SHIPROCK, NN – The Diné Policy Institute will host a one-day symposium on research and data management possibilities for the Navajo Nation.

Framed as “Sihasin Summit,” the conference will highlight perspectives from leading Navajo researchers on this issue. Participants will also discuss “data sovereignty” and how the Navajo Nation might gain more and better control over research conducted within the nation.

The Sihasin Summit will be held on Thursday, June 23, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The summit will be held in the John Pinto Library at the Diné College (Shiprock South Campus). Sponsors for the Sihasin Summit are the Navajo Studies Conference, Inc. and Diné College

Topics ranging from “What is Data and What is Knowledge in the Navajo Nation? Framing the Conversation” to “Reflecting on Challenges and Looking Forward” and “Navajo Research, Data, and Archives,” will be discussed.

Featured presenters include:

- Andrew Curley, Ph.D., Deputy Director of Diné Policy Institute, Navajo Studies Conference, Inc.
- Wendy Greyeyes, Ph.D., Navajo Studies Board Member
- Tim Begay, Ph.D., Navajo Technical University, Dean of Business Affairs
- Desi Rodriguez-Lonebear, Co-Founder of U.S. Indigenous Data Sovereignty Network and Native Nations Institute
- Nanibaa Garrison, Ph.D., Seattle Children’s Hospital
- Beverly Becenti-Pigman, Indian Health Service - Navajo Institutional Review Boards
- Ora Marek-Martinez, Ph.D., Historic Preservation Office
- Elaine Woody, Records Management Department
- Irving Nelson, Navajo Nation Museum
- Moroni Benally, Ph.C., Director of Diné Policy Institute and Vice President of Government Affairs, Diné College.

Jennifer Nez Denetdale, Ph.D., Associate Professor of American Studies, University of New Mexico will give the keynote address: “The Archaeology of Navajo Studies: Ethics, Research and Tradition.”

The purpose of the Diné Policy Institute (DPI) is to identify important social and political questions facing the Navajo people and provide public research and informed perspectives on them.

The research regularly focuses on Navajo politics, Navajo government reform, natural resource use and energy politics, development, and social movements.

Lunch will be served to the first 150. Contact: Michael Parrish, Policy Analyst, DPI, (928) 724-6945, mparrish@dinecollege.edu

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