

Beyaja Notah

CSU Representative

Campus

Campus Preference: San Bernadino

Qualified:

PhD. Ethnic Studies, UC Riverside 2023

Dissertation: *“Dine Feminist Theories of Diaspora and Transformation.”*

M.A. Ethnic Studies, UC Riverside 2021

M.A., Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, University of Redlands, 2015

“Emphasis on Social Justice, Spatial Literacy, and English as a Second Language”

Ms. Notah, a Diné citizen, has more than five years of experience in Native American/Ethnic Studies. She has served on the CSU San Bernadino Native American Advisory Council and presented on NAGPRA and ethical collections management throughout the state. She spent five years as a graduate assistant at UC Riverside teaching Native American and Ethnic Studies courses. For the last two years she has served as an Ethnic Studies professor at CSU San Bernadino.

References Contacted:

Dr. Daisy Ocamp Diaz, CSU San Bernadino President Tomas Morales, Dr. Robert Perez, and Dr. Clifford Trafzer recommend the candidate.

CSU San Bernardino Committee

Tribal Representative (Non-Federally Recognized): Kimberly Johnson – Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians (Appointed November 7, 2024)

Tribal Representative (Federally Recognized): Vacant

Tribal Representative (Federally Recognized): Vacant

Tribal Representative (Federally Recognized): Vacant

CSU Representative: Danny Sosa Aguilar (Appointed November 7, 2024)

CSU Representative: Vacant

CSU Native American Studies Representative: Vacant

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

Committee Type: ☐ Both ☐ Systemwide Committee ☐ Campus Committee

Nominee Name: _____

Preferred Campus: _____

Alt. Campus: _____

Alt. Campus: _____

Alt. Campus: _____

Position Sought: Tribal Nominee CSU Nominee

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: _____

Date: _____

CSU or NAHC Reviewer: _____

Date: _____

NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT IMPLEMENTATION AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

NOMINATION FORM

The California State University (CSU) is committed to fully implementing the spirit as well as the legal requirements of both the Federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and the California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (CalNAGPRA), which were enacted to acknowledge the fundamental human right of Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians to their ancestral Human Remains and Cultural Items.

On behalf of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), the CSU is soliciting and accepting applications for the Systemwide and Campus Committees. The purpose of the committees is to provide oversight and guidance for the development and implementation of Systemwide and Campus CalNAGPRA and federal NAGPRA compliance, which includes NAGPRA policy development. All applications, incomplete or complete, will be forwarded to the NAHC for consideration. Nominee candidates will be interviewed by the NAHC for potential Commission nomination and appointment by the CSU Chancellor or chancellor's designee. The CSU is referencing the requirements as outlined in Assembly Bill 389 Section 8028.7 and Section 8028.71 to guide the committee selection and policy development processes.

If you are interested in serving or nominating a candidate please review the criteria below, complete the following application materials, and submit completed materials with 1) a short biography or resume demonstrating that the nominee meets the criteria below; 2) a letter of support from Tribe, Tribal resolution or a letter of interest with this form; and 3) a list of at least three references, with name, telephone number, and email address for each.

Committee Term: 3-year renewable staggering term

Tribal Nominees: Support letters or Tribal resolutions for Tribal nominees should be from Tribal governments, Tribal community organizations or Institutional leadership organizations, include the strengths of the candidate, as well as any information that might be relevant.

CSU Nominees: Support letters or resume for CSU nominees should include professional experience demonstrating the ability to work in collaboration with Native American Tribes successfully on issues related to repatriation or museum collection management.

Please note, the CSU and NAHC will keep completed application on file for committee positions that may become available in the future.

The CSU and NAHC will continue to receive and solicit Campus NAGPRA Oversight Committee nominations on an ongoing basis. Submit the following nomination materials to nagpra@calstate.edu.

QUALIFICATIONS

Tribal Nominees

A voting member of a California Indian tribe shall be an elder, spiritual leader, tribal leader, or tribal member, as designated by the governing body of the individual's tribe, with a minimum of five years' prior experience in any of the following:

- Repatriation of human remains and cultural items pursuant to federal NAGPRA;
- Cultural resources protection under Tribal, state, and federal law; or
- Consultation with state and federal entities and agencies.

Preference shall be given to members of a California Indian Tribe. If no members of a California Indian Tribe meeting the qualifications of 8028.71 subdivision (c) paragraph (1) are available, members of other Tribes may serve.

CSU Nominees

CSU Nominees must be affiliated with or employed by the California State University and have the following:

- A graduate degree in any of the following: Archaeology, Anthropology, Native American Studies, Ethnic Studies, Law, Sociology, Social Sciences, Environmental Studies, or History, with a focus in California
 - If there are no candidates satisfying this clause, candidates that have degrees and direct professional experience in fields relevant to repatriation or tribal cultural resources matters shall be deemed to meet the requirements of the clause; and
- A minimum of five years' experience working in his or her field of study.

Preference shall be given to members who have demonstrated, through their professional experience, the ability to work in collaboration with Native American tribes successfully on issues related to repatriation or museum collection management.

In the event that candidates from the California State University are not available or do not meet the above criteria, the California State University representative positions may be filled by retired emeriti of the California State University who meet the above criteria.

Note: At least two CSU nominees to the Systemwide one CSU nominee to the Campus Committee(s) must be affiliated with an American Indian or Native American Studies program

You are encouraged to submit a nomination/self-nomination if the nominee meets a majority of the requirements, even if you are unsure as to whether they meet a specific requirement.

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 CSU 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.

☐ CSU 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*): _____

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

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Nominator Information (if applicable)

Name: _____ Title: _____

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Nominee Information

Name: _____ Title: _____

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

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.

Incomplete materials will not be considered.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO
Office of the President

January 30, 2025

CA Native American Heritage Commission
1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Re: Nomination of Dr. Beyaja Notah to the CSUSB Campus NAGPRA Oversight Committee

Dear Commissioners:

As President of California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) and on behalf of the faculty and staff, I am honored to nominate Dr. Beyaja Notah (Diné) to the CSUSB Campus NAGPRA Oversight Committee as the CSU Native American Studies Representative.

Dr. Notah has been engaged in the field of Native American and Indigenous studies for the better part of a decade in multiple capacities serving as both a two-year member of the Native American Advisory Council and a founding member of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society at UC Riverside. Dr. Notah's presentation "Native American Curation and Stewardship of Native American Tribal Collections", given at the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians Cultural Center, is a testament to her expertise surrounding the world of NAGPRA and legal compliance issues. Dr. Notah earned her B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. from UC Riverside in Ethnic Studies with a focus in Native Studies. I am confident that Dr. Notah will work to uphold and support our compliance progress and process here at CSUSB. Our campus serves Tribal nations within the greater Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, an area spanning 27,265 square miles and encompassing eighteen sovereign Tribal nations.

Therefore, it is with great pleasure that I submit this nomination of Dr. Beyaja Notah (Diné) for appointment to the California State University San Bernardino Campus NAGPRA Oversight Committee.

Sincerely,

Tomás D. Morales
President

cc: Dr. Mildred García, Chancellor, California State University

909.537.5002 • fax: 909.537.5901 • www.csusb.edu/president

5500 UNIVERSITY PARKWAY, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92407-2393

Biography: Beyaja Notah

Yá'át'ééh shí eí Beyaja Notah yinishyé. Adóóne'é nishťinígíí 'éí Patowomeck doo Bilagáana nishťi. Tábaqahí 'éí bá shishchíín. Bilagáana doo Patowomeck dashicheii nááná. Tó dích'ii'nii dachináli.' Ákot'éego 'éí'asdzání nishťi. I share my traditional introduction to greet you in a good way. My name is Beyaja Notah. I am Patowomeck and White on my mother's side. I was born for my father, who was Water's Edge clan. My mother's father was White and Patowomeck. My grandfather on my father's side was Bitterwater clan. That's how I understand myself as a Diné woman. I grew up in the West Highland area of San Bernardino and I attended San Bernardino city schools. I went on to receive my undergraduate degree in Native American Studies at the University of California Riverside. Following graduation, I worked in the local Indian community as a program assistant and educator from 2011 and 2018. Although the work was very fulfilling I ultimately decided to go back and get my graduate degree in Ethnic Studies from UCR in 2018. In my graduate program I focused on Native Feminisms, Urban Indigenous Studies, and Diné studies. In addition to my professional life I am a single mother to a beautiful little boy. I also enjoy making jewelry, photography, and hiking.

Beyaja Annie Helen Notah
California State University, San Bernardino
Department of Ethnic Studies
(909) 265- 8483
Beyaja.Notah@csusb.edu

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

California State University, San Bernardino- Associate Professor	2023-Present
Department of Ethnic Studies	
Introduction to Ethnic Studies (ES 1000)	
Woman of Color Feminisms (ES2200)	
Research Methods in Ethnic Studies (ES 3000)	
Topics in Ethnic Studies: Native Feminisms and California Indian Studies (ES 3940)	
University of California, Riverside-Graduate Teaching Assistant	2020-2023
Department of Ethnic Studies	
Introduction to Race and Ethnicity (ETST 001)	
Introduction to Native American Studies (ETST 007)	
Introduction to African American Studies (ETST 003)	

Guided undergraduate students through rigorous Ethnic Studies curriculum; developed syllabi and presentations; evaluated course performance; maintained student records via iLearn and Canvas digital learning platforms; planned curriculum using an Understanding by Design framework which included decolonial pedagogies; scaffolded assignment for student success; made accommodations for learners of different abilities, chose appropriate discussion section activities and teaching aids to review key course concepts & texts for both in-person and remote instruction; hosted regular office hours.

TEACHING INTERESTS

Native American Studies- California Indian Studies; Traditional Ecological Knowledge (attention to California Indian landscapes); Historical Trauma and Indigenous Survivance.

Native American Feminisms- Theoretical Frameworks; Anti-Violence Movements; Indigenous Futurisms; Queer Indigenous Studies; Indigenous Ecocriticism & Spatial Decolonization.

Indigenous Research Methodologies- Decolonizing Education; Decolonizing Research Methodologies; Interdisciplinary Methodologies; Oral History; Native Epistemologies and Ontology; Literature as Theory.

Diasporic Studies- Forced Relocation; Colorado River Indian Tribes Colonization Program; Urban Native Diasporas and Spatial Decolonization; Native Labor History.

Diné (Navajo) Studies- Diné Bizaad (Diné Language); Diné Bahane Philosophy (Diné Creation Story); Diné Sovereignty; Weaving as Visual Text.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of California, Riverside, Ethnic Studies	2018-Awarded 2023
Dissertation:	
“Dinétaḥ Unbound: Diné Feminist Theories of Diaspora and Transformation,”	

Most Diné peoples must make their way amidst an environment where Indigenous peoples and epistemologies are not readily represented or affirmed. Dinétah Unbound contends with harmful stereotypes of Urban Indigenous peoples including being discounted as inauthentic and disconnected by both non-Indigenous and Indigenous people. Diné Unbound explore the impact that these stereotypes have on Diné self-concept and its implications for well-being. This dissertation confirms the findings of Dr. Larry Emerson and adds a feminist intervention. Using a Diné feminist and weavers' methodology, this paper theorizes ways to move beyond trauma and work towards the affirmation of urban Diné peoples. Using a trauma informed approach, Dinétah Unbound uses Diné philosophy and healing ways to articulate a Beautyway analytic to see beyond urban stigmatization, assimilation, and Indigenous erasure and realize Diné wellness now. By applying a radical practice of *k'é* (kinship and relationality) and *hózhóǫ́jǫ́* meaning making, it is theorized that Diné people can navigate their urban environment in ways that affirm and validate their Diné identity and personhood. I argue that regardless of the level of cultural knowledge, the perspectives of Diné people have value in the realization of vibrant Diné futurities.

Advisors: Dr. Andrea Smith and Dr. Robert Perez

Reading Committee: Dr. Robert Perez, Dr. Mark Minch, Dr. Clifford Trafzer, Dr. Michelle Raheja

M.A.	University of California, Riverside, Ethnic Studies	2021
	Claremont Graduate University	2017
	Cleared Multiple Subject Teaching Credential	
	University of Redlands	2015
	Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential	
	Emphasis: Social Justice, Spatial Literacy, and English as a second language	
B.A.	University of California, Riverside	2010
	Native Studies, high honors	
	Senior Thesis: "Native Uprisings and Prophetic Movements"	

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Navajo Nation Scholarship Recipient	2019-2023
Eugena Cota Robles Fellow in Ethnic Studies	2018-2020
Ford Foundation Fellowship-Honorable Mention	2019
American Indian Science and Engineering Society Advisor of the Year	2018
Katherine Siva Saubel Community Service Award	2010
Maurice Jackson Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Ethnic Studies	2010

PUBLICATIONS

"Indigenous in the City" NAIITS Journal Publication	2023
"The Eclipsing Fire" in Eleven Conjured Stories	2022
"The Power of Storm: Indigenous Voices, Visions, and Determinations"	
Dedicated to John Trudell," Independently published	2020
"Along The Chaparral: Memorializing the Enshrined at Riverside National Cemetery Vol. 2" Inlandia Books	2019

PRESENTATIONS

"Dawn Child Comes of Age in the City", NAIITS Conference 2022
"Native American Curation and Stewardship of Native American Tribal Collections,"
Soboba Cultural Center and Research Library, 2012
"Applying Native American Culture to Promote Wellness in Tribal Family Services,"
Soboba Cultural Center and Research Library, 2013
"Indian Canyon: Applying Traditional Ecological Knowledge to Tribal Land Management Practices,"
Soboba Cultural Center, 2014
"Balancing Our Lives Through Traditional Practices: Indigenous Feminist Approaches to Wellness
Through Food Sovereignty," Indian Child Welfare Act Annual Conference, 2014
"Collaborative Community Based Approach to Teaching Indigenous Languages using "Beautyway
Pedagogies," Intertribal Education Collaborative Conference, 2018

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

California Indian Survey Initiative, Cal State San Bernardino 2024
Worked with the Admissions department to survey California Indian parents about recruitment and retention.

Ethnic Studies Information Sessions, Cal State San Bernardino 2024
Worked with the department to host informational recruitment events.

CFA Departmental Representative, Cal State San Bernardino. 2023
Served as a departmental liaison between the CFA and the Ethnic Studies Department during a strike year. I attended meetings and prepared meeting summaries for the department.

Member, Chancellor's Native American Advisory Council, UC Riverside. 2016-2018
Attended meetings, focused on building Southern California Indian partnerships, and building infrastructure for Native students in higher education.

Founding Member, American Indian Science and Engineering Society, UC Riverside 2016
Worked collaboratively with Native American Student Programs to establish the campus chapter of AISES and helped to plan and organize the Healing the Earth conference.

Member, Native American Feminist Writing Collaborative, UC Riverside 2021-Present
Worked collectively to establish a women's writing collaborative for Indigenous graduate students navigating higher education.

RELATED EMPLOYMENT

Consulting Strategist, Riverside Unified School District 2021-2022
Community consultation in Native American education that included evaluation of curriculum and professional development opportunities.

Student Life and Development, Native American Student Programs, UC Riverside 2016- 2018
Duties included the recruitment and retention of American Indian Students, program development, student advising, event planning, and consulting with various tribal education and community organizations.

Community Curator, California Indian Basketweavers's Association 2014

Assisted curation of a community showcase of California Indian basketweaving.

Library and Program Assistant, Soboba Cultural Center and Research Library, 2011-2014
Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians
Assisted in the planning and implementation of community cultural programs

Intern, Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, 2010
Worked with the Community Constituent Relations Department to plan various museum events.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Native American and Indigenous Studies Association
California Indian Studies Association
Critical Ethnic Studies Association
Western Historical Association
Oral History Association

From: [Beyaja Notah](#)
To: [nagpra](#)
Subject: CSU Committee Nomination Form
Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:55:38 PM
Attachments: [CSU Committee Nomination Form 12.18.2023.pdf](#)
[1.30.2025 Beyaja Notah - CSUSB Letter of Support.pdf](#)
[Beyaja Biography.docx](#)
[Beyaja Notah CV.pdf](#)
[NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT IMPLEMENTATION AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE APPLICATION references.docx](#)

February 12, 2025

CA Native American Heritage Commission
1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Esteemed Review Committee,

I enthusiastically submit my application materials for the NAGPRA Oversight Committee. I am excited at the prospect of joining a group that does such vital work in the service of tribes. If I am selected, I will work diligently to contribute my best to the committee in all that I do. Thank you for receiving these materials and for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Beyaja Notah
Assistant Professor
Department of Ethnic Studies
California University San Bernardino

Native American Graves Protection And Repatriation Act Implementation And Oversight
Committee Application

References

1. Dr. Daisy Ocampo Diaz
daisy.ocampo@csusb.edu
(323) 394-5320
2. Dr. Robert Perez
perezr@ucr.edu
(951) 827-1828
3. Dr. Clifford Trafzer
clifford.trafzer@ucr.edu
(951) 827-1974