

GEORGE WARREN BROWN
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



Native Voices: Unveiling the Myths behind the Headdress, Moccasins and Tipi

PANELISTS

SHERRI BROOKS, MODERATOR



Sherri Brooks is a second year MSW candidate and member of the Lumbee tribe. She is honored to have been chosen as a Buder Scholar, because the Center has contributed so much to Indian country. "The efforts taken by the Kathryn M. Buder Center to provide the scholars with a well-rounded experience at the Brown School is amazing. There are so many opportunities for us to fulfill our dreams at the Brown School and the Buder Center facilitates and enhances those experiences," Sherri said. "I look forward to all the great things to come in the next year of my studies at the Brown School. When I graduate in May, 2009, I know I will be prepared to tackle the challenges of working in Indian country."

AMANDA BLACKHORSE



Amanda Blackhorse is in her second year as a MSW graduate student. She grew up in various places on the Dine' reservation in Arizona and is of the *Salt clan* born for *Red-Streaking into the Water clan*. Amanda is the proud mother of two beautiful girls, Nanabaa and Swenv, who are born for the Muscogee and Choctaw tribes. Amanda graduated with a Bachelors in Social Work (BSW) from the University of Kansas, School of Social Work, as well as an Associate Degree from Haskell Indian Nations University. She is very proud of her association and involvement within the Native community, as well as her identity as a Native woman. As a graduate student, Amanda is concentrating in Mental Health and Social and Economic Development. Upon completion of her MSW, Amanda plans to return to the Dine' reservation to be close to her family and home, as well as work to empower youth through progressive strategies such as decolonization.

ELECTA HARE



Electa Hare is 25 years old and a member of Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, Pitahawirata Band on her mother's side and Yankton descendant on her Father's side. Electa is a second year MSW candidate. Upon graduation, Electa plans to return to her family and community to improve resources available to tribal youth in need. Her elders have encouraged her to become a warrior woman for Indian Country, and this is a challenge she does not take lightly. She is a strong advocate

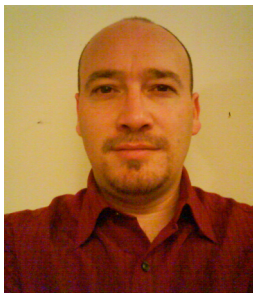
for Native Rights and Sovereignty and the strength of the oppressed. Electa is currently pursuing an individualized degree plan, focusing on Mental Health and Health. She enjoys jogging, and finds it a great way to rejuvenate her mind and promote well-being.

TAWNA HARRISON



Tawna Harrison is a 37-year-old Buder Scholar with a concentration in Mental Health and a specialization in Management. She is Lakota from the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. Tawna graduated from the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota with a Bachelors degree in Social Work and Social Sciences. She has lived and worked on the reservation her entire life, where she and her husband own a cattle ranch. Tawna is married to David Harrison and they have four children, Kinzey 15, Mercedes 14, Bray 10, and Rope 6. David remains at their family home in McLaughlin, SD. Tawna was a social worker for nine years at the Little Eagle Day School in Little Eagle, SD.

STANLEY KELLY



Stanley Kelly lives in Troy, MO. His cultural background is half Native Alaskan (Yu'pik) and Irish. His mother was born in a remote village in Western Alaska, and his father was born in Iowa. Stan is currently serving a three year term as a Council Member with his Native Village of Napaimute on the Kuskokwim River. Stan is currently enrolled in St Charles Community College, working on his Associates Degree in Sociology. His plans are to continue his education at a local University to complete his MSW.

Stan and his wife Veronica are raising a family with five children. The two younger children were adopted from a rural village in Western Alaska in the fall of 2006. These children are siblings and are learning to live in a new environment outside of their Native Region. Stan has always been aware of his mother's cultural background and experience slight misunderstandings of his heritage. He also feels as well, that with continued dialogue and education cultural ideals can be mutually respected in American Society.

It is Stan's ambition to return to his Mother's home region to provide his skills and training in assisting his Native Community in the Social Field. He also feels that continued efforts, education, and mutual respect for all cultures will continue to grow locally, regionally, as well as nationally.