Alumni Highlight

Georlinda Tsosie, AIBL Chapter President

Ya’ah’teeh! Shi éí Georlinda Tsosie yinishyé. Mą’ii deeshgiizhíí, Tábąąhá bashishchiin, Ta’neeszháinii da shichééí, aadoo Tłʼízí lááí da shíí. I am from Burnt Corn, Arizona and am a mother to a beautiful little girl who is eight years old. I am currently a senior in the Bachelors Program for Business Administration and on track to graduate in May 2020. I recently graduated with an A.A. in Business Administration and A.A.S. in Office Administration. Throughout the academic year of 2018 – 2019 I joined the American Indian Business Leaders (AIBL) to help rebuild the club and am currently holding the position as President.

Why join AIBL? For four years, business instructors and classmates always stopped by the office I worked for and they thought I would be a perfect candidate to take on an officer position. Being a student and student worker, I think the students and employees saw what kind of potential I had. I like to be organized and get things done right away. Once I become invested in something that means a lot to me, I will support and be behind it 100%.

What are the benefits of AIBL? AIBL is exciting and fun! The goal is to make a huge impact at Diné College and Navajo Nation by giving our next business leaders tips and opportunities to become the next generation leaders. AIBL will help members gain entrepreneurial and economic experience, and there’s a chance of leadership development opportunities.

Any Challenges you overcame this year as a Chapter President? Some of the challenges that I have overcame as the President are first and foremost, standing up in front of big crowds, speaking to large groups of individuals. Standing in front of the crowd was one of my weaknesses and I feel that AIBL has helped me grow out of my shell. Secondly, meeting deadlines and fundraising as much as we can for the AIBL Conference and future events was definitely a challenge.

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Advising Reminders:

Students,

If you have not already met with an advisor about courses for fall semester, now is a good time to set-up an appointment! Please see your advisor when you can, even to just ask questions!

Currently, the AIBL Chapter at the Tsaile Campus needs members for next year! Please contact the AIBL Chapter Advisor, Patrick Blackwater if you have questions or want to sign up! pblackwater@Dinécollege.edu

For more info: www.AIBL.org

If you have a petition to graduate for Summer, please stop by for a full review and signature for your petition!

We wish you the best in all summer courses!
“This year, our mission was to bring AIBL into the spotlight again, recruit new members, experience entrepreneurial activities, and train new leaders.”

–AIBL President

Any goals and milestone for the future year? One goal for my senior year is continue being a member with AIBL and growing my own leadership skills. Second, I would like to someday introduce AIBL to the local High Schools so that students can start their own chapter. I believe a lot of our youth voices need to heard and they can start building their leadership skills at a young age. Third, graduate with my Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and start working full time. When a year passes by I want to pursue a Master’s Degree in Hospitality Management.

What was your experience like when you went to the AIBL conference? The 25th Annual Leadership Conference was so motivating and made me think a lot of about my future. There were a lot of bright ideas students brought to their communities, but it has to all start with believing in yourself. The AIBL conference was in Portland, Oregon at the NIKE World Head Quarters this past year. The conference was about a week long, there was about 200 AIBL members from across Nation that attended the conference. AIBL members had the opportunity to network with other students and business leaders, participate in workshops, and compete in chapter competitions, both as clubs and individuals. The most exciting part was meeting Grammy award winning artist, “Taboo” from the Black Eyed Peas and the owner of “N7” Sam McCracken. AIBL had a lot of great opportunities this past year for each member, so if you’re a student who wants to make a change, we would like to see you join in the future.

Students and staff pictured from Left to right: Patrick Blackwater (advisor), Gabriellyn Yazzie, Xandria Begay, JoAnn Nez, Georlinda Tsosie, Trudy Tso, Morgan Tsosie, Kimberly Jake, Kendra Begay, and Terra Lamotte-Harvey (advisor).

PC: Terra Lamotte-Harvey

“The 25th Annual Leadership Conference was so motivating and made me think a lot of about my future.”

–Georlinda Tsosie, AIBL President
Faculty Highlight

Dr. Bruce Bradway, Psychology Faculty

Please introduce yourself: Hello, I am Bruce M. Bradway. I was born in Indiana in 1949. I spent from 1971-2001 either in or around the military. I have a BA in English (which makes me a grammar nerd), an AAS in Medical Laboratory Technology (which makes me a Medical nerd), an MA in Psychology, Guidance, and Counseling, an MS in International Relations (which makes me a Poli. Sci history nerd), and a Ph.D. in General Psychology (which makes me a psych nerd). I have lived in eleven different states and two countries. The military gives you the opportunity to live in some exotic locations and hopefully people aren’t shooting at you or trying to blow you up.

Pictured Below: Dr. Bradway was one of this years’ Faculty of the Year! He was voted by our BA students within the psychology program!

Please tell us a little about your career background: My first college teaching experience came with Langston University (a historically Black College) in Oklahoma in 1991. I next taught at Mississippi University for Women and East Mississippi Community College. After my wife retired from the military we spent the next 11 years in Montana on the Fort Belknap Reservation. I was the chair of the Human Services and Psychology Department and enjoyed ten very challenging years. My eleventh year in Montana I taught for Salish-Kootenai College. Just before coming to Diné’ College I spent 5 years teaching for Ashford University in Clinton, Iowa.

Please tell us why you chose to work here at Diné College, what made you gravitate towards us? I interviewed with several colleges and was offered positions with a state school in North Dakota and a Women’s College in South Carolina. But neither were really in the running after I was offered the job at Diné’ College. I was quite anxious to get back to a reservation though the difference between the Northern Plains and the Southwest is like the moon and the rain forest (actually the desert and the steppes).

What do you value the most? At this stage in my life I value friends and family. I have lived lots of places and I recognize that life is variable but people think in absolutes because they have only experienced singular experiences that they see as absolutes. I embrace the differences. As they say up North, “I wish everyone long life and good health.”

“A pretty good life lesson. Stay away from the people who have bad intentions.” –Dr. Bradway
Students attend NAU’s Undergraduate Research Symposium!

Dr. Sara Kien, Psychology Faculty

Five Students from our PSY 413 - Advanced Indigenous Research class participated in this year’s Undergraduate Research Symposium at Northern Arizona University. Our faculty member Dr. Sara Kien was able to connect with faculty members at the NAU campus so that our students can gain the knowledge and experience in showcasing their projects.

The Research projects students worked on all semester were presented to huge groups of students, staff and community members for a good 2-3 hours. People far and wide were able to participate and listen in on the great ideas our youth have for the future of our people and communities.

NAU’s graduate symposium happens every year with hundreds of students presenting from all over campus, we hope next year we have the same opportunity for our future PSY 413 students.

Special thanks to Dawayne Bahe for his support and to NAU faculty Ann Rumble and her research methods class for helping to coordinate and hosting a pizza lunch.

“Students also received advice and guidance from current graduate students about applying to graduate school. It was a great day!!”

-Sara Kien

Students Pictured from Left to Right: Tatyana Begay, Ashley T. Lee, Veronica Yazzie, Barbara J. Harvey, Dylan Decker.
Diné College Spring Research Symposium was a Success!

*Dr. Sue Wolf, Psychology Faculty*

This past spring semester Diné College had its very own “Spring Research Symposium” hosted by the school of business and social science department. Drinks and refreshments were donated by faculty and staff to support the event in May.

Our motivated faculty member Dr. Sue Wolf worked diligently planning and creating a space where students could show case their hard work for the semester and right before the annual graduation ceremony.

Research ideas were presented during the symposium and students won awards from “most impactful” to “most meaningful” research. Next year we hope to invite other schools to attend and we give a special thanks to all who participated this year! Until next time.

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A Message from the Dean...

*Dr. Michael Lerma, School Dean*

*Greetings from SBSS,*

We continue to work toward launching our virtual incubator. We will announce concrete progress in the fall. The Missing and Murdered Dine Relatives Forum was a great success and we will post photos, a write-up, and also make the video of the proceedings available in the near future. We continue to work toward building our Psychology program by hiring new faculty as well as offering new courses. We are busy planning a wonderful retreat for our Fall 2019 return. To me, our two-night ceremony has paid off with our new beginning. We will revisit our previously stated goals and aspirations in order to keep thinking our School into being.

Ahe’hee.
Dr. Michael Lerma