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Price Promoted to Assistant Director

by Dylan Parker

Hearty congratulations to Faith Price, the new Assistant Director of Washington State University's Plateau Center for Native American Programs. Price was promoted to her new position after serving two years as the Principal Assistant to the Tribal Liaison.

Her new responsibilities, in addition to communications, include oversight of Native American undergraduate student services including the Native American Student Center, the Peer Mentoring Program, and coordination of the Tribal Nation-Building Leadership Program.

"I am very excited to be working more closely with students now," she said.

Price said her promotion was due to a revamping of the WSU Native American Programs.

"We had a restructuring in July. We added the Native American Student Center under our umbrella, as well as the Plateau Center. As our operations grew, so did the need for assistance with all the new programming and planning," she said.

A look at Price's background suggests more reasons for her promotion. Price's history of helping prospective and current college students to succeed demonstrates her qualifications for her new position.

In the past, she has worked with several Trio programs, including the McNair Scholars Program, a program dedicated to increasing the number of low-income, first generation and/or underrepresented students in PhD programs.

"I spent six years working with the McNair Scholars Program at the University of Montana. I helped students meet their personal educational goals, organized workshops, did some advising and helped students get ready for grad school," she said.

Her altruistic track record does not stop there.

"I was the Assistant Director for the Upward Bound Program at University of Hawaii at Hilo, which helps high school kids get ready for college. It's fun to work with students who are the first in their family to go through college by helping them navigate campus and guide them through the various systems where their parents don't necessarily have the experience to help with that," she said.

She has also served as an Advocate for the WSU Native American Women's Association for the past year, a student organization that addresses the needs and concerns of Native American women. She said she really enjoys getting to know the students and interacting with them.

Price said her own education and upbringing are the reason she loves helping others.

"I am passionate about education. I grew up on a reservation and went to a tribally-run high school of about 100 students and graduated in a class of about 12, so when I enrolled in the University of Montana it was a real culture shock," she said.

Despite having to adapt to an unfamiliar environment, Price pursued a bachelor's degree in social work and obtained her master's degree in journalism, something she says may not have been possible if it had not been for the university staff.

"The reason I succeeded was probably because the faculty and advisors mentored me to know what to do and helped me build a community. It made the university not such an intimidating place," she said.

After such an incredible journey, Price has come so far and has no doubt inspired countless students to succeed. Her new position as Assistant Director of the Plateau Center for Native American Programs will give her plenty of opportunities to continue her passion for helping students reach their potential.

"I really just like working with people and helping students to ready them for success," she said.



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