American Indian Teacher Program



American Indian Teacher Program was award in October 2010, the Graduate School of Education received $1.2 million award from the USDOE (Office of Indian Education, OIE) to train 18 American Indian students as licensed teachers with a Master of Education.

PROJECT GOALS

Goal 1

Increase number of American Indian/ Alaska Native teachers in schools with Native students

Goal 2

Establish a sustainable Indigenous professional teacher preparation program, which integrates research -based practices with community-based, culturally responsive pedagogy supportive of unique needs of Native teachers and students

Goal 3

Support and retain participants at every step of their academic program: Advising, mentoring, and community building

Goal 4

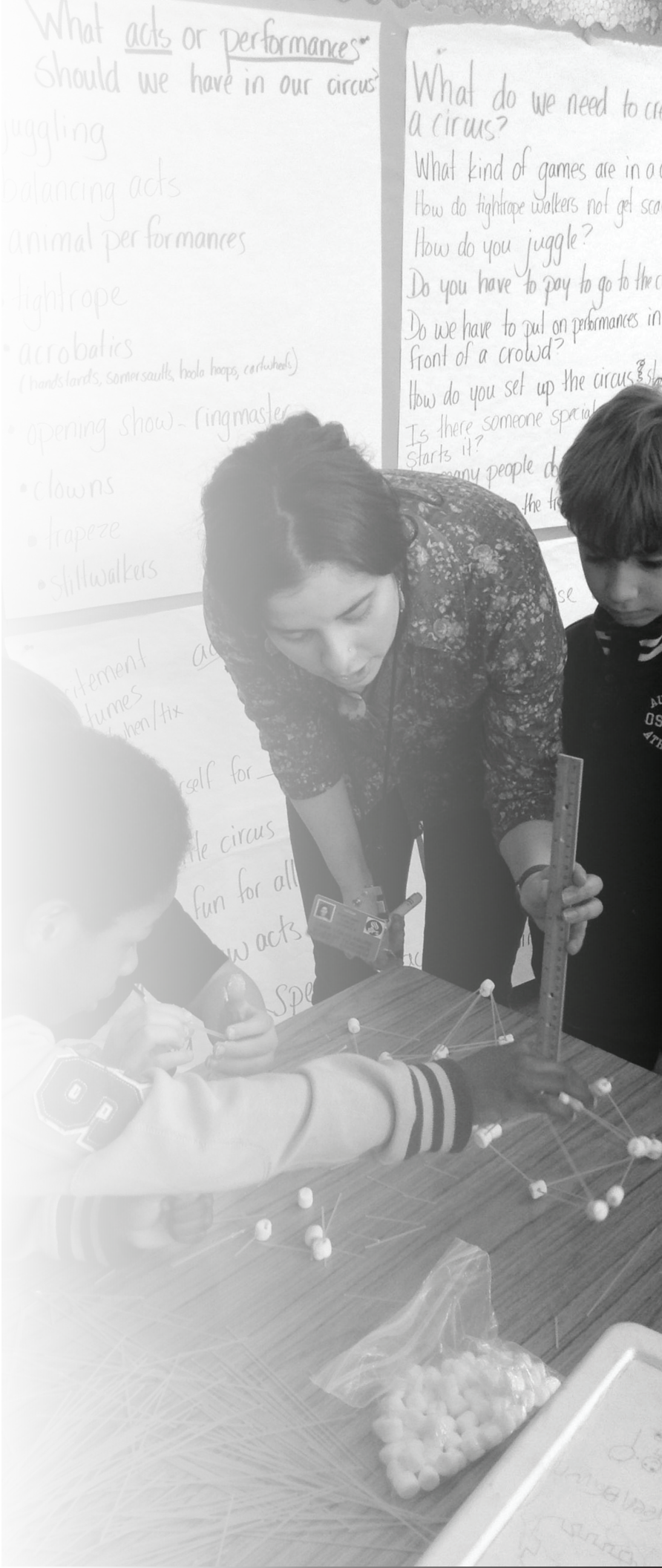
Coordinate the placement of students into schools with Native students

Goal 5

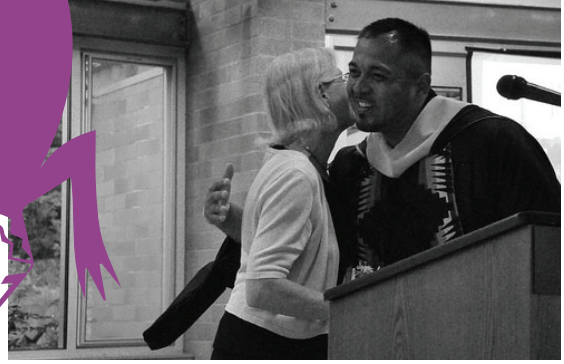
Create a multi-dimensional induction program for students' first year of teaching

Goal 6

Monitor and evaluate outcomes



OBSTACLES



Needed to complete Prerequisites

Students that came to AITP needed prerequisites. Students would graduate with an College of Liberal and Science degree with a minor in Native Studies with no teaching courses.



Expensive Supplies

Supplies for materials & courses. GTEP is a full time program and Students need to pay for test, books, license, parking, bills, and more.



Advising for Next Step

Students needed academic advising. AITP individualized advising to monitor & support student success



Not Passing Required Test

Support provided for ORELA/CBEST and other exam preparation.



Tribal Educational Sovereignty

SUPPORT

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

$50,000 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, 2012, to help students with prerequisites & tests

Ecotrust

scholarships for four applicants to complete their undergraduate degrees/ prerequisites

Siletz Tribe

The Siletz Tribe provided a $3,000 grant to sponsor two talks by Melody Mc Coy, Esq., on tribal educational sovereignty, open to PSU and larger community

Graduate School of Education, PSU

Tuition Remission for two students in the Graduate Teacher Education Program and American Indian Teacher Program











CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Seminars with Guest Speakers

Monthly seminar initiated 2012 to provide students hands on culturally responsive pedagogy aligned to Common Core State Standards;

Training

Mentor training program to recruit experienced teachers to mentor graduates lst year of teaching to be launched

AITP Co-PIs developed and taught two courses for AITP teacher candidates: Culturally Responsive Pedagogy, and Research Methods for Teacher Candidates.

Looking for Funding

Planning with GSE and other offices & external funders to sustain program

Support Community

Ongoing community of support for students throughout term including gatherings, Native student center activities and events

Convening of student cohorts with AITP alumni to strengthen community of practice

Host and Sponsor Events

–Go 2 College Day
–Healing Feathers
–Pow Wow/ dances

Job Preparation

Students are helped in preparing for job interviews & career fairs

Partnerships are developed with BIE



CURRENT

2011

Terri Reed is entering her second year at Ippolito Elementary School (Florida) teaching 4th graders. She worked with her students on the Awareness project, a way of showing students how to explore their cultural background. Some students shared their posters at the Black History Event this year.

2012

Jonathan Belgarde is currently teaching at Kingspoint Christian School in Pasco, Washington. He is teaching all of the 6th grade subjects except English. "I am also the school's Athletic Director. And my wife is pregnant with our third child due the week of Christmas and New Year's."

Carrie Green is teaching in an Applegate School Head Start classroom, which is a collaboration between the Native American Youth and Family Center and Portland Public Schools. "We prepare children for school by focusing on early childhood care and education and teacher development (nayapdx.org)."

Erica Spainhower is substitute teaching at Portland Public Schools.

2013

Amanda Bryant has a class of 19-second graders in Hoopa Bay, Alaska. "I am doing great! Last 3 days of school and enjoying my last days with my kids. All of my students have made good progress."

Monty Catabay is teaching middle school Health at Benson High School. "Benson teachers have redesigned their PE/Health curriculum with pound-shedding and academic-performance-enhancing results for students (pps.k12.or.us). "

Deborah J Troyer will begin her second year at Salem-Keizer School District where she teaches 5th grade ESOL, Weddle Elementary. "I'm very fortunate to have gotten a permanent full time position, not only in the district of my choice, but with an amazing school that is 5 miles from my home." Deborah completed her ESOL endorsement and will be doing a practicum in her own classroom this fall. "I'm glad to have survived my first year of teaching and I'm looking forward to many more years to come."

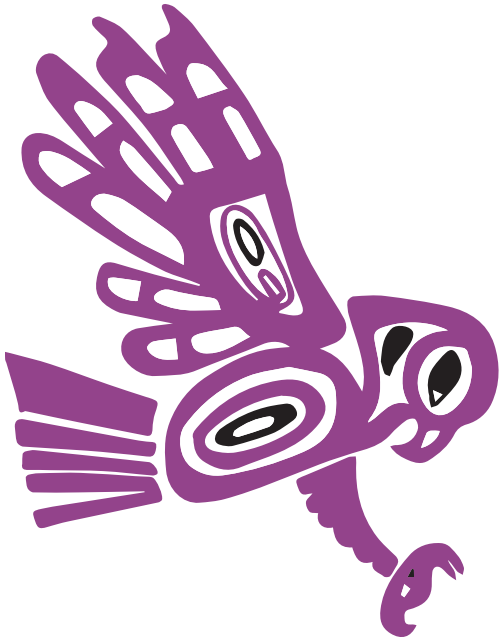
Shani Johnson is completing her first year of teaching Kindergarten at Vernon Elementary, PPSD. She had a great year with students and families, and with colleagues taught 6 International Baccalaureate units.

Gillian Murr is teaching 7th 8th grade Language Arts, and works with a middle school team at Marysville K8 in SE Portland with a great academic coach. The principal has asked Gillian to be on the Common Core Professional Development Team for next year. "I feel very lucky and blessed to be where I am today. I feel respected as a professional. So many stories, but I will say that more than 70% of my students passed their OAKS reading test."

2014

Cara Colclausre
Ashley Friedman
Gina Rentz

Graduated 12 Native Teachers
Graduated 7 other Native Students



More Information

www.pdx.edu/aitp
Portland State University & American Indian Teacher Program website. You will find how to apply to the GTEP/ AITP, event and funding information.

teacherprogram.wordpress.com
Get information, new curriculum, and updates on the AITP program, find pictures, watch videos of Guest Speakers and more.

padlet.com/quintem/TeacherProgram
Interact with AITP students, ask questions, learn new techniques or just find out what they are up to.