



Washington State University

## Native Graduate Student Center News

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### Plateau Center for Native American Research, Collaborations, and Graduate Services

by Ken Lokensgard

The Plateau Center is back to business as usual, after hosting the Open House on November 12. Many Native and non-Native students, professors, and others interested in responsible, collaborative research among Native American communities were in attendance.

As always, there is news to share about our Native American graduate students. Graduate students Greg Urquhart and Matthew Hale continue to receive public recognition and support for their ongoing study of Native American veterans' views on the gaps between mainstream treatment of PTSD and more traditional Native forms of healing. Their study was most recently cited by Mary Helen Berg in "[Spirit Guides: Native American veterans prefer culturally appropriate help.](#)" in USA Today's 2014 *Veterans Affairs Special Edition* and in Indian Country Today's article "[Traditional Over Conventional Therapies When it Comes to Native Vets and PTSD.](#)"

Doctoral student Renee Holt attended the National Women's Studies Association meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico, as a travel award recipient.

"If I can say that I 'gained' something, in addition to the new found collegiate friendships, it would be experiencing feminist scholars of color who have already helped shaped my own scholarship as I journey through the academic ocean," said Holt.

This spring, Renee Holt will be teaching ANTH 312: "Indigenous Women in Traditional and Contemporary Societies." First year doctoral student Phil Allen will be teaching two sections of "Learning and Development" for the College of Education. Other graduate students, staff, and faculty affiliated with the Plateau Center also offer courses on the graduate and undergraduate levels. Anyone wanting more information about any of these courses should contact the Center.

All of the other Native American and Indigenous students associated with the Plateau Center remain intensely busy with their studies, their teaching and research assistantships, and in some cases, their off-campus jobs. Those who are members of the Indigenous Graduate and Professional Student Association (IGPSA) hope to organize some public programs during the Spring 2015 semester. Of course, students, faculty, and community members who are interested in collaborative, culturally responsive research are encouraged to contact IGPSA members or the staff of the Plateau Center.

I particularly encourage those interested in enrolling in a graduate program to contact me. The Plateau Center, the WSU Graduate School, and individual departments and programs will collaborate to meet prospective students' needs. The Graduate School is especially well resourced right now to recruit and support Native American students in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields.

For further information about the Indigenous Graduate and Professional Students Association, the Native American Graduate Student Center, or the mission and goals of the Plateau Center for Native American Research, Collaborations, and Graduate Services, please contact me, Dr. Ken Lokensgard, at [kenneth.lokensgard@wsu.edu](mailto:kenneth.lokensgard@wsu.edu) or at 509-335-1055.



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