



All Things Ignatian



Creighton Native American Advancement Program (C-NAAP)

The mission for the Creighton Native American Advancement Program is to provide academic, cultural, and social support for undergraduate Native American students.

About C-NAAP

As a Jesuit Catholic institution, we are charged with the task of how to best engage, enroll, educate, and graduate students from groups historically underrepresented in higher education. The National Institute for Native Leadership in Higher Education reports that, for every 20 Native American students entering college, only three will graduate with a bachelor's degree. Native American students are clearly under-represented in higher education. The Creighton Native American Advancement Program (C-NAAP) The Creighton Native American Advancement Program strives to provide Native American students with the academic, cultural, social, and spiritual support necessary to promote their path to success and their persistence and graduation at Creighton University.

Student Impact

Ed Parish and Hana Kendic said,

"Many of us will have careers someday that deal with talking and communicating with minorities, as we come from those groups ourselves. Exploring careers in underserved areas is something that we all really began to look into." - Winnebago spring service trip.



Hana Kendic, sophomore A&S student.



Ed Parish, Junior A&S student.

Justin Sears said,

"I would highly recommend this trip to other students because it provides a great opportunity for students to see firsthand the meaningful Native American culture. This trip also enables students to have a close, meaningful experience with a high school on the reservation and its struggles. Further, students have the opportunity to make a direct impact on the lives of those students, which greatly multiplies the meaningfulness of the trip."



Justin Sears, sophomore A&S student.



Winnebago Immersion participants helping St. John's Church in Walthill, NE.

Program Benefits

Educational services such as:

- ❖ Academic counseling and support
- ❖ Career guidance and exploration
- ❖ Mentoring
- ❖ Cultural and spiritual support
- ❖ Social and extracurricular support
- ❖ Financial aid and scholarship assistance
- ❖ Service Learning

Building Bridges

C-NAAP is designed to achieve its objectives through various on and off campus partnerships. C-NAAP partnered with Central High School's All Nation's student organization to serve local Native American students that aspire to higher education. Through this relationship Native American Creighton students are reminded why they, too, are striving for higher education. C-NAAP students provide the following services:

- ❖ Tutoring
- ❖ ACT/SAT prep
- ❖ Scholarship support
- ❖ College ready workshops

C-NAAP took over coordination of the Immersion Service Trips, which are an integral component of Creighton's mission and Ignatian values, as they provide access to higher education to disadvantaged, low-income, and minority students. The immersions focus on college preparedness and scholarship assistance, but the trips also incorporate social justice through developing an awareness of Native people. Creighton students not only provide direct service, but they learn about the Tribal culture and issues facing each reservation community. The Gateway Immersion Service Trips take place on reservations in Arizona, Nebraska, and South Dakota.



Chinle Immersion participants touring Canyon De Chelly, National Monument in Arizona.

Ignatian Values

Men and Women for Others:

In the academic year (2012-2013) 44 Student Support Service students participated in the Immersion service trips. Students visited 14 reservation schools and assisted 711 fifth through twelfth students.

Cura Personalis:

Participants dedicated 880 hours working with students on an individual basis. Taking care of their academic, social, and spiritual needs.

Magis:

Our students dedicate their time for the greater good of increasing college access and completion. Students that utilize services provided succeed academically, earning an average GPA of 3.02 for spring 2013.

Forming and Educating Agents for Change:

Through mentoring students participants are able to make positive changes within the reservation schools, communities, and tribal leaders.

Want more?

Contact Vanessa John at vanessajohn@creighton.edu

Sponsored by the Creighton University Jesuit Community, in association with the Deglman Center for Ignatian Spirituality.