Sovereignty and E-Commerce: Innovating and Reshaping the Borders of Indian Country CLE Conference

February 2 - 3, 2017

Indian Legal Program | Rosette, LLP American Indian Economic Development Program

Speaker Biographies

Brett Abarbanel, Ph.D.

Brett Abarbanel, Ph.D., is Director of Research at the UNLV International Gaming Institute, with a joint appointment as the Head of Social and Recreational Gambling at the UCLA Gambling Studies Program. Dr. Abarbanel has expertise in global gambling and social science applications, and her research covers Internet gambling policy and behavior, eSports and gambling, operations and technology use, and responsible gambling and community relations. Dr. Abarbanel serves as co-Executive Editor of the UNLV Gaming Research & Review Journal, which publishes internationally-relevant gambling research articles representing a broad array of academic disciplines. She has been interviewed as a gambling expert for the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and the Discovery Channel and served as a consultant for multiple industry and government entities.

She was recently honored by the Global Gaming Expo and The Innovation Group with their 2015 Emerging Leader Award, and was named to the 2016 Global Gaming Business 40 Under 40 list. Dr. Abarbanel completed her B.S. in Statistics at Brown University, where she received the Hartshorn Hypatia Award for excellence in mathematics. She completed her M.S. and Ph.D. at University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where she received the Best Thesis and Best Dissertation awards for her work on sports book patronage and online gambling user experiences, respectively.

Brett earned her PhD, Hospitality Administration, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, a MS, Hospitality Administration, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, an AB, Architectural Studies, Brown University and a ScB, Statistics from Brown University.

Jay Abbasi

Jay Abbasi began his career with Plain Green in January, 2015 as Operations and Planning Director and was promoted to CEO in January 2016. While working for the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy’s Reservation, Jay realized in order to help the Tribe change and sustain its infrastructure for generations to come, the company needed to become a disruptor and change the current “service provider” model in the industry. Therefore, Jay led the successful split from service and
software provider, Think Finance. By in-sourcing all major business functions at Plain Green, the company was able to optimize revenue, which significantly increased income for the Tribe. Since the split from its previous service provider, Plain Green has been able to focus on economic development for the Tribe. Plain Green also became one of the largest employers on the reservation and helped provide the Tribe with additional resources for all tribal members.

Jay has a diverse economic, financial, and start-up background, from holding management positions at top five banks, being involved in co-founding technology and mortgage companies, to negotiating the delivery of the world’s largest super computer in the 90's. Jay is also passionate about helping people in any way he can — from employing the most amount of tribal members on the reservation, to inspiring people to become better managers and innovators, to notable, charitable work on and off the reservation.

Jay’s acquired this knack from a young age and took steps to help people in business by attending the University of Arizona and achieving a B.A. in Liberal Arts, which focused on Business Communications, Humanities, and History. Jay furthered his passion of helping people by attending San Francisco State to study Psychology. As Plain Green expands its infrastructure and increases its workforce, Jay helps ensure the company maintains its unique culture of giving back to the community. One of Jay’s favorite moments at PG was receiving many “thank you” cards from children and adults from the Tribe thanking him and PG for their winter jacket and back-packs and school supplies.

Keith B. Adams

Keith Adams has been Assistant Administrator for the Telecommunications Program in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Rural Utility Service (RUS) since July 2013. In this role he manages the Telecommunications Program’s loan and grant programs, with an annual budget of almost $1 billion and a $5 billion loan portfolio.

The Telecommunications Program was further expanded in 2009 under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which authorized $2.8 billion in budget authority for RUS to provide additional broadband funding through the Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP). Under Mr. Adams leadership, the program awarded 98% of the funding to advance enhanced connectivity into each corner of rural America.

Mr. Adams’ tenure with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) first began in 2001 as a Marketing Specialist with the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). His experience also includes time with the U.S. Postal Service, U.S. Small Business Administration and with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Mr. Adams was the Division Chief in USAID’s Office of Food for Peace providing overall leadership for the planning and integration of the day to day operations and budget of the Government’s largest resource for food aid and food security assistance effectively working with both private volunteer and International organizations, and other government agencies in achievement of a program valued at over $2.5 billion.

Mr. Adams holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Shepherd University, where he majored in Marketing and received his Master of Science (MS) degree in Marketing from the University of Maryland.
Rita C. Aguilar

Rita Aguilar most recently served as Deputy Associate Attorney General in the Office of the Associate Attorney General at the U.S. Department of Justice. In this role, she advised the Department’s third-highest ranking official and other members of the Department’s leadership on a wide range of legal, legislative, policy, and regulatory issues, including tribal. Ms. Aguilar previously served as Attorney Advisor in the Department’s Office of Legislative Affairs and helped achieve passage of the Tribal Law and Order Act (2010) and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (2013). In recognition, she was awarded the Attorney General’s Award for Exceptional Service in Indian Country.

Ms. Aguilar also held two senior positions at the White House as Senior Confirmations Advisor and Deputy Associate Counsel.

Ms. Aguilar earned a B.A. from Southwestern University; a J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law; and an LL.M. from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

Carl J. Artman

Carl Artman is an attorney who represents Indian tribes seeking new ways to develop their on-reservation and near-reservation economies. He is also a Faculty Associate with the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University who teaches a Washington, D.C. based Indian law class entitled Federal Advocacy for the Tribal Client, for the Indian Legal Program, after serving as Professor of Practice for the ASU Law’s Indian Legal Program from 2008-2010.

Carl Artman served as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs under President George W. Bush. His office had jurisdiction over the Office of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education from 2007 to 2008. He served as the Associate Solicitor for Indian Affairs at the Department of the Interior from 2005 to 2007. An enrolled member of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, Artman has worked for his tribe as Director of Federal Affairs, Chief Legal Counsel, and as Chief Operating Officer of an Oneida Tribe-owned telecommunications venture.

Professor Artman served on the Board of Directors for the Library of Congress’s American Folk Life Center, Oneida Nation Electronics, Airadigm Communications, Inc., and the Personal Communications Industry Association. He served on the Board of the Presidential Board of Advisors on Tribal Colleges and Universities. Professor Artman was the Chairman of the Tribal Management Advisory Committee and the Tribal Budget Advisory Committee during his tenure as Assistant Secretary. He served as a member of the U.S. Delegation to the United Nation’s Convention to Eliminate Racial Discrimination. While at the Department of Interior, he served as a member of the Trust Executive Steering Committee, Climate Control Task Force Steering Committee and Fire Policy Council. He was a member of the Board of Governance for the National Indian Programs Training Center and an alternate for Board of Regents for the Haskell Indian Nations University. He served as a marketing editor for the Denver Journal of International Law Policy.
He received a bachelor of arts from Columbia College in Columbia, Missouri, an MBA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Business, a JD from Washington University in St. Louis, and an LLM from University of Denver College of Law.

Anthony N. Cabot

Anthony Cabot is a partner of Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie in the Gaming Law group. He helps clients in the areas of gaming law, Internet gambling, sweepstakes and contests. From 2009 to the present, Chambers Global has annually awarded him the coveted “star” rating – the highest honor given to an individual attorney in a specific practice area. In 2013, Chambers USA also awarded him the “star” rating.

Mr. Cabot writes prolifically on gaming law and has authored or edited ten books. He recently co-authored “Gaming Law: Cases and Materials,” a 700+ page tome used for course work in law schools and coedited “Regulating Land Based Casinos,” the most comprehensive resource available on the topic.

Covering the entire gaming spectrum, Mr. Cabot’s clients include casino owners, game manufacturers, developers, Internet gambling sites, and companies that run contests and sweepstakes. He provides legal counseling related to all types of games, encompassing online games, casual games and complex skill-based games.


Chairman Brian Cladoosby

Brian Cladoosby serves as the 21st President of NCAI. In October 2013 at NCAI’s 71st Annual Convention he was elected to serve his first term as President of the organization. He is currently the President of the Association of Washington Tribes and has previously served as an Area Vice President on the NCAI Board. Brian Cladoosby has served on the Swinomish Indian Senate, the governing body of the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, since 1985. He has served as the Chairman of the Swinomish Indian Senate since 1997.

Chairman Cladoosby is one of our most senior tribal political leaders in Washington State and the Pacific Northwest and his experience is reflected in his numerous commitments. He is the President of the Association of Washington Tribes, Executive Board member of the Washington Gaming Association, past President of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, has retained a seat on the National Congress of American Indians Vice Presidents' Board, and is continually active in tribal and state politics. On an international basis he is the Co-Speaker of the Coast Salish Gathering, which comprises British Columbia First Nations and Western Washington Tribes.

In 2011 at the Reservation Economic Summit & American Indian Business Trade Fair, Chairman Cladoosby was awarded the American Indian Tribal Leader Award for his exceptional achievements. Each year this award honors an outstanding leader who supports American Indian business and economic development endeavors in tribal communities.
Chairman Cladoosby has been instrumental in the domestic and international emergence of the northwest Indian country salmon and seafood industry. Swinomish Fish Company buys and sells seafood products from tribal, national and international companies, continuing the “buy and sell native” motto of Indian Country. He shares a vision with the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community members to have a strong economic development plan that supports a way of life for today and future generations.

Swinomish is located in the Northwest and has grown our gaming investments from the early days of bingo halls to the full capacity of a gaming enterprise, and expansion into a new resort and golf course. Like many tribes across the nation, our funds support governmental services and financial support for our community.

Gavin Clarkson, Ph.D.

Dr. Gavin Clarkson is an associate professor in the Finance Department of College of Business at New Mexico State University and the Chief Economist for the Ft. Sill Apache Tribe. Dr. Clarkson holds both a bachelor’s degree and an MBA from Rice University, a doctorate from the Harvard Business School in Technology and Operations Management, and is a cum laude graduate of the Harvard Law School, where he was the managing editor of the Harvard Journal of Law and Technology and president of the Native American Law Students Association. An enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Dr. Clarkson has consulted, written, and published extensively on tribal sovereignty, tribal finance, tribal economic development, and tribal asset management, and was also a contributing author for the current edition of Felix Cohen’s Handbook of Federal Indian Law, providing material on tribal finance, tribal corporations, economic development, and intellectual property. His research and Congressional testimony on tribal access to the capital markets helped lead to the inclusion of $2B of Tribal Economic Development Bonds in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Dr. Clarkson holds the Series 7, Series 24, and Series 66 Securities licenses from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

Robert N. Clinton

Robert Clinton is a Foundation Professor of Law with the Indian Legal Program, a Faculty Fellow for the Center for Law Science and Innovation at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University and an Affiliated Professor with American Indian Studies Program and an Affiliated Professor with the Center on the Future of War at ASU.

Professor Clinton serves as Chief Justice of the Winnebago Supreme Court and as an Associate Justice for the Colorado River Indian Tribes Court of Appeals, the Hualapai Tribal Court of Appeals, and the Hopi Court of Appeals and as a Judge pro tem for the San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians. He also served for twenty years as an Associate Justice of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Court of Appeals, served as a temporary judge or arbitrator for other tribes, and acted as an expert witness or consultant in Indian law and cyberlaw cases.

Professor Clinton was born and raised in the Detroit, Michigan metropolitan area. He did his undergraduate work at the University of Michigan where he received a B.A. in political science in 1968 and attended the University of Chicago Law School, receiving his J.D. in 1971. After private practice in Chicago with the law firm then known as Devoe, Shadur and Krupp, he joined the faculty of the
University of Iowa College of Law in 1973, where he taught until 2000. While at the University of Iowa College of Law, Professor Clinton served as the Wiley B. Rutledge Professor of Law and as a founder and an Affiliated Faculty Member of the American Indian and Native Studies Program of the University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts. For the 2001-2003 academic years, Professor Clinton was appointed the Barry Goldwater Chair of American Institutions at Arizona State University.

Professor Clinton has visited as a scholar or teacher at the law schools of the University of Michigan, Arizona State University, Cornell University, University of San Diego and the Faculty of Law of Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand. Additionally, he has taught in the Pre-Law Summer Institute for American Indian and Native Alaskan Students sponsored by the American Law Center, Inc.

Professor Clinton serves as Chief Justice of the Winnebago Supreme Court and as an Associate Justice for the Colorado River Indian Tribes Court of Appeals, the Hualapai Tribal Court of Appeals, and the Hopi Court of Appeals and as a Judge pro tem for the San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians. He also served for twenty years as an Associate Justice of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Court of Appeals, served as a temporary judge or arbitrator for other tribes, and acted as an expert witness or consultant in Indian law and cyberlaw cases.

Professor Clinton teaches and writes about federal Indian law, tribal law, Native American history, constitutional law, federal courts, cyberspace law, copyrights, and civil procedure. His publications include numerous articles on federal Indian law and policy, constitutional law, and federal jurisdiction. He is the co-author of casebooks on Indian law and federal courts, The Handbook of Federal Indian Law (1982 ed.), multiple editions of American Indian Law: Native Nations and the Federal System, Colonial and American Indian Treaties (a collection on CD-ROM ), and over 25 major articles on federal Indian law, American constitutional law and history, and federal courts.

Professor Clinton earned a J.D., University of Chicago Law School (1971) and a B.A., University of Michigan (1968).

Skip Durocher

Mr. Durocher is a partner with Dorsey & Whitney LLP in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Practicing in the area of complex civil litigation and regulatory affairs, Skip has represented tribal and non-tribal clients in cases involving commercial and financial issues for 30 years. Skip has a particular emphasis in the area of Indian and gaming law. He represents Indian tribes and tribal entities in federal, state and tribal courts, as well as in arbitration proceedings, in a wide variety of subject matters, and has also represented tribal gaming commissions and other entities in background investigations and commission hearings. Skip is recognized on a national basis by Chambers in the field of Native American law, and also in Best Lawyers in America©. Skip is a partner in Dorsey’s Trial Department and Regulatory Affairs Department. He is the co-Chair of Dorsey’s Indian Law Practice Group as well as its E-Discovery Practice Group. Skip is a frequent lecturer at continuing legal education seminars involving topics relating to Indian law, insurance law and electronic discovery. He is a 1986 honors graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School.
Preston Eagleheart

Preston Eagleheart is the Chief of Staff at Cayuse Technologies, located on the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Cayuse Technologies is a tribally owned, fully independent technology solution center working with multiple clients throughout the United States. The company offerings consist of business process services, IT help desk, marketing, data services, and application software development.

Mr. Eagleheart is an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, located in Northeast Oregon. He has over 15 years of experience in tribal government affairs, casino management, and technology ranging from business process improvement, policy, regulatory compliance, audit reporting, strategy & analysis, and project management.

He currently holds a seat on the Board of Directors for the Nixyaawii Chamber of Commerce. He serves as an active participant with the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, and recently presented on “Stewarding Strong Economic Climates” in Indian Country during the National Congress of American Indians Midyear Conference held in Spokane, Washington.

Mr. Eagleheart received his BA in Business Administration from Eastern Washington University with emphasis in Operations Management, and currently pursuing an MBA from Gonzaga University with concentration in American Indian Entrepreneurship.

Lael Echo-Hawk

Lael Echo-Hawk is of Counsel with Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker, LLP. Raised in the Interior of Alaska, Lael Echo-Hawk is a member of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma and adopted granddaughter to Katie John of the Upper Ahtna Athabascan people of Mentasta Lake. Lael has served as tribal reservation attorney, legislative director for the Native American Contractors Association and as Counselor to the Chairwoman of the National Indian Gaming Commission. Now in private practice, Lael represents tribes and tribal organizations on many issues including gaming, economic development, and assists tribes with developing governmental infrastructure. She provides advice and strategic policy analysis on national tribal legislative and regulatory proposals having tribal implications and represents tribes before administrative agencies. Lael is a Past-President of both the National Native American Bar Association and the Northwest Indian Bar Association. She is 2013 recipient of NCAIED “40 Under 40” and is currently based in Washington, D.C.

Lael earned her J.D., from University of Washington School of Law in 2003 and B.A. from University of Washington in 2000.
**Troy A. Eid**

Troy Eid was Colorado’s 40th presidentially appointed United States Attorney from 2006-09 and co-chairs Greenberg Traurig’s American Indian Law Practice Group. He represents clients in governmental investigations and enforcement actions under federal, state and tribal law, with emphasis on environmental, energy, natural resource, and public ethics matters. Under President Obama, Troy was appointed and chaired the Indian Law and Order Commission, an independent national board advising the President and Congress on criminal justice and public safety improvements for all 567 federally recognized Native American and Alaska Native tribes and nations, from 2010-14. Many of the Commission’s recommendations, including recognition of tribes’ inherent criminal jurisdiction over non-Indians in domestic violence cases, have since been enacted into federal law by the Violence Against Women Act Amendments and other reforms. A recipient of the Navajo Nation Bar Association’s *Member of the Year Award*, Troy is currently a Commissioner on the Navajo Nation Commission for Judicial Conduct and teaches Native American Tribal Law and Federal Indian Law at both the University of Colorado School of Law and the University of Denver-Sturm College of Law.

**Godfrey Enjady**

Mr. Enjady is the Founder and General Manager of the Mescalero Apache Telecom, Inc. (MATI) as well as the Mescalero Gas Company which operates today at a profit with markets in Arizona as well as the Mescalero Apache Reservation. Mr. Enjady has over 14 years of Technician/Analyst experience with CONTEL and GTE-Southwest in the installation and repair of residential phone systems, Key and PBAX business systems, data transmission as well as other aspects of Outside Plant, Internet Service Provider and customer relations. Mr. Enjady holds numerous certifications from GTE-Technical Schools and the State of New Mexico’s Electrical Bureau.

As a member of the Mescalero Apache Tribe, Mr. Enjady has led the resurgence of utility services, economic and business development by bringing state of the art equipment to the Mescalero Reservation. In 1990 when Mr. Enjady began the first steps of developing the MATI ground work it was determined that only 10 percent of the Mescalero residents had access to basic telephone service which created a barrier to business investing in the community not to mention the catastrophic result of the loss of life incidents. In addition to the communications infrastructure, Mr. Enjady developed the first tribally owned telephone company to deliver broadband service to the entire residential community! In just one year’s time after purchasing the telecommunications facilities, MATI has quadrupled the number of subscribers receiving telephone service.

Mr. Enjady was awarded the 2001 New Mexico Businessman of the Year for his organizational skills and vision in leading MATI into the 21st century. He also received on behalf of MATI, the “2003 Tribal Enterprise of the Year” award. MATI was also recognized in 2006 and 2007 as one of the “Top 500” companies by Entrepreneur Magazine for exceeding annual sales of $1 million and showing positive job growth over a four-year period.

Mr. Enjady was recently appointed as the President of National Tribal Telecom Association (NTTA), and has previously served on the OPASTCO/NTTA Board as the Vice-President.
Patty Ferguson-Bohnee

Patty Ferguson-Bohnee is the Faculty Director, of the Indian Legal Program and Director of the Indian Legal Clinic and a Clinical Professor Law at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. She has substantial experience in Indian law, election law and policy matters, voting rights, and status clarification of tribes. She has testified before the United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the Louisiana State Legislature regarding tribal recognition, and has successfully assisted four Louisiana tribes in obtaining state recognition. Professor Ferguson-Bohnee has represented tribal clients in administrative, state, federal, and tribal courts, as well as before state and local governing bodies and proposed revisions to the Real Estate Disclosure Reports to include tribal provisions. She has assisted in complex voting rights litigation on behalf of tribes, and she has drafted state legislative and congressional testimony on behalf of tribes with respect to voting rights’ issues.

Before joining the College in 2008, Professor Ferguson-Bohnee clerked for Judge Betty Binns Fletcher of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and was an associate in the Indian Law and Tribal Relations Practice Group at Sacks Tierney P.A. in Phoenix. As a Fulbright Scholar to France, she researched French colonial relations with Louisiana Indians in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Professor Ferguson-Bohnee, a member of the Pointe-au-Chien Indian tribe, serves as the Native Vote Election Protection Coordinator for the State of Arizona.

Professor Ferguson-Bohnee received her B.A., Stanford University in 1997 and her J.D. from Columbia University School of Law in 2001.

Matthew L.M. Fletcher

Matthew L.M. Fletcher is Professor of Law at Michigan State University College of Law and Director of the Indigenous Law and Policy Center. He is a member of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, located in Peshawbestown, Michigan. He is the Reporter for the American Law Institute’s Restatement, Third, The Law of American Indians. He sits as the Chief Justice of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Supreme Court and also sits as an appellate judge for the Grand Traverse Band, the Hoopa Valley Tribe, the Lower Elwha Tribe, the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, and the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska.

Legislation, Michigan Law Review First Impressions, Yale Law Journal Online, and many others. Finally, Professor Fletcher is the primary editor and author of the leading law blog on American Indian law and policy, Turtle Talk.

Professor Fletcher graduated from the University of Michigan Law School in 1997 and the University of Michigan in 1994. He has worked as a staff attorney for four Indian Tribes – the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, the Hoopa Valley Tribe, the Suquamish Tribe, and the Grand Traverse Band, and he has been a consultant to the Seneca Nation of Indians Court of Appeals. He is married to Wenona Singel, a member of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, and they have two sons, Owen and Emmett.

Charles W. Galbraith

Charles Galbraith is a citizen of the Navajo Nation and he focuses his practice on litigation and Native American Affairs, as Counsel at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP

Prior to joining the Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP, Mr. Galbraith served as the White House Associate Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement in Washington, D.C. where he managed the relationship of the White House with 566 Tribal Governments and Native American people. Mr. Galbraith also analyzed and formulated political and policy recommendations for The President, Executive Branch Agencies, and Senior White House Officials on matters affecting tribal governments and Native American people including budgets, legislation, executive orders, appointments, Tribal law enforcement, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, Federal Emergency disaster declarations, sacred sites and historic preservation, and economic development. He planned and led the annual White House Tribal Nations conferences which included The President, 566 invited Tribal leaders, cabinet secretaries, members of Congress and dozens of senior government officials.

Mr. Galbraith previously served as a Deputy Associate Counsel for Presidential Personnel in the White House where he conducted interviews, background investigations and political vetting of individuals under consideration for presidential appointments. His work included making recommendations to Senior White House staff and preparing for the Senate confirmation process.

Before working for the White House, Mr. Galbraith served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Arizona, where he successfully investigated and prosecuted a wide array of federal offenses in the areas of white collar crime, immigration, narcotics, firearms and mail, wire and bank fraud. As an Assistant United States Attorney, Mr. Galbraith had multiple jury trials, numerous hearings in federal court and also briefed appeals to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Prior to serving as a federal prosecutor, Mr. Galbraith was the legislative assistant for Judiciary and Indian Affairs to United States Senator Tim Johnson in his Washington, D.C. Senate Office. He also worked for then-Senator Barack Obama during his first campaign for President by organizing the Native American Domestic Policy Committee, which comprised a nationwide group of tribal leaders and activists.

Mr. Galbraith is a recipient of the Native American Bar Association Award for Excellence in Government Service in 2012 and was recognized as one of “40 Native Americans Under 40” by American Indian Enterprise Development in 2011. At the Department of Justice, he was recognized by the FBI, Department of Education and the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency for excellence in criminal prosecutions.
Mr. Galbraith earned his J.D., from Arizona State University, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law with a Certificate in Indian Law in 2006.

**Alissa Gardenswartz**

Alissa Gardenswartz is the Deputy Attorney General for Consumer Protection in the Colorado Attorney General’s Office. Prior to becoming the Consumer Protection Deputy, Alissa led numerous investigations and prosecutions involving violations of state and federal consumer protection laws, including charity fraud, foreclosure fraud, and antitrust cases. She has practiced in the Colorado Attorney General’s Office since 2007. Prior to joining the Colorado Attorney General’s Office, Alissa worked in private practice in both Denver and Washington, D.C., and began her career with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission Bureau of Competition.

Alissa has served on the National Association of State Charity Officials board since 2010, including serving as president of the board in 2013-2014. She also has served as faculty for the National Attorneys General Training & Research Institute as well as for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy. Alissa is a graduate of UCLA and the University of Chicago Law School.

**Karlene Hunter**

Karlene Hunter is CEO and co-founder of Native American Natural Foods. A member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Ms. Hunter has more than 32 years of experience working on educational and economic development on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, where Native American Natural Foods is based. The Kyle, S.D., company, founded with her longtime business partner Mark Tilsen, is the second business Ms. Hunter has started on the reservation.

In 1996, Ms. Hunter and Mr. Tilsen created Lakota Express, a direct marketing and customer care management company. Focused primarily on fund-raising for non-profit organizations, Ms. Hunter has led the direct marketing campaign for Oglala Lakota College for more than 25 years. More than $25 million has been raised under Ms. Hunter’s leadership, including raising the funds for the establishment of the first library on the reservation and the creation of new college centers in each of the nine districts on Pine Ridge.

In 2007, Ms. Hunter and Mr. Tilsen created Native American Natural Foods, a company devoted to the establishment of the first Native American national branded line of natural meat and fruit snacks. The company’s line of Tanka buffalo products has since grown to more than 4,000 retailers nationwide and has created more than 20 jobs on the reservation. Tanka Bars, the company’s signature product, is now the number one selling natural meat snack in the United States, according to SPINS, the natural food industry’s top retail measurement service.

From 2003 to 2005, Ms. Hunter also served as executive director of Lakota Funds Community Development Financial Institution. Launched in 1986, Lakota Funds, the first Native American CDFI, now has a loan portfolio in excess of $4.4 million and its maximum loan size has grown to $200,000. The fund has created more than 1,000 permanent jobs on Pine Ridge Reservation and has helped establish hundreds of businesses and entrepreneurs.
Well-known throughout the Native American community for her local and national service record, Ms. Hunter serves on the Board of Directors of the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development. She has also served on the Board of Directors for the Native American Rights Fund; the National Indian Business Association; Dakota’s America LLC; the Pine Ridge Area Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Hunter, who holds an MBA from Oglala Lakota College, has received numerous awards, including the 2011 Social Venture Network Innovation Award, the Natural Foods Industry’s prestigious 2010 Cliff Adler ‘Heart in Business’ Award, and the 2007 SBA Small Business Woman of the Year for South Dakota. Recognized in 2003 as one of the 100 Best Minority Suppliers by the Minority Business Network, Ms. Hunter received the National Director’s Pioneer Award in 2006 from then-Department of Commerce Secretary Ronald Langston. She has also been awarded the President Harry S. Truman Foundation Scholarship; Indian Business Woman of the Year from the National Indian Business Association; Rising Star Award from the Business Women’s Network; Diversity Best Practices and NASFT Leadership Award Winner for Vision.

**Lyle S. Ishida**

Lyle Ishida has served as the Acting Chief of the FCC’s Office of Native Affairs and Policy (ONAP) since April 2016, coming to the office from the FCC’s Consumer Affairs and Outreach Division where he serves as its Chief. Since joining the FCC in 2000, Mr. Ishida has worked in a number of technical and managerial positions in the FCC’s Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Auctions Division) and Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau. He spent the first half of his government career as a civilian manager with the Department of Army, working in both Hawai’i and Japan, culminating in his position as Chief of the Directorate of Community Activities, Camp Zama, Japan.

He is a proud son of the state of Hawai’i and visits home whenever he can. He now resides in Cabin John, MD with his wife and daughter.

**Patrick Jewel**

Patrick Jewell is the Lead Consultant with Alliant Specialty Insurance Services/Tribal First. Pat brings over 20 years of experience serving Indian Country. Pat’s job experiences have included oversight of program marketing, internal TPA operations, loss control personnel, and services involving ordinance drafting, contract interpretation, and other legal and risk management service needs. His experience is enhanced by his 14 years of service as both a Director of Risk Management and Risk Management Counsel with one of the largest Tribal Casino operations in Indian Country. He is a graduate of Nichols College with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. He is also a graduate of the Quinnipiac School of Law and is a current member of the Connecticut and Mashantucket Bar.
Gary King, Ph.D

Dr. Gary King is the former New Mexico Attorney General and perhaps the only current or former AG in the nation who is also a scientist with a Ph.D. in organic chemistry. Dr. King maintained a private practice as an attorney and served as a state Legislator before being elected Attorney General in 2006. Since 1987, he has been married to Yolanda Jones King, also a scientist and community leader. Gary grew up with his ranching family in Stanley, New Mexico.

Dr. King attended New Mexico State University and obtained a Bachelor’s degree in Chemistry. He received his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Colorado University at Boulder. He then attended law school at the University of New Mexico, where he received his J.D. In 1984, Gary formed the law firm of King and Stanley in Moriarty, where he carried out the general practice of law. In 1990, he assumed the position of Corporate General Counsel and Senior Environmental Scientist with Advanced Sciences, Inc., an environmental consulting firm.

Gary served for 12 years in the New Mexico State Legislature. During 10 years as the Chairman of the Consumer and Public Affairs Committee, Gary used his leadership position to work vigorously on health care, environmental and civil rights issues.

In 1998, Gary became the Policy Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in Washington, D.C. Within a year, he became the Department’s Director of the Office of Worker and Community Transition. While at the DOE, he developed and implemented a program fostering cooperation between federal, state, local and Native American governments to enhance cleanup activities.

As Attorney General, Gary spearheaded the effort to get legislation passed that, for the first time, made it a felony crime to engage in the practice of human trafficking. AG King was invited to Geneva, Switzerland by a United Nations committee to present this legislation as a model for other nations around the world that are seeking to end the practice of human slavery.

Attorney General King has been a long-time active participant in his local community and has given his time and expertise to many statewide positions. He has served as President of his Rotary Club and Chair of the Manzano District of the Boy Scouts of America. Gary has served as the Chair of the Legal Services Committee of the New Mexico State Bar Association; as a Domestic Violence Special Commissioner and served as guardian ad litem for abused and neglected children in the Seventh Judicial District. He was also the Chairman of the New Mexico Mining Commission and served on the Environmental Advisory Board to the Federal Aviation Administration. Additionally, Dr. King was of counsel with Law and Resource Planning Associates, one of New Mexico’s most respected water and natural resource law firms.

John B. Lewis

John Lewis is the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA). Mr. Lewis has over 10 years of professional experience with the energy and utility industry in Indian Country. His involvement centers around tribal electric utility issues and energy development with a special focus on renewable generation. Mr. Lewis is particularly interested in solutions that integrate renewables into tribal
communities to create situations where the tribe receives maximum benefit in terms of economic improvement, financial stability and energy development. Mr. Lewis was the Vice President of Tribal Client Development for Avant Energy (Minneapolis, MN) whose main focus is to develop and facilitate the growth of tribal electric utilities in Indian Country. Mr. Lewis is also the current Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA) in Arizona. GRICUA is an electric utility corporation wholly-owned by the Gila River Indian Community and run by the Board as a separate corporate entity serving residential and commercial meters on the Community. Mr. Lewis also participates in the telecommunications utility industry and currently serves on Gila River’s Board of Directors for its telecom corporation at the Gila River Telecom Inc. (GRTI). Mr. Lewis has performed feasibility studies for wind and solar projects at both the facility scale and at the utility scale. He has completed analysis and feasibility studies regarding energy utility formation, development and management for tribes. He also has a substantial background in the permitting and regulatory processes that impact tribal energy development. His professional experience as a blend of both the tribal and private perspectives puts him in a very select class and unique category.

Mr. Lewis attended Stanford University and studied in the Civil & Environmental Engineering Program and is an enrolled member of the Gila River Indian Community.

**Governor Stephen Roe Lewis**

Stephen Roe Lewis is the Governor of the Gila River Indian Community. Governor Lewis was raised in Sacaton, “Gu-u-Ki”, on the Gila River Indian Community. His parents are Rodney and Willardene Lewis. His paternal grandparents are the late Rev. Roe Blaine and Sally Lewis. His maternal grandparents are the late Willard and Catherine Pratt. Mr. Lewis has a fifteen-year-old son, Daniel Roe Lewis.

Governor Lewis is proud to have attended school from kindergarten to 8th grade on the Gila River Indian Community. Governor Lewis graduated from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Science and pursued graduate studies at John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Governor Lewis has long been an advocate for Native American issues nationally. In the area of Indian Education, Mr. Lewis was selected to serve as a Board member for the National Indian Education Association (NIEA), and Delegate to the White House Conference on Indian Education. Governor Lewis has served the Community as a Gaming Commissioner for the Gila River Gaming Commission, as a member of the Board of Directors for the Gila River Telecommunications, Inc., and as a member of the Board of Directors for the Gila River Healthcare Corporation.

Governor Lewis was the first Native film curator for the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah and was an Associate Producer for the groundbreaking and critically acclaimed TBS six-part feature documentary, “The Native Americans.” Governor Lewis has worked on numerous political campaigns and organizing projects throughout Indian Country including Native voter organizing and Native voter protection in 2002 and selected as an Arizona delegate and Co-Chairing the Native American Caucus for the 2012 Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Currently Governor Lewis serves on the Board of Directors for the Native American Rights Fund (NARF), the Executive Board for the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) and the Board of Trustee for the Heard Museum of Phoenix.
Robert J. Miller

Robert Miller is a Professor of Law, at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University and Faculty Director of the Rosette, LLC, American Indian Economic Development Program.

Robert Miller’s areas of expertise are civil procedure, federal Indian law, American Indians and international law, American Indian economic development and Native American natural resources. An enrolled citizen of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, he is the Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals for the Grand Ronde Tribe and sits as a judge for other tribes. He is also the Faculty Director of the Rosette LLP American Indian Economic Development Program at ASU.

Before joining the College of Law in 2013, Professor Miller was on the faculty of Lewis & Clark Law School. Prior to his career in academia, he practiced Indian law with Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, and worked for the Stoel Rives law firm. Following graduation from law school, he clerked for Judge Diarmuid O’Scannlain of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Professor Miller’s published works include articles, books and book chapters on a wide array of federal Indian law issues and civil procedure, and he speaks regularly on Indian law issues across the U.S. and in other countries. He is the author of Native America, Discovered and Conquered: Thomas Jefferson, Lewis and Clark, and Manifest Destiny (2006), and Reservation “Capitalism:” Economic Development in Indian Country (2012), and he co-authored Discovering Indigenous Lands: The Doctrine of Discovery in the English Colonies (Oxford University Press 2010). Professor Miller’s blog on Indian affairs was noted by the wallstreetjournal.com and a poll of leading Indian blogs, and will be archived by the Library of Congress. He also has worked as a consultant with the American Philosophical Society since 2006 on tribal language and archival issues. He was elected to the American Law Institute in 2012 and to the American Philosophical Society in 2014.

He earned a B.S. Eastern Oregon University, 1988 and a J.D. from Lewis & Clark Law School, magna cum laude in 1991.

David (Dave) M. Nyberg

David Nyberg serves on Governor Snyder’s executive team as Deputy Legal Counsel and as Director of the Governor’s Northern Michigan Office, based in Marquette. Dave joined Snyder’s team in August, 2012 and took on responsibilities in the Governor’s Legal Division in 2014, including American Indian, gaming, and natural resource legal matters and liaison duties with tribal governments.

A strong affinity for his native Upper Peninsula brought Dave to Marquette in 2011 after serving in various professional capacities at the state’s capital, including service as legislative affairs director for the state’s largest conservation organization and as legislative assistant to the Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives. For a brief period prior to joining the Snyder Administration, Dave owned and operated 3rd Coast Strategies, LLC, a strategic consulting practice serving clients such as Trout Unlimited’s Bristol Bay campaign, National Wildlife Federation, and Plum Creek Timber Company.
Dave earned his B.A. at Michigan State University, J.D. at Michigan State University College of Law, and is a graduate of the Michigan Political Leadership Program at MSU’s Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. He is a member of the of the State Bar of Michigan, Marquette County Bar Association, Fred Waara Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Michigan United Conservation Clubs, Escanaba River Association, Nqquemanon Skijor Club, Economic Club of Marquette County, and serves on the Board of Directors for 40 Below Young Professionals of Marquette County. Dave lives in Skandia with his wife, Tracy, daughters, Hazel (3) and Harriet (8 months), and canine kids, Thule and Koppar.

Marshall Pierite

Marshall Pierite is the founder and owner of the Pierite Group, LLC, a Louisiana-based company which provides business advisory services. A native Louisianan, Marshall began his career by serving in the United States Marine Corps with a military occupational specialty in administration. Following his military service, he worked for the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana as a medical clerk. After receiving progressive promotions within the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana’s Health Department, he was promoted to Director of the Tunica-Biloxi Social Services Department.

While serving in the Social Services Department, Marshall also became a member of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribal Council. For more than 20 years, he held several elected positions on the Council including Secretary-Treasurer, Vice Chairman, and Chairman of the Tribe. Over the course of his time on the Council, he worked on government operations, budgeting, infrastructure development, economic development, community development and tax policy development. Marshall became well versed in government operations throughout Indian Country, federal regulations, government to government negotiations, and relationship building between governmental organizations and private entities.

Concurrent to Marshall’s service in tribal government, he also excelled in several leadership positions in corporate governance. He served as the Chief Executive Officer of MobiLoans, a financial services corporation. Under Marshall’s leadership, MobiLoans grew from a small start-up company to a multi-million dollar national financial service institution. As Chief Executive Officer, he oversaw a multi-million dollar portfolio all while creating workforce development opportunities for the citizens of Louisiana. Due to his outstanding service, Marshall was named Chairman of the Board of Directors of MobiLoans, a position he currently holds.

Marshall has also served in key positions on a number of boards and committees with private, tribal, and non-profit organizations. He has served as chairman and co-chairman of the Board of Carcieri Task Force; Board Member of the United States Chamber of Commerce/NAEI; Board Member of the United South and Eastern Tribes; Board Member of the National Online Lending Alliance Board; Liaison Officer to Tunica-Biloxi Economic Development Corporation; Mentor to Tunica-Biloxi Youth Council and Committee Member of the United South and Eastern Tribes Social Services Program.

Pierite is an advocate for leading the initiative to help regulate tribal lending. It was through his leadership that the Tunica-Biloxi Tribal Lending Commission was formed.
Eric Ramos

Eric Ramos is a Sales Executive – Property and Casualty, for Wells Fargo Insurance, Wells Fargo & Company, located in Rancho Cordov. Eric’s focus is on our Native American clients, where he is responsible for working with tribal governments to build economic enterprises that safeguard and improve the lives of their citizens. Eric has spent the past 15 years helping tribes manage the risks associated with these diverse tribal entities. Eric works closely with tribal clients and prospects to create tailored insurance strategies to meet their specific needs. His goal is to discover innovative ways to help them minimize exposures, reduce risks, and support their unique cultures.

Before joining Wells Fargo Insurance, Eric was the President and CEO of Crossfire Connection Insurance Associates, a regional insurance brokerage firm that served the Native American community. Eric was also acting President of Business Operations for the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe where he managed the Tribe’s many diverse enterprises. Most notably, he steered their giving budgets into education, community infrastructure, and public health and safety services.

Eric earned his B.A. in Business Administration at Humboldt State University. In addition, he represented Blue Lake Rancheria as a California Nations Indian Gaming Association (CNIGA) Tribal Delegate, and was a former Executive Committee Secretary and Legislative Committee Chair where he worked on legal, operational, and planning issues affecting Indian Country.

Lawrence S. Roberts

Lawrence “Larry” Roberts, an enrolled member of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, is the former Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs in the U.S. Department of the Interior, a post he has held since July 2013. From January 1 to July 28, 2016, he also held the title of acting Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs following the departure of Assistant Secretary Kevin Washburn at the end of December 2015. Until recently, Mr. Roberts was Indian Affairs’ highest ranking official.

He joined the Assistant Secretary’s office as Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs in September 2012, after serving as General Counsel of the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC), a post he had held since 2010. Mr. Roberts began his legal career with the U.S. Department of Justice as a trial attorney in DOJ’s Indian Resources Section, where he handled a variety of federal Indian law cases for the benefit of tribal interests including the protection of tribal reserved treaty hunting and fishing rights. He subsequently joined the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Office of General Counsel, where he provided counsel on the implementation of federal environmental programs by federally recognized tribes. Mr. Roberts left EPA in 2002 to work in private practice on federal Indian law and environmental matters, until joining the Commission’s staff, As NIGC general counsel, he advised on matters concerning the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and other relevant laws and regulations. From 2003 to 2005, Mr. Roberts served as chair of the Native American Resources Committee of the American Bar Association’s Section of Environment, Energy and Resources. In 2011, he co-chaired the Federal Bar Association’s Federal Indian Law Conference in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Roberts graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1992 with a double major in Political Science and Sociology and from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1995.
Kenneth Salazar is currently a Partner with Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP. Mr. Salazar provides legal, strategic and policy advice to national and international clients, particularly on matters at the intersection of law, business and public policy. He counsels firm clients by drawing on his deep experience in energy, environmental and natural resources, leads the firm’s efforts on tribal issues.

In December 2008, President Barack Obama selected then-US Senator Salazar to serve in his cabinet as Secretary of Interior. Mr. Salazar was confirmed as the 50th Secretary of the Interior by a unanimous US Senate vote on January 20, 2009. Prior to his confirmation, Mr. Salazar served as United States Senator for Colorado, winning the election in 2004 and serving on the Energy and Natural Resources and Finance Committees, which oversaw the nation's energy, natural resources, tax, trade, social security and healthcare systems. He also served on the Agriculture, Ethics, Veterans Affairs and Aging Committees.

As Secretary, Mr. Salazar helped to lead the United States energy efforts in developing and implementing President Obama's energy strategy. The effort included overseeing the exploration and development of conventional and renewable energy resources on the nation's public lands and oceans, and working on matters relating to climate change, exploration of frontier areas like the Arctic, leading the successful response to the 2010 Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill, and overhauling the regulatory oversight of oil and gas exploration and production. He also created the five-year plan that governs the leasing for oil and exploration for the Gulf of Mexico, the Atlantic, the Pacific, and the Arctic Seas.

During that time, Mr. Salazar also led the effort to permit more than 11,000 MW of power on public lands from solar, wind and geothermal sources (the equivalent of power from more than 30 regular power plants) and developed the blueprint for future siting and development of these resources, including high-priority transmission infrastructure projects. As part of his renewable energy efforts, he also created the first offshore wind energy plan for the Atlantic Ocean and awarded the first leases in American history for offshore wind projects.

As Secretary, Mr. Salazar also led the nation's efforts on conservation, including the creation of 10 National Parks and 10 National Conservation and Wildlife Refuges, and organized more than 100 other conservation and preservation projects in the United States. He also led the successful resolution of bilateral conservation efforts with Mexico and Canada along the two borders and in the Arctic.

Mr. Salazar also led the President's initiatives in creating a new chapter with the 566 Native American tribes and Alaska Natives. This effort included the resolution of longstanding conflicts like the Cobell litigation and numerous water rights settlements and permitting the first oil and gas refinery and solar projects in Indian country.

As Secretary, Mr. Salazar appeared before Committees of the United States Congress and provided testimony at more than 30 hearings.

As a U.S. Senator, Mr. Salazar served on key committees, including Energy and Natural Resources, Finance, Ethics and Veterans Affairs. Highlights of that service include the enactment of the 2005 Energy Policy Act, the 2006 Gulf of Mexico Security Act, the 2007 Farm Bill, and the 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act. In each of these efforts, Mr. Salazar was a central player in putting together the successful bipartisan efforts that created the most significant energy legal framework in US history.
Mr. Salazar also helped lead a bipartisan group of Senators on comprehensive immigration reform, the only significant bipartisan legislative effort on ending the War in Iraq, and the beginning of healthcare reform, which was enacted into law in 2010. As a member of the Ethics Committee, Mr. Salazar was involved in reviewing and resolving ethics matters related to other United States Senators.

As Attorney General, Mr. Salazar served as the top legal officer for the State of Colorado and oversaw thousands of civil and criminal legal matters and investigations before state and federal courts, including the State Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court. Mr. Salazar also exercised the exclusive authority to convene and present matters before the State Grand Jury.

Some of the notable matters investigated and reported on included sexual assault allegations against the University of Colorado football program, the homicide of a Native American young man in southwestern Colorado, the Jon Benet Ramsey homicide, and the review of numerous law enforcement matters relating to the Columbine High School killings. Mr. Salazar also led many investigations relating to securities fraud and consumer protection, including multistate securities fraud and consumer protection matters. Finally, Mr. Salazar led the resolution of some of the most complex natural resource and environmental conflicts in Colorado history, including longstanding natural resource damage cases at places like the Summitville mine and other CERCLA cases that had been filed some 25 years earlier. As Attorney General, he was involved in several complex interstate water disputes in the United States Supreme Court.

From 1987 to 1994, Mr. Salazar served first as Chief Legal Counsel and then as Executive Director of the Department of Natural Resources for the Governor of Colorado.

As Chief Legal Counsel for the Governor, Mr. Salazar worked on all important matters to the State of Colorado, including economic development, crisis management, and appointments to all courts, including the Colorado Supreme Court. Mr. Salazar also oversaw the Governor's efforts on criminal justice, corrections, parole and commutation matters.

As Executive Director of the Department of Natural Resources, Mr. Salazar spearheaded all efforts on oil and gas, mineral, water, and conservation matters for the State of Colorado.

Besides his public sector experience, Mr. Salazar also has substantial experience in the private practice of law. He practiced natural resources and water law for 11 years in the major Denver law firms of Sherman & Howard and Parcel, Mauro, Hultin and Spaanstra. In his practice, Mr. Salazar represented ski areas, land developers, farmers and mining companies in both transactional and litigation matters. About 50 percent of his time was focused on addressing water rights matters.

Mr. Salazar received a JD degree from the University of Michigan and a political science degree from Colorado College. He later received honorary doctorates of law from Colorado College, the University of Denver and the University of Massachusetts at Lowell.
Katherine “Kate” Spilde, Ph.D.

Katherine Spilde, Ph.D. MBA, is an Associate Professor in the L. Robert Payne School of Hospitality and Tourism Management at San Diego State University (SDSU), where she serves as Endowed Chair of the Sycuan Institute on Tribal Gaming. In her role as Sycuan Chair, Dr. Spilde is responsible for developing and managing the nation’s first four-year degree program in tribal casino operations management.

Previously, she was the Executive Director for the Center for California Native Nations at the University of California at Riverside (UCR), and a Sr. Research Associate at the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development. Prior to her appointment at Harvard, she was the Director of Research for the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) and Staffed the Indian Gaming Subcommittee for the National Gambling Impact Study Commission (NGISC) that produced a comprehensive study of national gambling policy during the Clinton Administration.

Douglas J. Sylvester

Doug Sylvester is the Dean, Professor of Law, Faculty Fellow for Center for Law, Science & Innovation at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law.

Douglas Sylvester was named Dean of the College of Law in March 2012. He served as Interim Dean for 10 months. Previously, he was Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Development, and was responsible for building an environment that fosters faculty scholarship, organizing speaker series, mentoring junior faculty, and seeking innovative ways to increase the faculty’s visibility.

Dean Sylvester has published, taught and lectured on issues of intellectual property law and commercialization, international law, emerging technologies and privacy. In 2006, he taught Nanotechnology and the Law, the first time such a course was offered in the country by full-time law faculty.

In 2007, Dean Sylvester was appointed Special Consultant to a National Academy of Sciences panel charged with reforming the U.S. Census. He was the founding Faculty Director of the innovative Technology Ventures Clinic, which introduces students to transactional legal practice in high-technology sectors. In recent years, Dean Sylvester also has been an expert witness in cases involving licensing, intellectual property and technology, and has advised numerous entrepreneurs in building their businesses.

Prior to joining the College faculty, Dean Sylvester was a Bigelow Fellow and Lecturer-in-Law at the University of Chicago, a Lecturer-in-Law at Northwestern University, and an attorney in the Global e-Commerce Practice Group at Baker & McKenzie in Chicago, and he clerked for U.S. District Judge C. Clyde Atkins in Florida.

Mr. Sylvester earned an LL.M., New York University Law School (1995, c. 1998), a J.D., University of Buffalo School of Law (1994), and a B.A., University of Toronto (1991)
Chairperson Sherry Treppa

Sherry Treppa is Chairperson for the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, a federally recognized Indian Nation located in Upper Lake, California. Treppa was elected to the Tribe’s seven member Executive Council as Vice Chairperson in 2004. She was re-elected in 2006, and served as Vice Chairperson until 2008, when she was then elected and again re-elected to her current position. As Chairperson, Treppa is tasked with leading the efforts towards preserving the tribe’s Pomo culture and inalienable right to sovereignty, while continually striving for economic self-reliance, through e-commerce, gaming and other economic opportunities unique to tribal lands.

Prior to her work for the Tribe, Treppa served as an Account Manager, where she was responsible for servicing multiple industries, including medical, biotech, wine, welding and pharmaceutical. Before joining the Executive Council, Treppa began her work for the Tribe as a volunteer for the Enrollment Committee in 2001. As the Committee’s Chairperson, she shepherded the Tribe through its initial enrollment of current membership. She also served as an influential member of the Tribe’s Housing Committee.

Treppa’s ongoing efforts have contributed to the process of restoring the Tribe’s land base and goal of economic self-reliance. She spearheaded funding negotiations for the Tribe’s current gaming ventures, while working cooperatively with the County, local Community, State, Legislature, and the Tribe’s U.S. Congressman in an effort to secure a Gaming Compact with the State, guide it through the legislative ratification process as well as the final Department of Interior review procedure. Treppa also worked as one of the Tribe’s project management representatives in the day-to-day construction coordination of the Running Creek Casino Gaming Project, which opened in May 2012. Additionally, she represents the Tribe in raising capital, structuring, development, implementation and operation of the Tribe’s e-commerce businesses. In connection with the Tribe’s e-commerce businesses she was a founding member of the Native American Financial Services Association (NAFSA), where she assumed the position of Vice Chairperson of the Board.

She has also served as a member of the California Indian Legal Services (CILS) Board of Directors, the Tribe’s National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) and National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) delegation. Chairperson Treppa is often called upon to testify in her capacity as an experienced Tribal leader at Legislative hearings for a variety of issues with the potential to impact Indian Country. She has been repeatedly recognized for her active commitment to Native American issues and their mission to achieve economic growth and long-term financial stability.

Treppa was born in Lake County and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. She graduated with a bachelor of science from the University of San Francisco. She has two children and currently resides in Napa, California.
**Blake M. Trueblood**

Blake Trueblood currently serves as Chief of Staff for the Native American Financial Services Association ("NAFSA"). Blake earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Management from Florida State University and a law degree from the Washington University in St. Louis School of Law. Blake has also earned a Masters in Business Administration degree with a concentration in Entrepreneurship from the H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship at Nova Southeastern University. Blake is an enrolled tribal member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

Blake has significant experience in several areas of tribal economic development, both as an attorney and business consultant. Blake is a partner of the Trueblood Law Group P.A., a Florida based economic development, business and Indian law firm. Prior to joining NAFSA, Blake served as Director of Business Development for the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development ("NCAIED").

**Jennifer H. Weddle**

Jennifer H. Weddle is a shareholder of Greenberg Traurig, LLP, and the Co-Chair of the firm’s American Indian Law Practice and has wide-ranging experience in Indian law, handling a variety of matters for tribal and non-tribal clients. She has a dynamic, inter-disciplinary practice that centers on providing solutions for complex inter-jurisdictional problems. Much of her practice focuses in the areas of tribal jurisdiction, tribal economic development and natural resources development on tribal lands. Jennifer also has U.S. Supreme Court experience, serving as one of the attorneys for the respondent in the important Indian Law case of *Nevada v. Hicks* (2001) and representing the petitioners in *Ute Mountain Ute Tribe v. Padilla* (2012) and *Grand Canyon Skywalk Development, LLC v. Grand Canyon Resort Corporation* (2013).

Jennifer’s work has included negotiations for mineral leasing on tribal lands, tribal employment matters and representation of tribes before federal agencies. She has also been involved in civil litigation, working on numerous complex federal, state and tribal litigation matters, including class action tort litigation and large commercial disputes. Jennifer also has securities litigation experience and products liability litigation experience, and her transactional experience includes oil and gas renewables projects throughout the west.

Jennifer has broad trial and appellate litigation experience (more than 40 trials), and frequently litigates tribal jurisdictional issues. She is also experienced in tribal financial/sovereign models for consumer lending and energy development. Jennifer frequently assists tribes, banks and non-bank entities with financing matters with Indian law components.

Jennifer has significant project siting experience, including the application of NEPA, NHPA, and other environmental laws on tribal and public lands. Notably, she served as lead counsel on tribal issues to Kinder Morgan’s Ruby Pipeline, a 677-mile natural gas pipeline running from Opal, Wyoming to Malin, Oregon, which entered into service in July 2011.
In the Indian law context and beyond, Jennifer is a proven problem-solver with significant transactional, regulatory and litigation experience involving very complex high-profile matters with both legal and policy components.


Karrie S. Wichtman

Ms. Karrie S. Wichtman is an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She joined Rosette, LLP in April of 2010 and achieved Partner status in January of 2012 and is responsible for the operation of the Rosette, LLP Michigan Office. Ms. Wichtman possesses approximately ten years’ experience building and maintaining relationships with tribal communities and has held various positions in the areas of local, federal and tribal government. Prior to joining the firm, Ms. Wichtman spent two years’ as a Project Leader for the Calhoun County Juvenile Home; three years as the Administrative Assistant to the United States Attorney for the Western District of Michigan, where she assisted in the development and implementation of projects involving Indian County; and two and a half years within the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians community as the Tribal Court Administrator where she was responsible for assisting in the initial development of the Tribal Court, as well as, the tribal infrastructure necessary to support its operation.

Ms. Wichtman has first-hand knowledge of the concept of tribal sovereignty, drafting and application of tribal codes and court rules, policy and procedure development, as well as the diplomacy and objectivity that is necessary to maintain tribal governmental integrity. She has completed in-depth research in the areas of Indian Child Welfare and domestic violence issues affecting Indian Country. She is also a proven grant writer and skilled in the areas of contract drafting and negotiation, capacity building, program development and implementation, and community collaboration. For the past year and a half Ms. Wichtman has focused a significant amount of time in the area of E-Commerce and economic development in Indian Country, using her knowledge of tribal sovereignty and governmental infrastructure development to assist Tribes in the formation of successful business entities necessary to sustain tribal government programs and services, and attain goals of self-sufficiency.

Ms. Wichtman received her J.D. from Michigan State University College of Law in December 2009 accompanied by a Certificate of Indigenous Law from the Michigan State University College of Law, Indigenous Law & Policy Center. She also holds a Master of Public Administration with a concentration in Administrative Law from Western Michigan University.