

Natasha Medel

Federally Recognized Tribal Representative, Round Valley Indian Tribe

Campus Preference: Sonoma

Qualified:

Ms. Medel has over fifteen years of experience working in repatriation and tribal administration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. She has assisted in setting up the Tribe's offsite repository, facilitated repatriation of hundreds of ancestors under both NAPGRA and CalNAGPRA, and has consulted with various institutions.

Chairman Letter of Recommendation

Reference

Matthew Johnson, Lorelle Ross, and Alexandra Lucas recommend the candidate.

Current CSU Sonoma Committee

1. Tribal Representative (Non-Federally Recognized): **Vacant**
2. Tribal Representative (Federally Recognized): **Lorelle Ross** – Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (Appointed July 10, 2024)
3. Tribal Representative (Federally Recognized): **Paul Steward** – Elem Indian Colony (Appointed July 10, 2024)
4. Tribal Representative (Federally Recognized): **Vacant**
5. CSU Representative: **Vacant**
6. CSU Representative: **Vacant**
7. CSU Native American Studies Representative: **Siliva Soto** (Appointed November 7, 2024)

**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: _____

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.

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.

Please note: All information provided in this application process will be made publicly available pursuant to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

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.

Natasha Medel

Biography and References for NAGPRA Implementation and Oversight Committee

I would like to express my interest in serving on the NAGPRA Implementation and Oversight Committee for Sonoma State University. I am an enrolled member of the Round Valley Indian Tribes.

It was at a young age growing up on the Round Valley Indian Reservation, that I would first learn about my great grandfather's people and what preservation in place was and what sacred sites meant. Later in life, I would gain knowledge and education received from both my elders as well as college institutions about NAGPRA. After college, I was given the opportunity to work for my great grandmother's people, a place I have been for the past 13 years, here with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. I have over 15 years in tribal government, working in Repatriation and Tribal Administration. I have had the opportunity to set up the tribes first offsite repository, repatriate under NAGPRA and CALNAGPRA hundreds of our ancestors and thousands of their belongings, from Institutions like UC Davis, Sonoma State University and the University of California Berkeley.

It would be an honor to serve on the Oversight Committee for Sonoma State University and continue to advance the work of our NAHC. Thank you for this opportunity.

Natasha Medel

(707) 899-2030

References

- 1.) Lorelle Ross (707) 800-5293, Lross@gratonrancheria.com
- 2.) Matthew Johnson (707) 906-8233, Mjohnson@gratonrancheria.com
- 3.) Alexandra Lucas (510) 570-0964, Alexandra.Lucas@berkeley.edu

ROUND VALLEY INDIAN TRIBES
A Sovereign Nation of Confederated Tribes

TRIBAL COUNCIL OFFICE
77826 COVELO ROAD
COVELO, CALIFORNIA 95428
PHONE: 707-983-6126
FAX: 707-983-6128



LOCATION: ON STATE HWY 162
ONE MILE NORTH OF COVELO
IN ROUND VALLEY
TRIBAL TERRITORY SINCE TIME BEGAN

ROUND VALLEY RESERVATION ESTABLISHED 1856

September 15, 2025

California State University
Office of the Chancellor
NAGPRA Implementation and Oversight Committee

RE: Nomination of Ms. Natasha Medel as Tribal Nominee Member of the CSU Campus Committee NAGPRA Implementation and Oversight Committee

Dear NAGPRA Implementation and Oversight Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit nominations for the Tribal Nominees to serve as members of the California State University (CSU) Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Implementation and Oversight Committees for the **CSU Campus Committee**. The Round Valley Indian Tribal Council (Tribe) is pleased to nominate Ms. Natasha Medel, who is an enrolled member of the Round Valley Indian Tribes. Ms. Natasha Medel has the personal and professional qualifications, experience, dedication and understanding required to successfully serve as a Tribal Nominee member of the UC Systemwide NAGPRA Oversight Committee.

Kind Regards,

Joseph Parker
President Round Valley Indian Tribes

707.489.4559

jparker@council.rvit.org