Speaker Biographies

Keith B. Adams

Keith B. 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.
Geoffrey C. Blackwell

Geoffrey Blackwell joined Amerind Risk, as the Chief Strategy Officer and General Counsel in October 2015. He oversees AMERIND’s Finance, Information Technology, and Human Resources departments, as well as direct AMERIND’s legal efforts and strategic development and diversification endeavors.

Previously, Blackwell was a senior policy maker and Office Chief at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). He established the FCC’s Office of Native Affairs and Policy and, for over five years, directed FCC activities to incentivize the deployment of broadband and communications technologies across Indian country. Blackwell also led the FCC’s efforts to protect tribal sacred sites and cultural resources, ensure low income families on tribal lands have telephone and broadband services, and prioritize radio and television broadcasting media ownership opportunities for tribal nations. Regarding these efforts, Blackwell has testified before Congress on five occasions, and before dozens of tribal councils. Prior to his most recent federal service, Blackwell worked for five years as the Director of Strategic Relations and Minority Business Development at Chickasaw Nation Industries (CNI), Inc., where he oversaw diversification among many companies owned by the Chickasaw Nation. While with CNI, Blackwell served on the boards of directors of Native Public Media, the National Small Business Association, the National Federation of Community Broadcasters, and the Acoma Business Enterprises Board of the Pueblo of Acoma. Blackwell also chaired the Telecommunications Subcommittee of the National Congress of American Indians, and served as the indigenous representative from the United States on the international Indigenous Commission for Communications Technologies in the Americas.

Prior to his work with CNI, Blackwell worked his first tour of duty with the FCC, where, as a Senior Attorney and Liaison to tribal governments, he helped write the FCC’s foundational policies with respect to tribal nations, including the FCC’s seminal 2000 Tribal Policy Statement. He was the first enrolled tribal member to ever work at the FCC. Prior to his first period of service with the FCC, he worked in the Litigation Department of Hale and Dorr, LLP, (now Wilmer Hale) in Boston, Massachusetts.

Blackwell, an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, is also descended from the Chickasaw Nation, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, and Omaha Tribe of Nebraska. Blackwell is a graduate of Dartmouth College and the University of Virginia School of Law.

Dama J. Brown

Dama Brown is the Regional Director of the Federal Trade Commission’s Southwest Region, which covers Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. As Regional Director, Ms. Brown oversees litigation involving unfair or deceptive acts or practices or rule violations in a variety of industries, including automobile and home financing, consumer credit, debt collection, mobile technologies, and telemarketing. She also speaks to business, industry, media, and
consumer groups about consumer protection issues and regulation.

Prior to becoming Regional Director, Ms. Brown was a staff attorney with the FTC. In that role, she brought regulatory enforcement actions against debt collectors, mortgage relief service providers, mortgage brokers, and precious metals dealers and she received the FTC’s Paul Rand Dixon and Janet D. Steiger awards for excellence. Ms Brown joined the FTC in 2006 after spending ten years in private practice in metro Detroit. She is a 1995 graduate of Wayne State University Law School in Detroit.

Anthony J. Carucci

Tony Carucci is an attorney in the Orange County office of Snell & Wilmer, where he concentrates his practice on business litigation in state and federal courts. Mr. Carucci is also a member of Snell & Wilmer’s gaming law services practice group, helping clients navigate the complex regulatory and legal environments that confront businesses in the gaming industry. He advises U.S. and foreign-based gaming companies regarding a variety of legal issues, including general licensing and regulation, Indian law, online gaming, and litigation. Mr. Carucci has represented resorts and recreational businesses, gaming vendors, financers and others doing business on Indian lands.

Mr. Carucci has addressed topical issues related to Indian gaming, tribal sovereignty, and Internet poker in numerous articles featured in leading industry publications.

Mr. Carucci graduated magna cum laude from Tufts University, and cum laude from Notre Dame Law School.

Robert N. Clinton

Foundation Professor of Law, Indian Legal Program, Faculty Fellow, Center for Law Science and Innovation, Affiliated Professor, American Indian Studies Program, Affiliated Professor, Center on the Future of War

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. Robert N. Clinton currently serves as the Foundation Professor of Law at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University and as an Affiliated Faculty member of the ASU American Indian Studies Program. He is also a Faculty Fellow in the Center for Law, Science, & Innovation.
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 graduated with a J.D., University of Chicago Law School (1971) and a B.A., University of Michigan (1968)
The Honorable Michael J. Copps, Ph.D.

Michael J. Copps served two terms as a Member of the Federal Communications Commission from 2001 through 2011 and was Acting Chairman in 2009.

Dr. Copps began his Washington career in 1970 and served for over a dozen years as Chief of Staff to U.S. Senator Fritz Hollings. Following his years with Hollings, he held executive positions in the private sector with a Fortune 500 company and a major trade association.

Copps returned to government following the election of President Bill Clinton, serving first as Deputy Assistant Secretary, and then Assistant Secretary, for Trade Development at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

After retiring from the FCC, Dr. Copps agreed to found and head a new Media & Democracy Initiative at Common Cause, focused on enabling a national grassroots dialogue on media consolidation, the declining state of America’s news and information infrastructure, and government neglect of its important public interest oversight responsibilities. Copps also serves on the boards of Free Press and Public Knowledge. He writes a monthly blog for the Benton Foundation and Common Cause.

A native of Milwaukee, Copps earned his B.A. at Wofford College in 1963 and his Ph.D. in United States History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1967. He also received an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Wofford in 2005. Prior to locating in Washington, he taught U. S. History at Loyola University in New Orleans. He and his wife, Beth, have five children and nine grandchildren and reside in Alexandria, Virginia.

Gary Davis

Gary Davis is the President and CEO for the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development. He is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. Before being appointed as President and CEO of the NCAIED, Mr. Davis served on the organization’s Board of Directors. He has served as Vice-President of Native Affairs for the Triple Five Group, owners of the world’s largest retail shopping malls; the Mall of America and the West Edmonton Mall and he previously served as co-chair of the National Indian Gaming Association’s, American Indian Business Network. Though his company Litefoot Enterprises, Mr. Davis has facilitated an array of cross sector business opportunities in Indian Country ranging from acquisitions, casino gaming, hospitality, land development, green energy and pharmaceutical initiatives. Mr. Davis’ entrepreneurial spirit has resulted in several family owned and operated businesses and he is a successful feature film and television actor and starred in such major motion pictures as, *The Indian In The Cupboard* and television programs such as, *House of Cards*.
Philanthropically, he has traveled hundreds of thousands of miles throughout the United States bringing hope and empowerment to over 450 American Indian communities as the spokesperson of the “Reach The Rez Tour” and he also helped raise nearly $1.5 million to ensure the success of the effort. Mr. Davis continues to motivate and inspire, tribal, educational and corporate audiences as a highly sought after public speaker. He has lectured at various colleges and universities including Virginia Tech and Oregon State University.

Mr. Davis was recently selected as a recipient of the prestigious Sevenstar Award from the Cherokee Nation Historical Society, presented to a Cherokee who is accomplished in a chosen field, brought honor to the Cherokee people and serves as an inspiration to others.

For over two decades, Mr. Davis has meshed his success as an entrepreneur, with his passion to better the future of Indian Country and serve as a source of inspiration for Native people across North America.

Marisa E. Duarte, Ph.D.

Marisa Elena Duarte is Assistant Professor of Justice and Sociotechnical Change through the School of Social Transformation at Arizona State University. She is a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, also bearing family ties from the Mexican American community in south Tucson, Arizona. Duarte worked as a professional librarian for years, focusing on access to information and library services for tribal and Spanish speaking communities, before completing a doctorate in 2013 from the University of Washington Information School. While there, she co-founded the Indigenous Information Research Group, a team of Native and Indigenous doctoral researchers investigating problems of information, knowledge, and technology in Native and Indigenous communities. From 2013-2015 she served on the advisory board of the Tribal Telecom and Technology Summit, a national intertribal forum where tribal, state, and federal decision-makers convene to share ideas and techniques for acquiring affordable Internet and telephone services for Native and reservation communities. Her forthcoming book Network Sovereignty: Building the Internet Across Indian Country is about the strategies, cultural values, and epistemological orientations shaping the build-out of digital telecommunications in Native American reservations.

James “Jim” E. Dunstan

James E. Dunstan has practiced telecommunications law for the past 33 years, during which he’s dealt with nearly every aspect of communications regulation at the federal, state, and local levels. In the area of Native American Telecommunications, he represented Native Public Media and the National Congress of American Indians in helping establish the Broadcast Tribal Priority, drafted comments for NPM and NCAI that became the core of FCC National Broadband Plan’s approach to Tribes, he represents a number of tribes before the FCC, and helped establish the Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission's (NNTRC’s) regulatory rules. Jim is the

Jim grew up in Arizona and attended Arizona State University. He became ASU’s first Harry S Truman Scholar in 1978. He received his Bachelor’s degree from Claremont McKenna College in 1980 and his law degree from Georgetown University in 1983.

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 ears 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.

Judith M. Dworkin

Judith M. Dworkin is the managing partner of the Scottsdale law firm of Sacks Tierney P.A. Her practice is devoted primarily to Indian law and water resources law issues. Ms. Dworkin has been selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers of America in the fields of water law and Native American law, Super Lawyers in Native American Law, and selected among Arizona’s “50 Most Influential Women in Business” by AzBusiness magazine. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in geography from Clark University and her J.D. degree, cum laude, from Arizona State University. She clerked for the Honorable William C. Canby, Jr. of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. She is admitted to the Arizona and Navajo Nation bars and is admitted to practice in the courts of the Tohono O’odham Nation, Gila River Indian Community, Hopi Tribe and Hualapai Tribe. Ms. Dworkin lectures regularly and publishes on topics relating to water resource management and economic development on Indian Reservations. Ms. Dworkin is an adjunct professor in the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law and the School of Urban Planning at Arizona State University.
Lael Echo-Hawk

Lael Echo-Hawk’s federal practice is limited to matters and proceedings before federal courts and agencies focusing on policies with tribal implications.

A member of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, she has worked as a tribal attorney for over 10 year. Her practice includes working as in-house counsel to the Tulalip Tribes of Washington, serving as Counselor to the Chair of the National Indian Gaming Association and the legislative director for the Native American Contractors Association. She has extensive experience working directly with tribal leadership and tribal administrative staff and regularly advises tribal service programs including tribal healthcare and Indian Child welfare departments.

Lael developed processes for consulting with tribes while reviewing and updating national regulatory structure. She successfully led a team of judges and attorneys to revise legislation governing an award-winning tribal court system. She has provided advice and strategic policy analysis on national legislative and regulatory proposals to a national economic development policy organization and streamlined the contract and regulation compliance process at a gaming organization by developing systems and procedures to ensure efficiency.

Lael is active in community service, with an emphasis on civil rights, diversity training and enhancing achievement opportunities for persons of color. She is an instructor in continuing legal education classes at local higher education institutions. She is a published author of numerous papers and presentations on complex legal issues, and has been recognized as a “Rising Star: Young Women Who Make a Difference” in their profession.

Valerie Fast Horse

Valerie Fast Horse is an enrolled member of the Coeur d’Alene tribe of Idaho and is a descendent of the Okanagan band of Indians of Vernon, British Columbia. Her desire to pursue a technical career began as a result of her assignment to the Information Management Division in the U.S. Army during Desert Storm. This assignment allowed her to experience first-hand the use of technology in dominating the collection, dissemination, and application of information and knowledge, which ultimately led to the defeat of Iraq. The experience left a lasting impression on her and inspired her to pursue a career in the technical arena.

Valerie has been the Director of IT for the Coeur d’Alene Tribe for the past 16 years. As the IT Director she is responsible for leading and managing the tribe’s IT Department, which includes four programs: IT- Government Services, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Red-Spectrum Communications, and KWIS 88.3 FM.

In 2005 she successfully planned, managed and implemented a $2.8 million grant to build a Tribal Community Technology Center and deploy a wireless ISP (Red-Spectrum) bringing broadband services to residents of the Coeur d’Alene Reservation for the first time. More
recently in 2015 she completed a $10.2 million fiber-to-the-home project that included construction of 121 route miles of fiber, 1 new wireless tower, and equipment upgrades to 5 existing towers & access points. Through these efforts the Tribe is able to reach over 3,000 homes with either fiber or wireless connections.

Other projects she completed in her spare time include implementing a VoIP network in 2004, and in 2011 launching a new tribally-owned radio station, KWIS 88.3 FM, to provide locally and culturally relevant content for families living on the reservation. Together with her team they use their collective knowledge to move the tribe forward in technology to improve the way tribal people conduct business.

Fast Horse is a former elected tribal leader and served six years as a Tribal Council member. She served as Co-Chair of the Telecommunications & Utility Sub-Committee for the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) from 2001 to 2008, and has been an active member of the National Congress of American Indians Telecommunications Committee for over 10 years. She testified before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on the Status of Telecommunications in Indian Country, and has advocated in numerous forums to improve access to advanced communications in Indian Country. She has been appointed to serve on the FCC-Native Nations Broadband Task Force, which is comprised of elected and appointed leaders from across the Native Nations and senior staff and decision-makers from across the Commission.

In 2011 Valerie was selected as one of the 15 positive female role models nominated for changing the course of history in the state of Idaho and received the Idaho “Women Making History” award by the Boise State Women’s Center.

Patty Ferguson-Bohnee

Faculty Director, Indian Legal Program
Director, Indian Legal Clinic
Clinical Professor Law

Patty Ferguson-Bohnee 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 Nottawasagepi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, and the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska.


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.
Justin Gray

Justin Gray is an Associate Attorney at Rosette, LLP, and based out of the firm’s Michigan office. Mr. Gray focuses primarily on litigation and regulatory matters. Since joining Rosette in 2014, Mr. Gray has managed litigation in federal, state, and tribal courts covering topics including: the Indian Child Welfare Act and the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act; Indian employment preference matters; construction loan disputes; the Employee Retirement Income Security Act; tribal lending contract disputes; and, suits against tribal employees. Mr. Gray has also helped develop preemptive litigation strategies for tribal online gaming and tribal online lending. He serves as counsel to many tribal lending regulatory authorities, gaming commissions, and a tribal judiciary committee. He has also advised tribal election boards and worked to update election codes, develop tribal arbitration procedures, created operating procedures for tribal regulatory bodies, and recently co-authored an amicus filing to protect tribal waivers of sovereign immunity in Michigan.

Mr. Gray was an Assistant Attorney General in Michigan before he joined Rosette. As an Assistant Attorney General, he managed litigation and regulatory matters for the Michigan Department of Transportation. He managed dozens of state regulatory matters, successfully litigated cases throughout Michigan’s state courts, appeared before the Michigan Court of Appeals more than a dozen times, and succeeded before the Michigan Supreme Court and United States District Court. His experience managing state governmental immunity matters has easily translated to assist Indian tribes’ sovereignty and sovereign immunity concerns.

Before becoming an attorney, Mr. Gray served as Executive Assistant to Michigan’s Attorney General and served on staff for Michigan’s Speaker of the House. He’s worked closely with several state candidate campaigns, including a Michigan gubernatorial race. Mr. Gray received his law degree from the Western Michigan University Cooley School of Law and his undergraduate degree from Northern Michigan University.

Todd Hooks

Todd Hooks is the Economic Development Director for the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians. Born and raised in Monrovia California, Todd has worked for numerous Southern California cities and agencies in Economic Development and Redevelopment. Todd worked for the Tribal Planning and Development Office from the City of San Diego where he spent 5 years as the Redevelopment Deputy Director. He was responsible for the projects and activities of a redevelopment agency that encompassed over 8,000 acres with 10 project areas.

Prior to his time in San Diego, Todd worked for the cities of Burbank, San Bernardino and Pomona. His experience with implementing creative approaches to tough commercial, industrial, and housing projects in these cities has given him a firm background in working with the business sector, public agencies, and local community leaders. His job with the Tribe involves
pursuing business and real estate development opportunities that benefit the Tribe and Tribal members. He also acts as an economic development liaison for the Tribe to the Cities of Palm Springs, Cathedral City, and Rancho Mirage as well as to the local Chambers of Commerce, Palm Springs EDC, and the Coachella Valley Association of Governments.

Todd received his B.A. from Harvard University and he completed his education at UCLA with a Masters in Educational Administration.

**M. Teresa Hopkins**

Teresa Hopkins was appointed by President Russell Begaye and Vice-President Jonathan Nez of the Navajo Nation in July 2015 as Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NNTRC). Prior to Ms. Hopkins appointment to the NNTRC she worked in various capacities dealing with information technology and telecommunications in Indian Country. Ms. Hopkins has over 15 years of experience. She was responsible for taking the lead in bringing the internet to Navajo. She coordinated with the Gates Foundation to bring computers to all 110 chapters on the Navajo Nation. She has also been involved at the national level in policy development with such organizations as the Federal Communications Commission and National Telecommunication Information Administration. Ms. Hopkins is also a member of the United Nation’s International Telecommunications Union.

**William M. Isaac**

William M. Isaac is a Senior Managing Director at FTI Consulting and is based in Sarasota. Mr. Isaac serves as Global Head of the Financial Institutions practice, which provides regulatory counseling and risk management services, strategy consulting, expert testimony and corporate governance consulting.

Prior to joining FTI Consulting, Mr. Isaac founded The Secura Group, a leading financial institutions consulting firm in 1986. Secura was acquired by FTI Consulting in 2011. Mr. Isaac was formerly a senior partner of Arnold & Porter, which was a founding partner of The Secura Group. Mr. Isaac left the firm in 1993 when Secura purchased Arnold & Porter’s interest in the firm.

Prior to forming Secura, Mr. Isaac headed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) during the banking crisis of the 1980s, serving under Presidents Carter and Reagan from 1978 through 1985. Mr. Isaac served as chairman of the FDIC during one of the most tumultuous periods in U.S. banking history. He was appointed to the board of the FDIC by the President at the age of 34, making him the youngest FDIC board member and chairman in history. Mr. Isaac also served as chairman of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, as a member of the Depository Institutions Deregulation Committee, and as a member of the Vice President’s Task Group on Regulation of Financial Services.
Before his appointment to the FDIC, Mr. Isaac served as Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of First Kentucky National Corporation and its subsidiaries, including First National Bank of Louisville and First Kentucky Trust Company.

Mr. Isaac began his career with Foley & Lardner where he practiced general corporate law specializing in banking law, primarily regulatory affairs, including securities matters, acquisitions and branching and antitrust law.

Mr. Isaac is involved extensively in thought leadership relating to the financial services industry. He is the author of Senseless Panic: How Washington Failed America with a foreword by legendary former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker. Senseless Panic provides an inside account of the banking and S&L crises of the 1980s and compares that period to the financial crisis of 2008-2009. Mr. Isaac’s articles are published in the Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, New York Times, American Banker, Forbes, Financial Times, Washington Times, and other leading publications. He also appears regularly on television and radio, testifies before Congress and is a frequent speaker before audiences throughout the world.

Mr. Isaac serves as a member of the board of Total Systems Services, a leading world-wide payments system processing company and is former Chairman of Fifth Third Bancorp, one of the nation’s leading banking companies. Mr. Isaac is a former member, board of directors of MPS Group prior to its sale to Adecco; former member of the board of directors of Trans Union Corporation; former member, board of directors of The Associates prior to its sale to CitiGroup; former chairman, board of directors, Goodwill Industries, Sarasota; former member, board of directors of Amex Centurion Bank; former member, board of directors, Community Foundation of Sarasota, Florida; former member, board of directors, Out-of-Door Academy, Sarasota, Florida; and former member, board of trustees, Miami University Foundation.

Mr. Isaac has an LLD (Honorary), Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, a JD, summa cum laude, College of Law, The Ohio State University, and a BS in Business Administration (Economics), Miami University.

Forest J. James

An artistic thinker from childhood Forest has a creative & diverse secular background ranging from over a decade in the film and entertainment industry to building telecommunications companies for Native & Rural America. With an entrepreneurial spirit and great interpersonal communication skills Forest brings a grass roots approach to solving the digital divide found in North America for both native and non-native rural communities.

To date Forest has three companies in operation supported by a team of experts who all work towards the same vision. Be it organizations, government, companies or communities down to the individual Forest has a knack for getting everyone to look in the same direction to achieve specific goals.
Forest sits on the Board of Advisors for Tribal Telecom, is the Senior Project Manager for the Klamath River Rural Broadband Initiative and the Orleans Broadband Project and manages large scale Broadband and telecommunications deployments chartered by tribal governments.


**John Lewis**

John B. 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.

Murray Marshall

Murray Marshall has been a practicing Canadian lawyer for over 27 years and is a member of the bars of Alberta, Québec and Ontario. Mr. Marshall’s practice has always focused on issues of concern to aboriginal peoples and he has acted for a variety of aboriginal businesses, governmental entities and individuals. He has advocated on behalf of his clients at every level of court in Alberta, the Federal Court of Canada and the Supreme Court of Canada.

Mr. Marshall has served as legal counsel and advisor to the Kahnawake Gaming Commission since its inception in 1996 and, in 2009, was named as General Counsel to the

Mr. Marshall has spoken at many aboriginal and gaming conferences in various parts of the world and authored articles and papers for a variety of publications including the Canadian Bar Review, Gaming Law Review and Economics and Internet Gambling Report. Mr. Marshall is, or has been, a member of a number of professional organizations including: the Canadian Bar Association, Interactive Gaming Council (Board of Directors), the International Masters of Gaming Law, International Association of Gaming Regulators.

Brent McFarland

Mr. McFarland is the Operating Officer LDF Business Development Corporation, wholly owned by the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Brent was hired to develop for-profit businesses and diversify assets outside of gaming. Since 2011, the steward creation of the Business Development Corporation (the BDC), through which over 23 companies have been launched. Construction, wholesale fuel and E-commerce are the arenas of focus for the BDC. This business model has been highly successful for the LDF Tribe due to the separation of political management over business interests, under the LDF BDC.

Starting in 2012 the LDF BDC pursued internet based business opportunities, starting with Internet Installment Lending. Leveraging the experiences of strategic partners familiar with on-line markets, the BDC continued to create additional revenue generating relationships in multiple vertical markets, all based on e-commerce.

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Jessica R. Metcalfe

Dr. Jessica R. Metcalfe (Turtle Mountain Chippewa) is a graduate of Dartmouth College and holds a Ph.D. in American Indian Studies from the University of Arizona. She previously served as managing editor and contributor to the underground Native American arts publication Red Ink Magazine, and has taught courses in Native American studies, studio art, art history, literature, and anthropology at tribal colleges and state universities. She has presented at numerous national conferences, lectured at museums, contributed to edited book projects, and curated and co-curated exhibitions.
She is the main author of the website, Beyond Buckskin, which focuses on all topics related to Native American fashion, and is the owner of the Beyond Buckskin Boutique, which promotes and sells Native-made couture, streetwear, jewelry, and accessories. Her current work focuses on Native American art and adornment, with special projects focusing on contemporary Native artists and fashion designers.

**Keith C. Miller**

LL.M. University of Michigan  
J.D. University of Missouri- Kansas City  
*Editor in Chief UMKC Law Review*  
B.A. University of Missouri- Kansas City

Keith Miller is the Ellis and Nelle Levitt Distinguished Professor of Law at Drake Law School, and has been teaching there since 1979. Prior to that he was an Attorney, Lathrop, Koontz & Norquest- Kansas City, MO and a Visiting Professor of Law, University of Wisconsin. Professor Miller’s areas of expertise are Torts, Product’s Liability, Gaming Law, Worker’s Compensation. Forthcoming and past publications include:

- **The Utility and Limits of Self-Exclusion Programs**, 5 UNLV Gaming L. J. — (forthcoming 2015)
- “Ethics Across the Gaming Industry,” *Casino Lawyer*, Summer 2013 (co-author)
- “The Internet Gambling Genie and the Challenges States Face,” 17 *Journal of Internet Law* 1 (July 2013)

**Robert J. Miller**

Professor of Law, Arizona State University  
Faculty Director, Rosette, LLC, American Indian Economic Development Program  
B.S. Eastern Oregon University, 1988  
J.D. Lewis & Clark Law School, magna cum laude, 1991

Robert J. 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’Scahain 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.

**Jacob C. Moore**

Jacob Moore is responsible for the intergovernmental relationships between Arizona State University and tribal nations and communities and works within the Office of University Affairs.

Mr. Moore recently completed eight years as a member of the Arizona State Board of Education. Jacob was state board president once and vice president twice and had a role in the creation of state teaching certificates for Native language teachers.

Jacob is currently on the board of directors for Arizona Community Foundation, ASU Morrison Institute, WestEd, Arizona Minority Education Policy Analysis Center (AMEPAC) and Tohono O’odham Gaming Enterprise.

Previously, Jacob was managing partner of a consulting business, Generation Seven Strategic Partners, LLC, and also worked as an Economic Development Analyst and Special Assistant on Congressional and Legislative for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Mr. Moore earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance and an Executive MBA from the Arizona State University’s W.P. Carey College of Business. Jacob is an enrolled member of the Tohono O’odham Nation and lives with his wife, Carmelita, on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.
Traci L. Morris, Ph.D.

Dr. Traci L Morris is the Director of the American Indian Policy Institute. Morris has a diverse professional background, which includes academia; university teaching; book, article, and white paper researcher and author; and is a nationally acclaimed speaker. She has worked with Native American tribes; Tribal businesses; Native American non-profits; Native media makers, artists and galleries; written a college accredited curriculum in Native American new media; and has advocated for digital inclusion at the Federal Communications Commission and on Capitol Hill.

A member of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, Morris maintains a strong working relationship with her community and her passion for art, media, policy and advocacy emerged from these strong ties and her own tribal roots. Her book, *Native American Voices: A Reader*, continues to be a primary teaching tool in colleges throughout the country. Morris’s research and publications on Native American media and the digital divide is focused on Internet use, digital inclusion, network neutrality, digital and new media curriculums, digital inclusion and development of broadband networks in Indian Country.

As an entrepreneur the prior to her ASU appointment, Morris founded *Homahota Consulting LLC* a national Native American woman owned professional services firm working in policy analysis, telecommunications, education, and research assisting tribes in their nation-building efforts and working with Native Nations, tribal businesses and those businesses working with tribes.

Morris has a M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Arizona’s American Indian Studies, in addition to a B.A. from Colorado State University.

Matthew R. Rantanen

Matthew R. Rantanen,(Cree, Finnish & Norwegian), is the Director of Technology for the Southern California Tribal Chairmen’s Association (SCTCA). He assists tribes with technology development, ranging from radio station applications, tribal administration technologies, to technology policy development. Rantanen serves on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Native Nations Broadband Task Force for a second term, and is co-chair on the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Technology and Telecommunications Subcommittee as well as the Technology Task Force at NCAI. Rantanen is a board member of Arizona State University’s American Indian Policy Institute (AIPi), and sits on the Tribal Advisory Council(TAC) to the State of California for the Broadband Council and the California Office of Emergency Services. Rantanen has been called a “Cyber-Warrior for Tribal Broadband.” He is an “Advocate for Net-Neutrality,” and “Tribal Priority for Spectrum over Tribal Lands.”
Ben G. Ray III

Ben G. Ray III is the Tribal Administrator for the Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians. Born and raised in Northern California, growing up within 5 miles of his father’s Rancheria in Lakeport, CA. Ben Ray has been providing consulting and contracting services to Tribal governments and non-profit entities for over 20 years. He also currently serves as the President & CEO of Tribal Consumer Financial Services. It has been his personal goal to assist Tribes and Tribal members with the pursuit of self-reliance and financial sustainability through education, training, support, and advocacy. Ben has seen encouraging strides in Economic Development endeavors that Tribes have achieved during his lifetime, but he believes there is still so much more to be done. Ben Ray has worked closely with many Tribes in the pursuit of making the future a brighter place for Native children, youth, adults, and elders free from violence, abuse, and suicide. He believes each individual deserves the right to be happy, with a place to call home, and opportunity for advancement in their life.

John R. Shotton

John R. Shotton is the current Chairman of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians. He has served in that capacity since being elected in November 2007. Prior to be elected to the office of Chairman, he served on the Tribal Council as the First Member for two years.

Chairman Shotton holds a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree and a Master of Public Administration Degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Under Chairman Shotton’s leadership, the Otoe-Missouria Tribe has been a pioneer in the online short-term lending industry in Indian Country. The Otoe-Missouria Tribe currently owns and operates American Web Loan and Great Plains Lending. Chairman Shotton is the Chairman of the Board of the Native American Financial Services Association (NAFSA).

E. Sequoyah Simermeyer

E. Sequoyah Simermeyer (Coharie) is the Associate Commissioner of the National Indian Gaming Commission. As such, he is one of three commissioners responsible for regulating and ensuring the integrity of the more than 450 Indian gaming facilities, associated with nearly 242 tribes across 28 states. Simermeyer was appointed by the Secretary of Interior on November 2, 2015 for a three-year term.

Prior to joining the NIGC, Simermeyer advised the Chairman to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. In that capacity he helped draft legislative proposals and committee reports, prepared oversight and legislative hearing and advanced the committee’s work on priority issues facing Indian country. Simermeyer also served as Deputy Chief of Staff and as counselor to the Department of the Interior’s Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs.
Simermeyer’s professional and academic experience has focused on government-to-government relationships that impact federal Indian policy and which empower tribal communities to provide for their people. Simermeyer was named to the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development’s 40 Under 40 list in 2011 and was a 2014 nominee for the Native American Bar Association–DC Chapter Award for “Excellence in Government Service.”

Simermeyer graduated with a bachelor’s of arts degree from Dartmouth College, N.H., a Masters of Study in Environmental Law from Vermont Law School, Vt., and a J.D. from Cornell Law School, N.Y.

The National Indian Gaming Commission is committed to the prompt and efficient regulation of the Indian gaming industry spanning more than 450 gaming establishments, associated with nearly 242 tribes across 28 states. The Commission’s dedication to compliance with the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act ensures the integrity of the $28.5 billion Indian gaming industry. To learn more, visit www.nigc.gov and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Reverend Dr. DeForest B. Soaries, Jr.

The Reverend Dr. DeForest B. Soaries, Jr. has served as the Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens (FBCLG) in Somerset, New Jersey since November 1990. His pastoral ministry focuses on spiritual growth, educational excellence, economic empowerment, and faith-based community development.

As a pioneer of faith-based community development, Dr. Soaries impact on First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens (FBCLG) and the community has been tremendous. In 1992, he founded the Central Jersey Community Development Corporation (CJCDC): a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that specializes in helping vulnerable neighborhoods. In 1996, the CJCDC launched Harvest of Hope Family Services Network, Inc. (HOH). This organization seeks to develop permanent solutions for foster children and parents.

From 1999 to 2002, Dr. Soaries served as New Jersey’s Secretary of State, making him the first African-American male to do so. He also served as the former chairman of the United States Election Assistance Commission, which was established by Congress to implement the “Help America Vote Act” of 2002.

In 2005, Dr. Soaries launched the dfree® Financial Freedom Movement. The dfree® strategy teaches people how to break free from debt. In 2011, Dr. Soaries wrote his first book: “dfree®: Breaking Free from Financial Slavery” (Zondervan), which highlights his top 12 keys to debt-free living.

Dr. Soaries currently serves as an Independent Director at Independence Realty Trust, a position he has held since February 2011. He has also served as an Independent Director of the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York since January 2009. And in January 2015, he became a Director of Ocwen Financial Corporation.
Dr. Soaries earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Fordham University, a Master of Divinity Degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry Degree from United Theological Seminary. Dr. Soaries resides in Monmouth Junction, New Jersey with his wife, Donna, and twin sons.

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

Dean, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law
Professor of Law, Faculty Fellow Center for Law, Science & Innovation
J.D., University of Buffalo School of Law (1994)
B.A., University of Toronto (1991)

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.

Ron Symon

Ron Symon is President of Pomo One Marketing, a sovereign enterprise of the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, a federally recognized Indian Nation. He is responsible for leading strategic growth and overall corporate strategy for the organization and its subsidiaries, Solstus2 and ArrowShade. Symon was named President in April 2014 to oversee online sovereign enterprise consumer acquisition, data management and marketing strategies.

Symon joined Pomo One Marketing from Optima Servicing Group, a lender-focused performance marketing company, where he served as President. In this leadership position, he successfully guided the corporation into a period of unprecedented growth through innovative go-to-market digital strategies. Additionally, Symon was responsible for strategic planning, new partnerships and investments.

Previously, he served as Vice President of Lender Relations for Selling Source, one of the largest privately held digital marketing companies in the United States. In this role, Symon devised lender customer acquisition strategies for its subsidiary, PartnerWeekly, the largest affiliate network and agency of record for moneymutual.com, the most recognizable brand in short-term consumer financial services. Before that, he held multiple leadership positions within the corporation. Leveraging big data and analytics, Symon developed advanced lender-advertiser underwriting strategies that enabled better operational decisions. Earlier in his career, Symon was with BankServ [FundTech], where he managed enterprise payment solutions to Fortune 500 clients.

Symon is a decorated U.S. Marine Corps combat veteran. He completed tours in Operation Iraqi Freedom, counterterrorism operations in Israel and joint government operations in Japan. He holds a Master’s in Business Administration from John Sperling School of Business.

Derrick Watchman

Derrick Watchman is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise (Navajo Gaming) since January 2013. His role as CEO includes leading day-to-day operations of the multi-million dollar gaming enterprise’s four properties in New Mexico and Arizona as well as ensuring that Navajo Gaming policies and objectives are met.
These three main objectives include; strengthening the Navajo Gaming and Hospitality economy, returning additional revenue to the Navajo Nation and providing additional jobs to Navajos.

Watchman brings more than 30 years of experience in gaming, banking and tribal finance to his position at Navajo Gaming. Most recently Watchman served as Navajo Gaming’s Chief Financial Officer and was instrumental in acquiring funding for all of the Navajo Nation’s gaming development and construction projects exceeding $250 million.

He previously served as Vice President and Senior Relations Manager at JP Morgan Chase Bank’s Native American Banking Group, at Wells Fargo Bank handling Native American banking and financing and with Prudential Capital Corporation as a private placement banker.

Watchman also served as Director of Indian Affairs at the US Department of Energy, was the Chief Operating Officer and General Manager of the Navajo Nation’s Dine Power Authority and Director of the Navajo Tax Commission. He is Board Chairman of the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development and a director for the Native American Bank.

Watchman holds an MBA from the University of California and a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Arizona. He leads a strong Navajo Gaming executive team that oversees operations for Twin Arrows Casino Resort, Fire Rock Navajo Casino, Northern Edge Casino, and Flowing Water Navajo Casino.

Jennifer H. Weddle

J.D., Harvard Law School, 2000
B.A., Classical Languages, University of Michigan, 1997

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 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. 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.
Danae Wilson

Danae Wilson has been in the technology field for twenty-one years working to bring technology services to regions and communities where service doesn’t exist or is extremely limited. She has lived and worked on the Nez Perce Reservation in Northern Idaho and in New Mexico for the Department of Interior, Office of the Special Trustee and as a consultant for a communication company, public utilities and a retail chain that had establishments throughout New Mexico and Texas. She has worked for/with federal, state, county, city and tribal governments. She’s proudly raised a son and is heavily involved in her granddaughter’s life. Danae’s professional career has been dedicated to bridging technology gaps for Native American’s and residents who choose to live on their Reservations. Danae’s personal passions are exercising her Treaty Rights as a Nez Perce Tribal Member and living, teaching, enjoying her cultural heritage.

Jamie Winterton

Jamie Winterton is the Director of Strategic Research Initiatives with Arizona State University’s Global Security Initiative, where she specializes in creating novel solutions for multifaceted and disparate problem spaces. Jamie coordinates research activities in the defense and security sectors, and is currently working on ASU’s new Center for Cybersecurity and Digital Identity. Prior to joining ASU in August 2014, she worked as a staff scientist for Lockheed Martin’s Advanced Technology Center, where she developed and directed projects in electro-optical and radar processing/analysis for multiple military and government organizations. Jamie’s work in optical characterization of materials, high-fidelity physics-based 3D modeling and simulation, and exploitation of synthetic aperture radar (SAR) data has been recognized for both innovation and mission utility. Jamie received her Bachelor’s degree in Physics from Arizona State University and her Master’s degree in Physics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

We would like to thank all the speakers for their time, participation and support!