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Hello Readers,

Welcome to our latest newsletter, the second quarterly of 2021. We hope to keep you informed on what’s going on at the Native American Studies Center and with other organizations through these newsletters. The faculty and staff are staying busy with their work, and exciting things continue to happen at the Center.

We are happy to introduce Hannah Bauer as the Native American Affairs Program Assistant at the South Carolina Commission of Minority Affairs. We are excited about her work with South Carolina’s Indigenous people and invite you, far in advance, to hear her talk about Native mascots in December 2021. We also want to congratulate Chris Judge on a grant award for his archaeological work in the Wateree River Valley in South Carolina. Brent Burgin, archivist, continues to work diligently on accessioning and processing many of the Center’s and University’s archival collections. Finally, we are excited to welcome Crystal Melton, a graduate of USCL, back to the NASC family as our Visitor and Project Coordinator Assistant. Read more about these wonderful people in this newsletter!

In closing, we look forward to sharing the scholarship and projects of our faculty and staff. Although we remain closed during the pandemic, we hope to see you soon. In the meantime, please check out what’s going on at the Center through our social media sites.

-Dr. Brooke Bauer,
Co-Director of Native American Studies

See our front cover to follow our social media links!
One of the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs’ newest employees has taken the agency's mission to heart, jumping right in to support and serve Native communities in any way that she can.

Hannah Bauer joined the agency full time as Native American Affairs Program Assistant last year after graduating from the UofSC. Bauer first heard about the Commission through a Women's Studies class in her freshman year and decided to contact the agency when it came time for her senior year internship. Looking to get involved in what she calls “activism in a professional sphere,” Bauer contacted Dr. Delores Dacosta, Executive Director of the Commission. She began an internship in August 2019 and officially joined the Commission fulltime in October 2020.

With a love of exploring national parks and studying history, Bauer says that she doesn’t know exactly what compelled her to start exploring Native American Studies or Native American History.

“I was a history major and I started noticing in some of my history classes in high school and then in college that there was a very crucial piece missing, which was Indigenous history,” said Bauer. “It seemed like after the Trail of Tears, no one really talked about Native Americans anymore, which leads to erasure, so I just really dove right into it. On the main campus, there’s not really a Native American Studies or History major, so in a way, I had to craft one for myself.”

While at the UofSC, Bauer had the opportunity to study a semester away at the University of Hawaii at Hilo through the National Student Exchange program, blogging her experiences.

“I read some really revolutionary literature by Hawaiian activists and took classes I couldn't have dreamed of taking at UofSC,” said Bauer. “My education on the history of colonization in the U.S. and Indigenous thought would not be what it is without spending time at UHH.”

Dr. Courtney Lewis, Associate Professor with UofSC’s Department of Anthropology & Institute for Southern Studies, was Bauer’s advisor.

“Hannah was an extraordinary student whose accomplishments came from a dedication to pursuing deep research into her academic interests,” said Lewis. “Her work during her study abroad time and her independent studies also showed her willingness to go beyond what is required in order to accomplish this.”
For many months, Bauer was the only employee in the Native American Affairs Division as the agency sought to hire a Native American Affairs Coordinator. Recently, she has been helping tribal leaders seeking funding, encouraging them to apply for the CARES Act and other available funding.

“It’s been weird to start in a more official role and be the only one in the program in the middle of a pandemic where we can’t all get together and people are struggling and needing funding,” said Bauer. “A lot of these tribes have lost the way they bring in funding; powwows and other social gatherings can’t happen.”

Bauer has been working with Chief Michelle Mitchum of the Pine Hill Indian Tribe and Pine Hill Indian Community Development Initiative, applying for Health Resources & Services Administration Grants for the initiative. She also has been working with Vice Chief Dexter Sharp and Tommy Sanders of the Piedmont American Indian Association- Lower Eastern Cherokee Nation S.C. on issues on obtaining water access on their tribal grounds.

In the fight against COVID-19, Bauer also has assisted tribal leaders by distributing face coverings and sanitizers to those who needed supplies. Connecting with others and getting to know tribal citizens has been one of the highlights of her job.

“I love being able to do community outreach and I love working with people in the community,” said Bauer. “It’s great to be able to offer support in any way that we can. We’re all in for everybody; for anyone who comes to us with a problem, we do our best to be all-in.”

Working to shape educational standards, Bauer is serving on the Indigenize S.C. Education Task Force that aims to include all of South Carolina’s tribes in state history standards.
“Our mission is to change and augment how Indigenous people are represented in and by education,” said Bauer. “Instead of Native American history ending at Trail of Tears, make it so that it’s more of a narrative of survival, resilience, and ongoing existence rather than removal, extinction, and erasure.”

Dr. Sara Rich, Assistant Professor at the HTC Honors College and the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies at Coastal Carolina, leads the task force. Concerned by lack of Waccamaw and other South Carolina state recognized tribes in South Carolina education standards, Chief Harold “Buster” Hatcher of the Waccamaw Indian People approached Rich about leading a task force to address representation in schools.

“South Carolina has only one federally recognized tribe, the Catawba, so if K-12 Social Studies textbooks address Indigenous South Carolinians at all, it is often the Catawba people who are mentioned at the exclusion of the nine state-recognized tribes and other tribal entities,” said Rich. “Chief Hatcher was concerned about the lack of representation of state-recognized tribes in public school education, and how that lack of representation affects young Waccamaw students; namely, that classmates- and sadly, some teachers- often don’t believe that these kids are Native because schools don’t teach about the Waccamaw.”

Indigenous task force members include Chief Hatcher and Vice Chief Cheryl Sievers-Cail of the Waccamaw Indian People, Mingo Vernon M. Tanner, Medicine Man for the Chaloklowa Chickasaw; Chief Michelle Mitchum of the Pine Hill Indian Community; and Browning Neddeau, citizen of the Potawatomi Nation and professor at California State University, Chico. Other members include professors and students from Coastal Carolina, Harvard, and USC Lancaster; staff from SCETV; Social Studies Coordinators with the South Carolina Department of Education; and community members, some of whom Rich says have tribal affiliations and some who do not.

Bauer has worked with fellow task force member Sarah Farley, a Harvard student from Greenville, on a branding campaign. They developed a handle for social media use (@IndigenizeSC) and designed logo options, assembled primary documents and other resources for teachers, and brainstormed more ways to include Indigenous history that fit standards in preparation for 2026, when South Carolina’s Social Studies standards will be up for revision.

“Hannah is a wonder to work with,” said Rich. “She is very dedicated and knowledgeable, and just a considerate colleague to have on our team. She’s diplomatic, but definitely an activist at heart, which I appreciate!”

The task force is also working alongside another committee that Bauer is also serving on, seeking to establish Indigenous Peoples Day in South Carolina and educate the public about Columbus Day and Columbus-related monuments. The committee is led by Marcy Hayden of the Pee Dee Indian Tribe, Bauer’s former supervisor.

Outside of her role at the agency, Bauer will present the 100th lecture for the Center’s W. Brent Burgin Lunch and Learn Lecture Series.

If you are interested in supporting the work of Native American Studies at USCL, please consider a financial donation to the Samantha Criswell Memorial Fund or the NASC Endowment. We thank you for your support!
this December. Her presentation will focus on Native American mascots and how modern representations of Native Americans reveal ongoing colonization; some of the materials stems from her senior thesis she wrote for the South Carolina Honors College and from training she has done at the Commission.

“People don’t see an issue with the mascots because they don’t know, or don’t think they know, a Native American person or they don’t see Native American people on TV or in movies, so they’re able to justify this mascot or harmful representation because Native-ness is like an abstract concept,” said Bauer.

She believes that a large part of the problem is lack of understanding why Native mascots are so upsetting.

“People say, ‘Oh, it’s respectful, they look so noble,’” said Bauer. “There’s more there than the average non-Native American doesn’t quite grasp. This talk is coming from a place of explaining why people are harmed by this phenomenon and it’s especially relevant right now because of the Washington Football Team and Cleveland Baseball Team.

With the Washington Football Team, lawyers and advocates that have been trying to accomplish that change for decades, so that’s a huge victory. I don’t know if there’s wide-scale social change even in the wake of these mascot changes, but I’m hopeful and I will continue arguing with people about this, things I know to be true, until there is wide-scale social change.”
In January of 2021, I began working on a 10-year grant-funded study monitoring erosion at a Native American mound site in the Wateree River Valley. This archaeological site dates between 1200 A.D. and 1700 A.D. and has been eroding since it was first observed in the early 19th century. The mound is an artificial landscape feature built by Native Americans of clay and silty soils with a flat top or platform. Built by hand in stages with baskets of earth and sod blocks, the tops of these mounds were used for structures such as residences for chiefs, temples, or standing mortuary structures. A series of these mounds were recorded in a 25-mile radius of Camden by a local physician beginning in 1806; a letter report of his observations was published in 1848 by the Smithsonian in one of the first archaeological studies in the United States.

In addition to funds for necessary equipment and mileage, I was awarded $10,000 to be used for any professional archaeological research project I desire to undertake, preferably in the Wateree Valley. Second, $5,000 per year was allocated to a graduate student in the Applied Master’s Degree in Archaeological Science, Department of Anthropology, at UofSC Columbia to assist me with executing the project and I will mentor the graduate student in the execution of the plan.

Funded by a grant from Duke Energy to the UofSC Educational Foundation and administered by UofSC Columbia’s South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, I will record measurements once per year and following any flooding events above the 27-foot flood stage mark. Each year I am responsible to submit a report of findings. The project is a component of the 40-year license issued to Duke Energy by the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to operate hydroelectric operations along the Catawba-Wateree River.
The accessioning and processing of a new archival collection is often a long and arduous undertaking. Every archivist has their favorite part of this process, and mine is the initial rough processing. For reasons unknown, most archival collections arrive in either a series of banana or liquor boxes. It is very important that one look inside every box as soon as possible. Very often the boxes have been stored in someone’s attic or someone’s basement. Over the years I have had a box with an active mold culture and yet another with several black widow spiders. Even a dead mold culture can be dangerous as I found out when my finger became badly infected going through musty old governors’ correspondence in Columbia.

About a dozen years ago, I came to USC Lancaster as a graduate student learning my craft. USCL had taken possession of the Thomas John Blumer Collection and had grant money to hire an interested student. Thus, began my journey and the best years of my life.

The Blumer collection was massive, easily 100 linear feet plus of totally random materials. Initially items were divided into series, for example each time I found a letter it went into a stack of letters which eventually ended up being nine or 10 feet in length. The task of putting these letters in chronological order and then dividing them into subcategories of Native American correspondence and general correspondence took a great deal of time. There was also the dilemma of scanning 3,000 photographs, 6,000 slides and remastering over 100 hours of oral history recordings which were stored on deteriorating cassette tapes. This conveys a snapshot of what processing may entail.

As time went on at the Native American Studies Archive, collections grew and it was necessary to prioritize what should be processed first. Twelve collections and 200 linear feet further, I finally had time to circle back around and index Dr. Blumer’s general correspondence. This part of the Blumer collection was 3.75 linear feet with about a foot of printed emails. Emails are problematic for one must redact addresses to protect against possible identity theft.

Processing revealed the correspondence to be richer than originally thought. The letters encompass a 40-year period and show Dr. Blumer’s ever-growing interest in all matters relative to the Catawba Indian Nation. Anthropologists, archaeologists, ethnologists, museum and curatorial individuals, authors, editors, artists and both local and federally elected officials are correspondents. Many, such as noted North Carolina archaeologist Joffre Coe and museum director and Native American art historian Frederick Dockstader, were giants in their fields.
Correspondence from 1969-2008 has been indexed. Email processing is underway. At this point it is roughly estimated that there are two to three hundred correspondents and over 2,000 letters. This index will be beneficial to researchers of Native American materials and future biographers.

Native American Studies on YouTube

By Ashley Lowrimore

You’ve seen us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter—now you can find us on YouTube! With a minute and a half-long drone tour of the Native American Studies Center’s facilities as our first video upload, the Center’s YouTube page went live on Sept. 14, 2020. Since then, our uploaded videos have ranged from Lunch and Learn programs, our Columbus Day Controversy Panel Discussion and Press Conference, and our 15th Annual Native American Studies Week lectures.

Since its creation, the channel has had 235 views total as of Feb. 2, 2021.

While the page is in its infancy and statistics are limited, data shows that the Columbus Day video has had most views, followed by our October Lunch and Learn, "Trustworthy, Loyal, Beleaguered: A Decade of Good Intentions in Boy Scouts," and the Native American Studies Center Drone Tour. Rounding out the top five most-watched videos are the Tricksters Lecture and Storytelling session and the November Lunch and Learn, “Closing the Circle: Repairing Catawba Foodways,” both presented as part of Native American Studies Week.

After being postponed in March, the Center held its Native American Studies Week virtually last November. All five virtual programs that were open to the public were recorded and posted to Facebook and YouTube. Between the two platforms, the week’s events have received around 375 views.

Since the channel is so young, analytics are not available to tell us viewers’ ages, genders, geographic locations, when they watch, or what other videos they watch in addition to the Center’s videos.

Analytics do tell us that the channel has made over 670 impressions, where video thumbnails were shown to viewers through YouTube and that about 30 hours of programming has been viewed so far.

Computers are the most popular device to watch the channel on, having around 55% of views.

Chief Harold “Buster” Hatcher of the Waccamaw Indian People spoke as a panelist during the October Columbus Day Controversy Panel Discussion and Press Conference, available to watch now on the Center’s YouTube page.

USCL Professor Dr. Lisa Hammond presented the October Lunch and Learn, the most-watched Lunch and Learn program on our YouTube channel.
Mobile phones account for 34% of channel views; only 3% of viewers watch by tablet and by TV. Visit our YouTube channel to see more of the Center’s programming, including:

- Lunch and Learn programs
- Columbus Day Controversy Panel Discussion and Press Conference
- Native American Studies Week 2020 lectures

Stay tuned for more videos appearing on YouTube soon! We hope you will like, subscribe, and ring the bell for more updates from the Native American Studies Center!

DeLesslin “Roo” George-Warren, a citizen of and consultant for Catawba Nation, concluded 2020’s virtual Native American Studies Week with a talk on food sovereignty. Screen captures by Ashley Lowrimore.

Our exhibits are going virtual! The Story of Catawba Pottery and USC Lancaster’s 60th Anniversary Exhibit (featuring a segment on Native American Studies) are now available here!

Click below to enjoy some of the lectures (some given pre-pandemic) available on YouTube from Center faculty:

12,000 Year History Park Virtual Tour series:
Archivist Brent Burgin, “The South Carolina Native American Archive”

12,000 Year History Park Virtual Tour series:
Archaeologist Christopher Judge, “Origin and History of the Congaree Indians”

N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources Trowel Blazers Lecture Series:
Co-Director Dr. Brooke Bauer, “A World of Transformation: The Lives of Catawba Indian Women, 1746 – 1840”

Charlotte History Museum’s Indigenous Peoples Celebration:
Co-Director Dr. Stephen Criswell, “The Traditional Arts of the Catawba Nation”

We want to hear from you! We’d love to hear your thoughts about this newsletter and how we can improve it. Would you consider taking our survey? These 10 multiple choice questions take about a minute to answer and are anonymous. The survey closes at midnight, April 1, 2021. We appreciate your input!
Recent Events

Nancy Basket Exhibit on SCETV  
By Ashley Lowrimore

We were honored to host Amanda McNulty and her team from SCETV’s “Making it Grow” at the Center last March for a conversation with our 2019 Artist-in-Residence, Nancy Basket. If you missed the original airing of the program in mid-January, visit SCETV to watch the interview as well as see some of Nancy’s amazing creations!

Center Part of Upcoming Virtual Tour  
By Ashley Lowrimore

Coming soon! The Native American Studies Center will be featured as part of the USC Lancaster’s 360-degree virtual tour, produced by EAB. In February, Galleries Assistant Smokey Farris and Project Coordinator Elisabeth Avelar spruced up the galleries for the taping, filmed by videographer Elias Rauch. We’ll keep you posted when the virtual tour is available for viewing via our social media platforms!

Melton Graduates, Returns to Center  
By Ashley Lowrimore

Center Student worker Crystal Melton (pictured here with her mother) graduated in early December with a degree in History and Native American Studies and a cognate in Anthropology. In February, she began working with us in her new role as Visitor and Project Coordinator Assistant. Congratulations and welcome back, Crystal!

Visit NASCA to learn more about South Carolina’s Native communities and access letters, images, videos, timeline, an interactive map, and more!
Upcoming Events

March 19: Noon “Just Like an Animal? A Philosophical Examination of our Ethical Assumptions about Cognitive Disabilities and the Value of Animals”
Lecture by: Dean Todd Lekan, Professor of Philosophy, USC Lancaster Associate Dean Academic & Student Affairs

April 16: Noon “Madeira to Moonshine: A Drinking History of South Carolina”
Lecture by: Dr. Faye Jensen CEO, South Carolina Historical Society

May 19: Noon “Native American Fish Weirs”
Lecture by: Dr. David Cranford, Assistant State Archaeologist, North Carolina Office of State Archaeology

June 18: Noon “Indigenous Languages of The Southeastern United States – Past and Present”
Lecture by: Prof. Claudia Y. Heinemann-Priest, USCL Native American Studies

July 16: Noon “Applying Digital Image Analysis on Lowcountry Colonoware.”
Lecture by: Dr. Jon Bernard Marcoux, Clemson/College of Charleston Graduate Program in Historic Preservation and Corey A.H. Sattes, Drayton Hall Preservation Trust

August 20: TBA

September 17: Noon “The Archaeology of Charraw Town in the Catawba Indian Nation”
Lecture by: Dr. Mary Bett Fitts, Assistant State Archaeologist, North Carolina Office of State Archaeology

October 15: Noon “The State of the River”
Lecture by: Brandon Jones, Catawba River Keeper, Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation

November 19: TBA

December 10: Noon "Native American Mascots"
Lecture by: Hannah Bauer, South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs

Lunch and Learn Lecture Events are free and virtually open to the public. To join the program, please send an email to usclnasp@mailbox.sc.edu and we will send you the password and ID required to join the meeting.

Interested in learning more about Native American Studies at USCL? These are just some of the courses offered through the Native American Studies major concentration and cognate curriculum:
- ANTH 209- Introduction to Folklore
- ANTH 219- Great Discoveries in Archaeology
- ANTH 317- American Indian Nations
- ANTH 321- South Carolina Archaeology
- ANTH 333- North American Prehistory
- ANTH 352- Magic and Religion
- ENGL 429C- Topics in American Literature: Native American Myth, Legend, and Oral Tradition
- ENGL 438A- Studies in Regional Literature, South Carolina
- HIST 401- The Development of the American People to 1789
- HIST 409- History of South Carolina, 1670-1865

Come fly with us! Click here for a drone tour of the Center!
Current Exhibitions at the Center:

**D. Lindsay Pettus Gallery: The Story of Catawba Pottery Virtual Exhibit.** This National Endowment for the Arts funded exhibit traces the art, culture and history of Catawba pottery, the oldest Native American pottery tradition in the United States. Permanent Exhibit.

**Duke Energy Gallery:** TBD

**North Gallery:** TBD

**Red Rose Gallery:** TBD

**Five Points Gallery:** TBD

Digital Exhibitions from USCL and the Center's Galleries:

- **Humor, Parody, and Satire:** The Artwork of Tom Farris and Chris Olszewski
- **The Story of Catawba Pottery Exhibit:** An Exhibit from the Native American Studies galleries on the Catawba Indian pottery tradition
- **Georgia Harris and Catawba Indian Pottery**
- **USC Lancaster's 60th Anniversary Exhibit:** Highlights the campus's growth and community connections over the last sixty years

**Location:**
119 South Main Street
Lancaster, SC 29720
To visit our website [click here](#)

**The Center's Faculty:**

- Dr. Stephen Criswell, Professor, Folklorist, Co-Director of Native American Studies
  803.313.7108 criswese@mailbox.sc.edu
- Dr. Brooke Bauer, Assistant Professor of History and Native American Studies, Co-Director of Native American Studies
  803.313.7440 bmbauer@mailbox.sc.edu
- Claudia Y. Heinemann-Priest, Linguist, Catawba language, Native American Literature
  803.313.7470 chpriest@sc.edu
- W. Brent Burgin, Archivist, Director of Native American Studies Archives
  803.313.7063 wbburgin@sc.edu
- Brittany Taylor-Driggers, Artist, Curator of Collections and Galleries 803.313.7036 & 803.313.7173, taylorbd@mailbox.sc.edu
- Christopher Judge, Archaeologist, Assistant Director of Native American Studies
  803.313.7445 judge@sc.edu

**The Center's Staff:**

- Elisabeth Avelar, Special Projects Coordinator
- Chloe Boone, Student Worker
- Helen Champion, Custodial Services
- Samuel Farris, Collections, Galleries, and Studio Assistant
- Ashley Lowrimore, Public Relations Coordinator
- Crystal Melton, Visitor and Project Coordinator Assistant
- Missy Melton, Student Worker
- Katelyn Shull, Visitor Coordinator

**The Center's Advisory Committee:**

- Purpose: This committee advises the Native American Studies Director.
- Dr. Stephen Criswell, NAS Co-Director, ex officio
- Dr. Brooke Bauer, NAS Co-Director, ex officio
- Jerrod Yarosh, BBCE Division Representative
- Todd Scarlett, MSNPH Division Representative
- Tania Wolochwianski, Humanities Representative
- Fran Gardner, Administrative Appointment
- Pat Lawrence, Administrative Appointment
- Allan Pangburn, Administrative Appointment
- W. Brent Burgin, NAS Director Appointment
- Claudia Heinemann-Priest, NAS Director Appointment
- Brittany Taylor-Driggers, NAS Committee Chair, NAS Director Appointment

**Contact Information:**

(803) 313-7172
Email: usclnasp@sc.edu

Native American Studies Center Hours:
- Monday: By Appointment Only
- Tuesday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Thursday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Friday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Sunday: Closed

Did you miss the last newsletter? Don't worry, just [click here](#)

Temporarily closed due to COVID.