National Indian Training Center - This Center is located in Brigham City, Utah and is a cooperative effort by the Civil Service Commission and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Center provides workshops and consultant services without cost to agencies or tribes at their request. Among the areas in which they have conducted workshops are tribal government, school board development, developing tribal constitutions, communications skills, human relations in management, media technology. Their workshops have been given academic credit through a consortium arrangement of colleges in the West. Fortunately, I think, for us, no college in the state of Washington has yet joined this consortium which includes Portland State College, Utah State, University of Idaho, University of Alaska. They also were quite interested in the idea and are sending descriptive material through the mail.

c) Americans for Indian Opportunity - This non-profit organization based in Albuquerque, N.M. is concerned primarily with providing technical assistance to any Indian organization seeking help with a project. This year, as was done last year, AIO will try to present several workshops in the general area of natural resource management and economic development in native communities.

They are unsure about what their activity will be in the Northwest until they receive final word on their federal funding in a week or two. Were quite interested in the idea of generating credit for participants and will send us descriptive material about their natural resource workshops.

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In the area of looking at potential grant sources for funding a review of the history of Native American studies and students who have attended Evergreen, I have talked with Sue Feeney in Evergreen's Development Office. She has given me some good suggestions, and I am beginning to write up a description of a potential project for which to request funds.