

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Agnese Nelms Haury

Program in Environment and Social Justice

Tuesdays with Haury

January 19, 2021

Photo Credit: Ashley Dickerson

**Together, we can and must do more.
We also can and must do more together.**

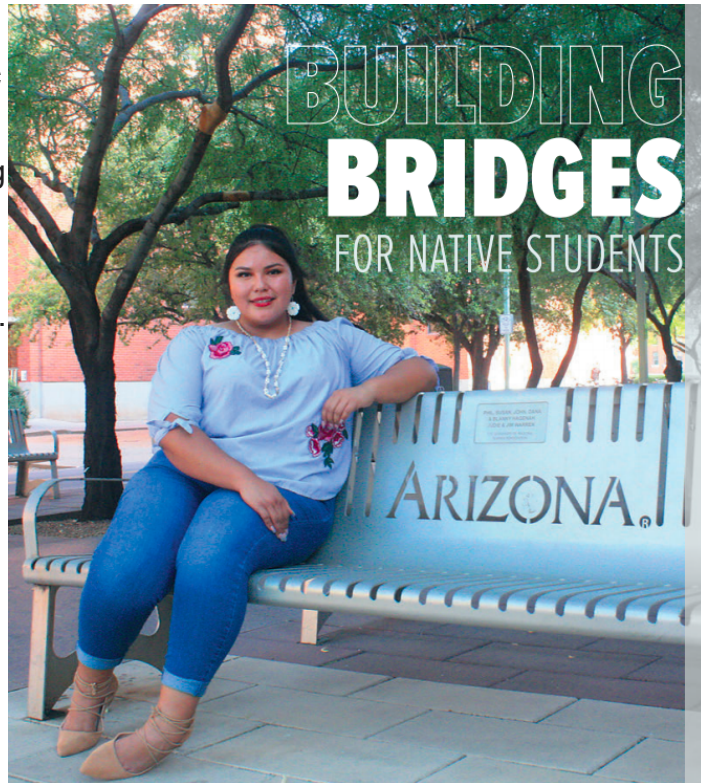
A Student's Journey: Changing the Landscape of Higher Education and Workforce on the Tohono O'odham Nation

[A Student's Journey](#) (ASJ) is a collaborative effort between the [Tohono O'odham Community College](#) (TOCC) and the [Southwest Environmental Health Sciences Center](#) (SWEHSC) at UArizona to establish a path to help tribal college students transfer to a 4-year university and expand the professional workforce within the tribe. This work is funded by the Haury Program through a three-year Challenge Grant award made in 2019 and currently supports one of the Haury Program's main goals of fostering Native American student success.

Daniel Sestiaga Jr., TOCC's Special Projects & Initiatives Manager, and Marti Lindsey, SWEHSC's Outreach & Community Engagement Director, conceived the program in 2018. The goal was to bridge a gap of representation while pursuing a streamlined approach to institutionalizing their work. SWEHSC's programs increase students' knowledge, skills, self-efficacy, workforce

readiness, and career development and align with TOCC's goal to increase student transfer success, empowerment, and career development. Daniel and Marti made sure to incorporate [O'odham Himdag](#) and [TOCC's T-So:son](#) (Core Values) into the program design, which makes it a unique and more meaningful experience for the students.

The innovative educational program addresses academic transfer barriers faced by TOCC students by developing a sense of belonging and increasing academic and professional capacity building. The one year-round program entails learning about critical environmental health and environmental justice issues, collaborating with UArizona professionals by assisting their projects, and developing skills as professional interns. The program includes the participation of tribal leaders, professionals, and cultural experts, who share their traditional knowledge, academic, development, and work experiences with the TOCC students.



During the first year, the project leaders recruited twenty students from TOCC into the program. This first cohort attended seven spring workshops between February and June 2020 as part of a new course designed specifically for the program. The virtual course covered critical environmental health, toxicology, and social justice topics. It also incorporated life-skills styled workshops, guest speakers, and home-experiments developed by UArizona graduate students and postdocs from the colleges of Education, Nursing, Public Health, Natural Resources, and Engineering. On July 31, the ASJ first cohort group made final project presentations. The presentations addressed environmental and social justice topics in their community, including solar energy, waste management, water and soil contamination, food accessibility and community gardens, immigration policies, border militarization, discrimination, racism, and domestic violence education.

A Student's Journey provides TOCC students with an educational experience that is culturally relevant and a workforce experience that directly serves the Tohono O'odham Nation. ASJ has become an engaging learning experience for TOCC students that sparks conversations among themselves, staff, and other

community members. Haury is very proud to support this work, which is an important pillar of our Tribal Resilience Initiative.

TOCC and SWEHSC seek TOCC students to join their 2021 cohort.

The application deadline is February 5th, 2021.

For more information on how to apply, please contact UArizona coordinator Alex Benavides (abenavides@pharmacy.arizona.edu) or TOCC coordinator Annmarie Stevens (astevens@tocc.edu). Download the flyer here.

A Student's Journey

For Tohono O'odham Community College Students!

Summer Dates: July 7th - Aug. 6th 2021 [Application Deadline: February 5th, 2021](#)



Tohono O'odham Community College (TOCC) and the Southwest Environmental Health Sciences Center (SWEHSC) are seeking TOCC students to join our 2021 cohort! This is a year long program, that includes a 5-week on-campus summer experience, fall internship and so much more!

Univ. of Arizona Summer Experience



- Earn 3 Units of College Credit
- Live on Campus
- Visit Your College of Interest
- Receive Stipend
- Internship Based on Academic Interests (25 hours per week)
- Explore UA & Tucson
- Academic Advising, Career Workshops, Social Events, and more!

Community Fall Practicum Experience



- Internship Placement Based on Academic Interests (Based on your schedule)

Students Returning to TOCC:

- Develop workforce readiness skills w/ a Tohono O'odham Nation Department

Students Graduating from TOCC:

- Develop workforce readiness skills at next college destination

Visit Our Website:
<http://bit.ly/astudentsjourney>

@SWEHSC   

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Our Mission:

1. Increase sense of belonging at 4-year universities
2. Create workforce readiness skills
3. Increase transfer rates to 4-year universities

Feel inspired! Learn more about ASJ from the shared experiences of 2020 cohort Jamie Siqueiros, Pachynne Ignacio, and Stefany Paredes.

Jamie Siqueiros and Pachynne Ignacio are members of the Tohono O'odham Nation. Jamie is from Baboquivari District and from the community of South Komelic. Jamie recently returned to school to pursue a degree in Art & Life Science for Pre-Professional Nursing. Jamie also works for the Tohono O'odham Nation Police as a dispatcher.

"Since I am still getting used to being back in school, I hope to gain as much knowledge and experience as I can, before transferring to a university after completing my associate's degree. I also hope this will ease any concerns I have that might discourage me from transferring to a university." – Jamie Siqueiros



Pachynne Ignacio grew up in Sells and is from Sells District. Pachynne is pursuing a degree in Natural Resources. She will complete her degree in Fall 2020 and is currently undecided about transferring.

"I've grown to appreciate not only TOCC's location but faculty and staff's role in my educational journey. Being accepted into the A Student's Journey program, I hope to become better prepared for what to expect when transferring to the college of my choice. As well as gain some experience in an internship." – Pachynne Ignacio

Stefany Paredes grew up in Nogales, Arizona. Her goal is to attain a degree in Early Childhood Education. This summer she will complete her degree and transfer to the University of Arizona in the Fall 2020 Semester.



"I hope to gain comfort and confidence through the A Student's Journey program. Comfort in getting to know the ways of the University of Arizona. I am so used to being in a small town and small communities that I get anxious about even being a UArizona student and feeling like it's something that other people can do but not me. I hope to gain confidence in knowing who to talk to and where to go." – Stefany Paredes

Watch the video below where ASJ's participants talk about their



Collaborative Capacity Building and Sovereign Science with NASA and the Navajo Nation Webinar

Join the [Water Resources Research Center](#) for the webinar [Collaborative Capacity Building and Sovereign Science with NASA and the Navajo Nation](#) with speakers Amber Jean McCullum, Ph.D., Applied Scientist, BAERI/NASA Ames Research Center, and Nikki Tulley, Ph.D. Student, Department of Environmental Science, UArizona.

Wednesday, January 20 at noon.

Register here:

<https://tinyurl.com/CapacityBuilding-NavajoNation>



Wednesday, January 20, 2021



Presentation: Collaborative Capacity Building and Sovereign Science with NASA and the Navajo Nation

Speakers:

Amber Jean McCullum, PhD, Applied Scientist, BAERI/NASA Ames Research Center
Nikki Tulley, PhD Student, Department of Environmental Science, UArizona



Time: 12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

Sustained capacity building and knowledge exchange are vital to increase the use of NASA Earth Observations for Indigenous natural and cultural resource management. This presentation will explore multiple collaborations with NASA and the Indigenous Community including NASA's Indigenous Peoples Pilot project and the Navajo Nation Drought Severity Evaluation Tool project. Given the size of the Navajo Nation, the lack of consistent climate data, limited resources, and the increasing extent and severity of droughts, tools that assist water managers are essential.

Dr. Amber Jean McCullum is a researcher and capacity building specialist in the Earth Science Division at NASA Ames Research Center. She serves as the Impact and Transition Lead for NASA's Western Water Applications Office. She is the lead for a project focused on agricultural management with the Navajo Nation and OpenET. She is also the lead trainer in land management for NASA's Applied Remote Sensing and Training Program, a team member and engagement coordinator for NASA's Indigenous Peoples Capacity Building Initiative, and a lecturer with San Jose State University.

Nikki Tulley is a member of the Navajo Nation. She is a third-year PhD student in the Department of Environmental Science with a concentration in Hydrosociology at the UArizona. Her research focuses on ensuring that people living in Indigenous communities have access to clean drinking water to sustain their way of life in an ever-changing environment through sustainable practices and water policies and management.

Webinar Attendance Information:

The WRRRC hosts its Brown Bag Webinars using Zoom. To register for and join this webinar, visit <https://tinyurl.com/CapacityBuilding-NavajoNation>

Attendees will be able to ask questions using the Zoom chat function.

To request an alternate format of this webinar for disability-related access, please contact us at wrrc@emsl.arizona.edu

wrrc.arizona.edu/brown-bag-seminars

NEW: Navajo Nation Water Resilience Information Hub


Inspired by the water sustainability goals and accomplishments of the Navajo


Nation's COVID-19 Water Access Coordination Group (WACG), the Haury Program announces the Navajo Nation Water Resilience Information Hub, **"The Haury Water Hub."**

The **Haury Water Hub** is a place where information on current and on-going work and research happening on the Navajo Nation water issues can be shared with interested parties. The **Haury Water Hub** aims to advance greater coordination with, and collaboration among the many people and entities currently doing research, contributing funding, or engaging in other outreach work to advance the water sustainability goals of the Navajo Nation, or who wish to do so in the future.

If you are a water resilience researcher, funder, nonprofit, or other entity dedicated to solving the water access issues that face the Navajo Nation in a manner that respects the principles of respectful tribal engagement, and if you would like to know more about others' work as well as share stories about your own endeavors, please join this national and global community.

The **Haury Water Hub** will be featured on *Tuesdays with Haury's* electronic newsletter.

**Agnese Nelms Haury Program**
In Environment and Social Justice



**Announcing The Haury Program
Navajo Nation Water Resilience Information Hub-
"The Haury Water Hub"**

The Haury Program invites tribal water resilience researchers, nonprofits, and funders to submit and share news to be included in its *Tuesdays with Haury* (TWH) electronic newsletter.

This news will be shared in a new feature of TWH titled, *Navajo Nation Water Resilience Information Hub (The Haury Water Hub)*, inspired by the water sustainability goals and accomplishments of the Navajo Nation's COVID-19 Water Access Coordination Group (WACG). The Haury Water Hub is not intended to be any form of a data repository, rather a place where information on current and on-going work and research happening on the Navajo Nation water issues can be shared.

WACG is a coalition of Navajo Nation leaders and water experts who have worked together with federal agencies, university researchers, nonprofits and funders to respond to the COVID-19 crisis and beyond. The focus is on the significant clean water access and quality challenges faced by many families across the Nation. WACG sought to respond not only during the current pandemic but beyond because the clean water access issues of the Navajo Nation will endure even after this crisis subsides.

The WACG also formed a Sub-Group on Water Access Communication and Research, the stated goals of which are as follows:

- To promote safe water consumption by the Dine' (Navajo) people who have no piped water by building trust and knowledge on how to access safe water.
- To develop a common understanding by universities about the drinking water research priorities of the Navajo Nation.

The **Haury Water Hub** is designed to build on the second goal of the WACG Sub-Group—to develop a "common understanding" among researchers and partners about the research priorities of the Navajo Nation.

To that end, **The Haury Water Hub** will make the water resilience work being done for the Navajo Nation more visible to all with shared objectives.

We hope such greater visibility among water researchers may in turn advance greater coordination with, and collaboration among the many people and entities currently doing research, contributing funding, or engaging in other outreach work to advance the water sustainability goals of the Navajo Nation, or who wish to do so in the future. These synergies may in turn enable researchers and partners to create a greater positive impact, and better assure that Navajo Nation leaders and water experts shape the objectives, determine priorities, and guide the research and outreach in ways that respect tribal governance and traditional knowledge.

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Note that the Haury Water Hub is not intended to be any form of a data repository.

For more information on what and how to share your work and stories, please read our invitation to join us [here.](#)

https://www.haury.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/Water_Resilience_Hub_201205.pdf

Until the next Tuesdays with Haury
The Haury Team



If you do not wish to receive future mailings from this list, you may [unsubscribe here](#).

Visit the Haury Program website

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Tuesdays with Haury, January 19, 2021*
