

**Ted Atkins**

**Federally Recognized Tribal Representative, Picayune Rancheria of Chuckchansi Indians**

**Campus Preference:** Stanislaus

**Qualified:**

Mr. Atkins is a member of the Picayune Rancheria of Chuckchansi Indians. He is the current Language/Culture Director for his tribe. Mr. Atkins has served to preserve and educate his tribes culture and language for many years. In the last two years Mr. Atkins has begun to work with and assist his Tribes Cultural Resources Department.

**Letter of support from Tribal Administrator Caleb Martinez**

**References Contacted:**

Caleb Martinez, Christina Gonzales, and Orianna Walker recommend the candidate.

**Systemwide NAGPRA Implementation & Oversight Committee  
Nominations Cover Sheet**

**Committee Type:**     Both     Systemwide Committee     Campus Committee

**Nominee Name:**

Preferred Campus: \_\_\_\_\_

Alt. Campus: \_\_\_\_\_

Alt. Campus: \_\_\_\_\_

**Position Sought:**    Tribal Nominee    CSU Nominee

Alt. Campus: \_\_\_\_\_

**Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation**

Name of Tribe: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Campus: \_\_\_\_\_

- Federally Recognized Tribe     CA Indian Tribe  
 CSU Administrator     CSU Faculty    Staff     NAGPRA Coordinator

**Tribal Members (Check all that apply):**

- Tribal Historic Preservation Officer work  
 Repatriation of human remains and cultural items pursuant to CalNAGPRA/ NAGPRA  
 Cultural resources protection under Tribal, state, and federal law  
 Consultation with state and federal entities and agencies  
 An Elder, Spiritual Leader  
 A minimum of five years' experience

**CSU Staff/Faculty Members (Check all that apply):**

- Archaeology     Anthropology     Environmental Studies  
 Ethnic Studies     History (with a focus in California)     Law  
 Native American Studies     Social Science     Sociology  
 A minimum of five years' experience working in field of study

**Circle One: Complete Application (Includes Attachments)**

- Short Bio, A Resume or CV  
 Tribal Resolution/Letter (as applicable)  
 Three References

**Incomplete Applications**

- Missing Attachments  
 Needs Follow Up Call  
 Other Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

CSU or NAHC Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
CSU or NAHC Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### SUBMISSION INFORMATION

**Nominator Information (if applicable)**

Name: Heather Airey Title: Cultural Resource Director  
Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation: Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians  
Email: hairey@chukchansi-nsn.gov Phone: 559-676-9299

**Nominee Information**

Name: Teo Atkins Title: Language/Culture Director  
Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation: Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi-nsn.gov  
Email: tatkins@chukchansi-nsn.gov Phone: 559.580.5634

Position Sought:     Tribal Nominee             CSU Nominee

Please attach:

- (i) A short biography and, if desired, a resume or CV;
- (ii) A tribal resolution or letter of support from Tribe (if applicable), and
- (iii) A list of at least three references, with name, telephone number, and email addresses for each.

Submit completed nomination materials to [nagpra@calstate.edu](mailto:nagpra@calstate.edu) by **February 2, 2024**.

Incomplete materials will not be considered.

## COMMITTEE(S) SOUGHT

Please indicate the Committee(s) to which the nominee is seeking appointment. If nominating for a campus committee(s), list the campus(es) where the nominee is interested in serving, in order of preference. Check all that apply. If a nominee selects both the UC Systemwide Committee and Campus Committee, their application will be considered for both Committees and they may be appointed to either, however at this time Committee members will only serve on one Committee at a time, unless the pool of candidates does not allow.

- UC Systemwide Committee (if only Systemwide please skip to Nominator Information below)
- Campus Committee (please fill out Section A below)



A. If the Nominee would like to serve on a Campus Committee, please fill out the following additional information.

Campus Committee (Preferred Campus): California State University, Fresno

Alternative campus(es) Nominee will consider (candidates are encouraged to complete this section, if possible):

- 1) California State University, Fresno
- 2) California State University, Stanislaus
- 3) California State University, Sacramento

# Biography May 2024

My name is Ted Atkins, my current position is Language/Culture Director for the Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians (PRCI), which is a federally recognized tribe, which I am also a tribal member and an elder. Home of residence is Coarsegold, Ca.

Employment history, PRCI, Fire Rock Casino, Gallup, NM., Table Mountain Casino, Friant, Ca., Tachi Palace Casino, Lemoore, Ca., Thunder Valley Casino Resort, Lincoln, Ca., Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino, Coarsegold, Ca., Department of Public Safety State Trooper Henderson, Tx., United States Navy, retired 2003.

Graduated Yosemite High School 1979, University Phoenix Bachelors Business Administration, 2010.

Hobbies include hiking, biking, traveling, wrestling, reading, and being outdoors.

Passions learning my language, culture, history, traditions, and practicing ceremony.

Note: Started working with THPO approximately one-year ago, which has changed my life. Have a new purpose, which is to help Tribes bring home their Native American Ancestors remains, funerary objects, cultural items, unassociated funerary objects, culturally sensitive objects, photographs, records, and all documentation related to repatriation in accordance with applicable laws and policies. Attended listening sessions and heard many stories that produce raw emotions such as anger, sadness, confusion, and heartbreak. Participated in consultations at Merced College, UC Berkeley, and Chicago Field Museum. Also visited an excavation site in downtown Sacramento, Ca. that is built on top of a Native American Village. The above-mentioned creates a new sense of purpose and energy, which is to bring home our ancestors respectfully and with dignity and to put our ancestors back to sleep in a good way.

Respectfully,

  
Ted Atkins



**Picayune Rancheria  
of the  
Chukchansi Indians**

**49260 Chapel Hill, PO Box 2226 \*Oakhurst, CA 93644\* (559) 412-5590**

May 09,2024

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to enthusiastically endorse Ted Atkins for consideration to serve on the University of California or California State University NAGPRA Oversight Committee. As the Language and Culture Director within our community, Ted has exhibited an unparalleled dedication to preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of the Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians. I have every confidence that he will bring his exceptional skills, knowledge, and passion to this important committee.

Ted has been an indispensable member of our team for many years, during which he has demonstrated his profound commitment to revitalizing and preserving our tribal language and cultural traditions. His deep understanding of our language and culture has been instrumental in developing and implementing programs aimed at passing on our traditions to future generations.

In his role as Language and Culture Director, Ted has shown remarkable leadership and initiative. He has spearheaded initiatives to teach our language to tribal members of all ages, ensuring that it continues to thrive and evolve. His innovative approaches to language revitalization, including the use of technology and community-based learning, have been highly effective in engaging our community and fostering a sense of pride in our cultural identity.

Ted's dedication to our language and culture extends beyond our tribal community. He has been a passionate advocate for indigenous languages and cultures at regional and national levels, participating in conferences, workshops, and collaborative efforts aimed at preserving and promoting indigenous languages and cultures.

Given Ted's expertise, leadership abilities, and unwavering commitment to our tribal language and culture, I am confident that he will make a significant contribution to the University of California or California State University NAGPRA Oversight Committee. His unique perspective and deep understanding of the importance of cultural heritage make him an ideal candidate for this role.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly recommend Ted Atkins for consideration to serve on the NAGPRA Oversight Committee. His dedication, passion, and leadership qualities make him a valuable asset to any organization. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information regarding Ted's qualifications or suitability for this role.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caleb Martinez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent flourish at the end.

Caleb Martinez

Tribal Administrator

Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians

## References

1. Cristina Gonzales      559.909. 2183      [mgonzales@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov](mailto:mgonzales@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov)
2. Caleb Martinez      559. 412.5590      [cmartinez@chukchansi-nsn.gov](mailto:cmartinez@chukchansi-nsn.gov)
3. Orianna Walker      559.760.0109      [Owalker@chukchansitribe.net](mailto:Owalker@chukchansitribe.net)