Amber Bill

CSU Representative

Campus Preference: Sacramento

Qualified:

Ph. D. Native American Studies, UC Davis 2024

Professor Bill (Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe/Te-Moak Western Shoshone) currently serves as an Assistant Professor in the Ethnic Studies Department/Native American Studies Program at UC Davis. She began at CSU Sacramento in 2019 as a lecturer for the Native American Studies program. She has previously worked for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California as the Director of the Woodfords Indian Education Center. As a graduate student at UC Davis, Ms. Bill participated in student protests against the campus' NAGPRA practices.

References

Dean Annette Reed, Dr. Anthony Burris, Dr. Rose Soza War Soldier, Dr. Erika Salinas, and Dr. Brian Baker recommend the candidate.

Current CSU San Sacramento Committee

1. Tribal Representative (Non-Federally Recognized): **Vacant**
2. Tribal Representative (Federally Recognized): Steven Hutchason – Wilton Rancheria (Appointed July 10, 2024)
3. Tribal Representative (Federally Recognized): Yvonne Perkins – Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation (Appointed November 7, 2024)
4. Tribal Representative (Federally Recognized): Josef Fore – United Auburn Indian Community (Appointed August 1, 2024)
5. CSU Representative: Anthony Burris – Ione Band of Miwok Indians (Appointed August 1, 2024)
6. CSU Representative: **Vacant**
7. CSU Native American Studies Representative: Rose Soza War Soldier – Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians (Appointed July 10, 2024)

The California State University
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NATIVE AMERICAN
HERITAGE COMMISSION

Date Received: 11/20/2025

☒ Complete ☐ Incomplete

Systemwide NAGPRA Implementation & Oversight Committee
Nominations Cover Sheet

Committee Type: ☐ Both ☐ Systemwide Committee ☒ Campus Committee

Preferred Campus: Sacramento
Alt. Campus: _____
Alt. Campus: _____
Alt. Campus: _____

Nominee Name: Amber Bill

Position Sought: ☐ Tribal Nominee ☒ CSU Nominee

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation

Name of Tribe: _____

Name of Campus: CSU Sacramento

☐ 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: Adriane Tafoya, CSU Date: 2/27/2026
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)*: CSU Sacramento

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: Amber Bill (self-nomination) Title: Assistant Professor

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation: Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe/Te-Moak Western Shoshone

Email: amber.bill@csus.edu Phone: 530-721-5592

Nominee Information

Name: Amber Bill Title: Assistant Professor

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation: Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe/Te-Moak Western Shoshone

Email: amber.bill@csus.edu Phone: 530-721-5592

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.

Re: Self-nomination for CSUS NAGPRA Committee

To CSU NAGPRA:

My name is Amber Bill (Pyramid Lake Paiute/Te-Moak Western Shoshone) and I am nominated myself to fill the vacant position on the campus NAGPRA committee at CSU, Sacramento. Currently, I am a tenure-track faculty member/Assistant Professor in the Ethnic Studies Department/Native American Studies Program. I started at CSUS in 2019 as a lecturer for the Native American Studies Program and began as a TT faculty in 2022. Before and during my time as a lecturer, I worked for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California as the Director of the Woodfords Indian Education Center that is located in the Hung-A-Lel-Ti Indian Community (the same community I lived in for over 30 years).

My interest in NAGPRA began as an undergraduate at D-Q University, California's first tribal college, from taking Native Studies history courses and continued into my studies at Sac State. As a Ph.D. graduate student at UC Davis, I was a part of a Native student group that organized and participated in NAGPRA protests on campus to remind departments, like Anthropology, and campus administration that they must abide by CALNAGPRA and NAGPRA. Repatriation of collections and the handling of human remains/ sacred objects are sensitive and contentious issues; some institutions do not follow the law and have historically demonstrated compliance issues or the unwillingness to consult with tribes.

If selected as a member of the CSUS campus NAGPRA committee, I will be able to bring the reservation perspective and Native Studies practitioner expertise, if needed. Having worked in tribal government, I am fully aware of issues and concerns that may arise with tribes; but also, I can be a person who can assist building relationships between this institution and tribes, if needed.

Please accept this self-nomination letter, my bio, and nomination form.

With respect,

Amber Bill, Ph.D.

Pyramid Lake Paiute/Te-Moak Western Shoshone

Assistant Professor, Ethnic Studies/Native American Studies, CSUS

Amber Bill Bio

My name is Amber Bill and I am Northern Paiute and Te-Moak Western Shoshone and a member of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. I am an Assistant Professor in the Ethnic Studies Department/Native American Studies Program at Sacramento State. In addition, I am an alumni of Sac State (class of 2006) and graduated with a BA in Ethnic Studies with a concentration in Native American Studies. During my undergraduate journey, I also had the privilege of being a McNair Scholar and focused my research publication on the political activism of California Indian Basketweavers and the advocacy of California Indian Basketweavers Association (CIBA) for access to materials and the impact of pesticides on plant materials. I received my Ph.D. in Native American Studies from the University of California, Davis.

I was born on the Duck Valley Paiute/Shoshone Indian Reservation in Northern Nevada, raised on the Pyramid Lake Paiute Indian Reservation, and currently reside in the Hung-A-Lel-Ti Indian Community (Woodfords, CA), which is one of four reservation communities of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California. I worked in the Hung-A-Lel-Ti Community and for Washoe Tribe for eight (8) years as the Director of the Woodfords Indian Education Center (WIEC) from 2015-2022. In 2021, I was appointed to the American Indian Education Oversight Committee (AIEOC) at the California Department of Education by Superintendent of Public Education, Tony Thurmond; I am a current Committee member.

AMBER BILL

190 Dutch Valley Drive
Markleeville, CA 96120
(530) 721-5592 cell phone
amber.bill@csus.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Native American Studies, University of California, Davis

B.A., Ethnic Studies/Native American Studies, California State University, Sacramento

A.A., Liberal Studies, D-Q University, Davis, California

PUBLICATIONS

War Soldier, Rose Soza, et al. (2024). "In Community: Reflections on the Impact and Legacy of Annette Reed." *News from Native California* (pp. 20-27). Heyday: Berkeley, CA. Article. (Co-CONTRIBUTOR)

EMPLOYMENT

2022-present **Assistant Professor,** Sacramento State University, Ethnic Studies Department

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Spring 2026, **American Indian Studies Association Conference Planning Committee,** member

February 6, 2026, **Co-presenter**, "Wileety Native American College: Belonging, Community, Nationhood, and Campus," at the 27th Annual American Indian Studies Association Conference at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico

Fall 2025-present, **Chair, SSIS Dean's Leadership & Excellence Award Committee,** California State University, Sacramento

December 14, 2025, **Gonfalon Carrier** for Wileety Native American College, Winter Commencement at the Golden 1 Center, Sacramento, CA

May 17, 2025, **Gonfalon Carrier** for Ethnic Studies Department, Spring 2025 SSIS Commencement Ceremony at the Golden 1 Center, Sacramento, CA

May 8, 2025, **Co-Presenter,** Meeting with President Luke Wood for Employee Resource Group (ERG)Advisory Council held at the University Union, California State University, Sacramento.

May 5, 2025, **Guest Speaker**, 2025 CSUS McNair Scholars Graduation Celebration Program, University Union, California State University, Sacramento.

March 26, 2025, **Nominated for a CSUS Women of Influence** Award and was **recognized at the ceremony** held at the University Ballroom at the University Union, California State University, Sacramento.

Fall 2024, **Scholarship application reviewer**, **Clement Scholarship Committee**, College of SSIS

October 30, 2024, **Beading Pop Up Assistant for students** (Native American beadwork and cultural crafting activities) held at the Esak'tima Center, California State University, Sacramento.

October 2024-May 2025, **Faculty Advisor, California Tribal College Women's Basketball Club Team**

September 2024-Fall 2025, **Advisor, Ensuring Native Indian Traditions, Native Student Club at CSUS**

Spring 2024-present, **Organizer, CSUS Native Student Alumni Network (In progress)**

Spring 2023- present, **CSUS Employee Resource Group**, **Native American Faculty & Staff, Co-Chairperson and Chairperson.**

January 2023-March 2024, **Esak'tima Center Planning Committee, Member; Celebration Day set-up, Alumni booth, Native Youth activity youth track point person**

Fall 2022-present, **Yocha De He Scholarship Committee**

Spring 2023- **Native American Culture Week Planning Committee**

May 2023- **CSUS Native American Graduation Recognition Celebration, volunteer**

May 2022- **CSUS Native American Graduation Recognition Celebration, volunteer**

DEPARMENTAL SERVICE

Fall 2025- present, **MA Promo Committee, member**

Fall 2025- present, **MA Admissions Committee, member**

Fall 2025- present, **Policy Committee, member**

Fall 2025- present, **Assessment Committee, member**

June 9, 2025, **Faculty mini-presentation** at Informational Meeting and Introductions with Ethnic Studies MA cohort to discuss ETHN 205 Indigenous Communities and Communities of Color Graduate Seminar held on zoom.

May 3, 2025, **Coordinator** for the 2024/2025 Native American Student Recognition/Celebration & Luncheon held at the Harper Alumni Center, California State University, Sacramento (CSUS).

August 2024-May 2025, **Search Committee Member** for Faculty Tenure Track position for Federal Indian/Tribal Law/Policy, Tribal Governance, and/or Sovereignty for the Native American Studies Program

September 27, 2024, **NAS Faculty volunteer** for the 57th Annual California Native American Day at the California State Capitol, Sacramento, CA

Fall 2022-present **Curriculum Committee, member**

Fall 2023-present **50th Anniversary Ethnic Studies Committee, member**

Spring 2023 **Ethnic Studies Department Pre-Graduate School Workshop**, **panelist** (April 19, 2023)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

June 2024-August 2025, **Planning Committee Member** for 44th Annual California Conference on American Indian Education (CCAIE), Chico State University. Also, served as co-Coordinator for CCAIE Student Ambassadors and the Coordinator for CCAIE Student Ambassador Drawing as well as volunteer at the Conference Registration table.

April 29, 2025, **Presenter**, "What is the purpose of Native Studies?" part of the Ethnic Studies speaker series at San Joaquin Delta College in Stockton, CA at the Dawn Mabalon Forum.

February 7, 2025, **Presenter,** "Protecting Our Water, Protecting Our Rights: The Legacy of Mervin Wright, Sr. of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe" at 26th Annual American Indian Studies Association Conference at Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ.

November 21, 2024, **Invited Special Guest, 1 hour Radio Interview** on "The Treaty of Ruby Valley" on Radio Informar show, hosted by Francisco Dominguez- KDVS Public Affairs 90.3 FM, University of California, Davis.

November 15, 2024, Presenter "Cultural Genocide Disguised as Education: Examining the Impacts of Indian Boarding Schools in the United States" at the 6th International Conference on Genocide held at California State University, Sacramento (CSUS).

February 2024, Presenter, Banquet Honoring the Scholarship and Achievement of the late Professor Steve Crum, American Indian Studies Association, ASU, Tempe, AZ.

August 2021- present, **Consultant/Humanities Scholarly Advisory Team** for the film, *Remaining Native.* Appointed by film Director, Paige Bethmann.

July 6, 2021-present, **California Department of Education American Indian Education Oversight Committee, Member**

September 27, 2024, **California Native American Day, Faculty volunteer**

March 2024, **Native American Youth Ambassador co-Coordinator, California Conference on American Indian Education,** Sacramento, CA

January 31, 2024, **Participant, CSUS Spring Semester Blessing and Gathering**

January 7, 2019- May 2023, **Alpine County Unified School District, Board of Trustees, Trustee Area B**, Term 01/07/2019- 01/03/2023 and Term 01/04/2023- 05/31/2023

January 7, 2019- May 2023, **Alpine County Office of Education Board of Trustees, Trustee Area B**, Term 01/07/2019- 01/03/2023 and Term 01/04/2023- 05/31/2023

May 2019- May 31, 2023, **Alpine County Unified School District and Alpine County Office of Education,** Advisory Committee Board Representative, Budget Committee Representative and School Bond Committee Representative

May 19, 2023, **Keynote Speaker, Senior Celebration for American Indian Education Program, San Juan Unified School District**

September 2022, **California Native American Day, Faculty volunteer**

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

February 6, 2026 **Board Member,** American Indian Studies Association Board

February 7, 2025, Nominated for vacant board position by Dr. James Riding In (Emeritus Professor) and Dr. Jerome Clark (Assistant Professor at ASU) for American Indian Studies Association (AISA) Governing Board at the 26th Annual American Indian Studies Association, ASU, Tempe, AZ.

2008-present, **Member**- American Indian Studies Association

TRIBAL AFFILIATION

Pyramid Lake Paiute and Te-Moak Western Shoshone—Enrolled Member of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe

NAGPRA CSUS Campus Committee

References

Dean Annette Reed, Wileety Native American College, 6000 J Street, University Library, Library 1001, MS6133, Sacramento, CA 95819. Phone number: 916-278-3735. Email: alreed@csus.edu

Dr. Anthony Burris, Assistant Professor, Native American Studies Program, Ethnic Studies Department, 6000 J Street, Amador Hall 551B, Sacramento, CA 95819. Phone number: 916-278-6646. Email: anthony.burris@csus.edu

Dr. Rose Soza War Soldier, Program Director and Assistant Professor, Native American Studies Program, Ethnic Studies Department, Amador Hall 554C, Sacramento, CA 95819. Phone Number: 916-278-4977. Email: rose.sozawarsoldier@csus.edu

Dr. Erika Salinas, Assistant Professor, Native American Studies Program, Ethnic Studies Department, 6000 J Street, Amador Hall 563C, Sacramento, CA 95819. Phone number: 916-278-6646. Email: erika.salinas@csus.edu

Dr. Brian Baker, Chair and Professor, Ethnic Studies Department, 6000 J Street, Amador Hall 463, Sacramento, CA 95819. Phone number: 916-278-6363. Email: baker@csus.edu