

## The First Learning NAGPRA Collegium



Pictured (listed alphabetically): Daryl Baldwin, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma; Nicky Belle; Felipe J. Estudillo Colòn, Laguna Pueblo, Assistant Professor of Museum Studies, IAIA; Carlina de la Cova, Assistant Professor, University of South Carolina; Crystal DeCell; Brian J. Gilley; Jessica Harrison; Ricardo Higelin Ponce de León; Katherine Kearns; Desireé R. Martinez, Gabrielino (Tongva); Dru McGill, North Carolina State University; Teresa Nichols; Anne Pyburn; Jennifer Meta Robinson; Rebekah Ryan; Jessie Ryker-Crawford, White Earth Chippewa, Associate Professor of Museum Studies, IAIA; April Sievert; Vickie Stone; Jayne-Leigh Thomas; Davina Two Bears (Navajo), PhD Candidate, Indiana University; Velma K. Valdez; Joe Watkins; Carrie V. Wilson; Teresa Wilson; Larry J. Zimmerman, IUPUI/Eiteljorg Museum

On August 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 twenty-five cultural specialists, students, and education professionals gathered at Indiana University, Bloomington for the first Learning NAGPRA Collegium. Funded by the National Science Foundation (grant #1449465), the Learning NAGPRA project aims to create resources for teaching and training on the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). The collegium setting, drawing from the scholarship of teaching and learning, is designed to create collaborative spaces where participants can collaborate in evaluating information and brainstorming paths forward for teaching and learning about NAGPRA.

On the first day of the collegium, participants learned about the formation of the Learning NAGPRA project and the data collected as part of the first year's background research and planning phase. Participants discussed and compared the codes of ethics of professional associations and tribal governments to identify guiding values needed in NAGPRA education and to locate where there are crucial gaps in current methods of teaching and outreach that must be addressed. On the second day of the collegium, participants discussed some of the barriers and frustrations experienced in working on repatriation issues. This culminated in a very important conversation identifying primary target audiences for improved NAGPRA education and effective or engaging educational materials for those different groups.

We thank all of the participants for engaging so thoroughly and thoughtfully in all of the discussions and for their recommendations and feedback as we start to plan the second Learning

NAGPRA Collegium. We would also like to acknowledge the support of the First Nations Educational and Cultural Center and the Social Sciences Research Commons in hosting our event. The 2016 Collegium will again be held at Indiana University, Bloomington, when participants will be separated into working groups to start creating educational materials, while still benefiting from sharing experiences with their colleagues. We will continue to explore avenues to engage other stakeholders from various cultural and professional specialties, recognizing that NAGPRA intersects with larger ethical, disciplinary, and human rights issues that go beyond the letter of the law.