

Sequoyah National Research Center Newsletter

Winter 2017

James W. Parins Intern Scholarship

This Spring semester, the Center established and awarded the first James W. Parins Intern Scholarships. The scholarship was established in order to honor the legacy that our co-founder Dr. James W. Parins left with his work with our student interns. While he was active in the Center, he mentored dozens of students that came through from the English, Sociology, and History departments at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

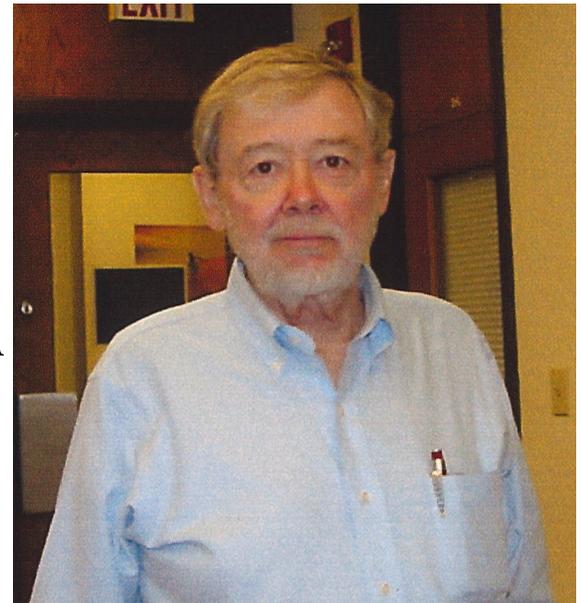
The first recipients of the scholarship are Heidi Davis and Stephanie Rabadeux, both students in the English Department at UA Little Rock. Coincidentally, both are Tlingit/Haida. Heidi, a junior double majoring in Political Science and Criminal Justice who is originally from Kake, Alaska, has been working to index videos from the Jeanie Greene Heartbeat Alaska Film Collection depicting her former hometown and surrounding areas in Southeast Alaska. She states, "This internship has provided a wonderful opportunity to learn more about my own, as well as other, Native cultures. It's very exciting for me to be a part of promoting and preserving Native heritage."

Stephanie, a junior majoring in English with a creative writing emphasis, is also working to index the film collection, familiarizing herself with Southeast Alaskan villages. She says that the "internship allows me to learn more about my roots as an Alaskan Native, and I am extremely grateful for this internship opportunity." The interns are required to work three hours per week in the Center and do a commendable job.

The work that the interns accomplish this Spring semester will be a major step in making the videos accessible to the public. Once the videos have been indexed, they will be added to our online catalog with links to a dedicated YouTube channel for streaming the full episodes.

We hope to sustain the Parins Scholarship for many years to come, but cannot do so without the help of generous donors. If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund in memory of Dr. Parins, we invite you to make a tax deductible gift through the UA Little Rock Foundation. Gifts may be made via check to "UA Little Rock Foundation" with "Parins Scholarship Fund" in the memo line or online through our website (ualr.edu/Sequoyah) under the "Support SNRC" link.

Beginning in May, we will be accepting applications for the Fall scholarships. The scholarships are awarded to students who demonstrate knowledge of and interest in Native Americans.



Dr. James W. Parins

Call for American Indian/Alaska Native Summer Interns

Each summer the Sequoyah National Research Center (SNRC) hosts three tribally affiliated student interns for the months of June and July. Interns are required to work a minimum of 25 hours per week in the Center doing basic archival and research work under the direction of Center staff.

The SNRC at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) houses the papers and special collections of tribal individuals and organizations and holds the world's largest archival collection of newspapers and other periodicals published by tribal individuals and organizations.

The goal of the Native American Student Internship Program is to provide students an experiential learning environment in which to acquire an understanding of the value of archives and the research potential of the collections of the Center and to engage in academic research and practical archival activities related to tribal culture, society, and issues. Interns are expected to demonstrate the value of their experience by either a summary report of work, finding aids for collections, or reports of research or other written work that may be shared with their home institutions.

To qualify for an internship, students must (1) Be affiliated in a federally-recognized tribe, (2) Have completed at least 60 college hours, (3) Be in good standing at their home institutions of higher learning.

To apply, student must send (1) An unofficial copy of the student's academic transcript, (2) A recommendation letter from the head of the student's major department or from another relevant academic official, (3) An application that includes a personal statement of at least 250 words expressing why the intern experience would be beneficial to the student's academic or career goals.

To assist the student in meeting expenses during the two-month tenure of the internship, the Center provides on-campus housing and \$2,000 to defray other living expenses. Students interested in applying for internships for June 1 through July 28, 2017, should complete the online application (<https://goo.gl/forms/culd7ILwxQdyz1nI2>) or send inquiries to Daniel F. Littlefield or Erin Fehr at sequoyah@ualr.edu. **Applications are due by March 15, 2017.** The Center will select three applicants and notify students of their decision by April 3.

Save the Date: November 11, 2017

This November, SNRC is commemorating the centennial of the entrance of the United States into World War I by hosting an exhibit and half-day symposium on November 11. The Center will open a new exhibit titled "Untold Stories: American Indian Code Talkers of World War I" that will explore the contributions of the code talkers during the war. The stories of the Choctaw, Comanche, and Osage men who served in this capacity will be told, while their connection to Camp Pike located in North Little Rock, Arkansas, will also be explored.

The day will begin with a half-day symposium that will feature speakers on various topics related to American Indians in World War I and conclude with the official opening of the new exhibit that afternoon. The symposium will be available for professional development credits for teachers.

Updates and more information will be published in future newsletters.



Choctaw Code Talkers, circa 1918. Courtesy of Red-Horse Native Productions, Inc.

Our mission is to acquire and preserve the writings and ideas of Native North Americans by collecting the written word, art and other forms of expression by Native Americans and creating a research atmosphere that invites indigenous peoples to make the Sequoyah National Research Center the archival home for their creative work.

Call for 2017/2018 Research Fellows

The Sequoyah National Research Center (SNRC) at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock invites proposals for its 2017/2018 Research Fellowship Program, which fosters research involving forms of Native expression in a wide range of disciplines.

The program encourages scholars to conduct research in the Center's collections to support significant studies in a wide range of fields and subjects such as Indian removal from the Southeast, Native journalism and journalists, late 20th century and early 21st century tribal societies and economics, literary artists, entertainment, and others. Fellowships are intended to defray travel expenses and living expenses while recipients are conducting research in the SNRC.

Recipients of research fellowships are expected to spend at least a work week conducting research at the Center. The Center requests that, following their research, research fellows send the Center a copy of the results of their research in published form whenever it appears or in unpublished form if the research is not conducted for publication. The Center also requests notice of the presentation of the research in a public forum. Recipients will be expected to conduct their research from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Two research fellowships of \$1,500 each will be offered in the 2017/2018 year. The most significant criteria considered in awarding a fellowship are the research project's potential contribution to Native American studies and the extent to which the SNRC's collections support scholarship in the research subject. Consideration will also be given to the applicant's background and academic accomplishments if the applicant works in an academic setting. Academic affiliation, however, is not a requisite for receiving a fellowship.

An applicant should send a cover letter and a statement of the objectives of his or her project, the significance of the project, and relation of the proposed project to the applicant's background, previous work, and future plans. Research fellowship applicants should attach a curriculum vita. Applications should be sent to SNRC Director Daniel F. Littlefield, Jr. at dflittlefiel@ualr.edu.

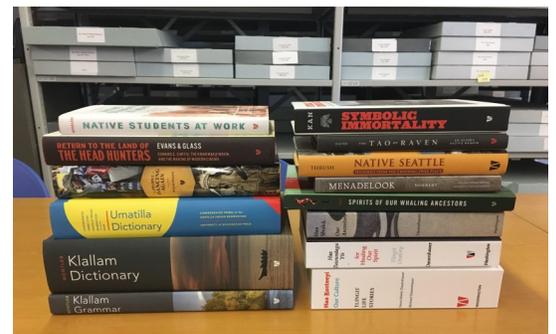
Growing Library

This January, we have added several volumes to our library collection. In December, we hosted a book sale in order to weed our collection of duplicate volumes. With the money raised from those efforts, we ordered 14 books on Alaska Natives and Northwest Coast subjects from University of Washington Press. These two areas are weak, so we have been working to build them.



The Boston Children's Museum weeded their library of some books on Native American subjects. We were privileged to receive 83 books and two LP vinyl records covering mostly New England Indians and Alaska Natives. In the shipment were several issues of the journal *American Anthropologist* and volumes of the *Annual Reports of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, which will prove to be useful resources.

Additionally, we added several more titles on Alaska Natives purchased from the University of Alaska Press, including dictionaries for the Inupiaq and Yup'ik languages. These additional titles will complement the Jeanie Greene Heartbeat Alaska Film Collection that was added in 2015.



Jeanie Greene Film Screening

Join us Wednesday, March 8 at noon for the first public film screening of “Barrow: A Village of Whalers.” This hour-long documentary style film shows how the villagers work together to harvest the bowhead whale and the importance that the whale has in the mostly subsistence lifestyle of the Inupiat villagers.



The film will be shown in Ottenheimer Library, Room 535 from noon to 1:15pm. Attendees are encouraged to bring their lunches. After the screening, a short question and answer discussion will follow, led by SNRC Archivist Erin Fehr (Yup'ik).

The film is part of the Jeanie Greene Heartbeat Alaska Film Collection acquired by the Center in 2014. It is one of 1263 videos that document Alaska Native village life.

The screening is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Erin Fehr, ehfehr@ualr.edu or 501-569-8336.

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Annual membership dues:

Individual: \$25—\$99

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Mail checks to:
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This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Sequoyah National Research Center at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, edited by Erin Fehr.

Hours of Operation:
Monday—Friday
8:00am—5:00pm

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