

THE INDIAN LEADER

Since 1897

Haskell Indian Nations University

the oldest Native American student newspaper



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Alexi comes to Haskell

Award-winning Native American author, Sherman Alexi returns to Haskell to discuss his latest book and reconnect with the Haskell community.

“Haskell feels like my second home. I really love the people,” says Alexi.

LORI HASSELMAN

When I first came to Haskell I thought things would be difficult. I can still remember sitting in Curtis Hall at a table by myself waiting for someone to call me a white boy. In two years at this university I've never had a racist comment directed at me openly about my mixed blood.

What has happened however; are the lasting friendships that I've built, the feeling of self-confidence I have gained, and the pride I feel when I walk this campus.

My duties as the Indian Leader Editor-in-Chief have come to an end. My time as Editor has had its ups and downs but overall I can say that this year was a success for me

and all those involved in making the oldest Native American publication in the world the best it can be. I urge any students interested in writing to get involved with the paper in the future. When you become a journalist you are giving voice to those who have none. You are holding the university accountable for their actions both good and bad. You are meeting amazing people every day

that will motivate you to be the best you can be.

If you are reading this and you believe your time at Haskell is difficult I want you to know that you have a shining light inside of you that has the power to burn brighter

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NEWS

Haskell pledges to put an end to sexual assault

LORI HASSELMAN

“It’s on us” Haskell, to stop the treat of sexual assault. The university recently teamed up with www.itsonus.org to hold a sexual assault media awareness day. Colleges all across the nation took part in this collaboration on April 23, 2015 to pledge to put an end to sexual assault. Haskell students were asked to take a pledge by administration, through itsonus.org, to keep an eye out for potential assault and offer assistance if needed.

“One in three American Indian women have been raped or have experienced an attempted rape,” according to the Justice Department. The New York Time’s reported in 2012, “Reasons for the high rate of sexual assaults among American Indians are poorly understood, but explanations include a breakdown in the family structure, a lack of discussion about sexual violence

and alcohol abuse.” The New York Time’s went on to say “Nationwide, an arrest is made in just 13 percent of the sexual assaults reported by American Indian women, according to the Justice Department, compared with 35 percent for black women and 32 percent for whites.

Itsonus.org offered some tips to help put an end to this epidemic:

1. Talk to your friends honestly and openly about sexual assault.
2. Don’t just be a bystander- if you see something, intervene in any way you can.
3. Trust your gut. If something looks like a bad situation, it probably is.
4. Be direct. Ask someone who looks like they may need help if they’re ok.
5. Get someone to help you if you see something.



Haskell students and administration come together to pledge their support in ending sexual assault. Photo courtesy of Haskell Indian Nations University.

6. Keep an eye on someone who has had too much to drink.
7. If you see someone who is too intoxicated to consent, enlist their friends to help them leave safely.
8. Recognize the potential danger of someone who talks about planning to target another person at a party.
9. Be aware if someone is deliberately trying to intoxicate, isolate, or corner someone else.
10. Get in the way by creating distraction, drawing attention to the situation, or separating them.
11. Understand that if someone does not or cannot consent to sex, it’s rape.
12. Never blame the victim.
13. If you are a victim or survivor, or helping someone in that situation go to www.notalone.gov to get the resources and information you need. You can also call the National Sexual Assault hotline at 1.800.656. HOPE.

Haskell Students Shine at Annual Scholarship Ceremony

LORI HASSELMAN

The scholarship ceremony took place at the auditorium at 4:00p.m on April 9th. Students who were going to be awarded at the ceremony with a scholarship were sent a notice through the mail. Many students attended and were awarded certificates recognizing them of their academic achievements from the previous semester. There was many scholarships that were distributed to students. Among other scholarships, the President’s Honor Roll, the Dean’s Honor Roll, “One in three American Indian women have been raped or have experienced an attempted rape,” according to the Justice Department. The New York Time’s reported in 2012, “Reasons for the high rate of sexual assaults among American Indians are poorly understood, but explanations include a breakdown



Haskell pledges to put an end to sexual assault

CHARLIE PERRY

When I first came to Haskell I thought things would be difficult. I can still remember sitting in Curtis Hall at a table by myself waiting for someone to call me a white boy. In two years at this university I've never had a racist comment directed at me openly about my mixed blood. What has happened however; are the lasting friendships that I've built, the feeling of self-confidence I have gained, and the pride I feel when I walk this campus. My duties as the Indian Leader Editor-in-Chief have come to an end. My time as Editor has had its



Posing with the Oregon Duck at the NCAA tourney in Omaha.

ups and downs but overall I can say that this year was a success for me and all those involved in making the

oldest Native American publication in the world the best it can be. I urge any students interested in writing to get involved with the paper in the future. When you become a journalist you are giving voice to those who have none. You are holding the university accountable for their actions both good and bad. You are meeting amazing people every day that will motivate you to be the best you can be.

If you are reading this and you believe your time at Haskell is difficult I want you to know that you have a shining light inside of you that has the power to burn brighter than the sun itself. Before I came back to school I was living in a broken down trailer with 6 other people, making minimum wage, as I struggled to make enough money to eat. I dropped out of high school my senior year and it took me another 4 years to complete 5 classes at an alternative learning institution before they handed me a memo saying I graduated. To this day I still have that memo.

You can do this; take each day one step at a time. Be kind to your fellow students it will make you a happier person. Have love for yourself and count your blessings every day when you wake up. Look in the mirror and tell yourself "I'm going to have a great day, I'm intelligent, I'm successful, and I'm beautiful." If you want to accomplish something write it down in a goal journal, make a dream board to look at every day. Tell yourself "I will accomplish my goals," and mean it. Know that the secret to success is hard work and a positive attitude.

There is a simple 3 step process to



Working the Indian Leader booth at highlight night with; Tyler Jones, Taylor Jolibois and Raquel Butler.

have whatever you want out of life. First you must see yourself accomplishing a goal in your mind's eye. The second step is to go out there and make it happen, refuse to lose, stop at nothing until you achieve greatness. The third step is to simply take a step back and appreciate what you have accomplished. By using this simple 3 step process I've accomplished every goal I have set for myself at this university.

Always remember when the going gets tough, the tough get going. Never ever give up on your dreams. Don't let negativity creep into your life. If you are around negative people, make new friends. Don't live in the past, live in the moment and look towards the future. Decide that you will have a good life and it will happen. Look at any obstacles that come into your sight as walls that you will smash through on your way to success. Smile at the haters

and offer a kind word for they are sick and need your help more than anybody.

If I had to leave you one quote to live by it would be from Theodore Roosevelt--"It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes short again and again, who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions who spends himself in a worthy cause who, at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails at least fails while daring greatly so that his place shall never

P O E T R Y

Haunted Hours

by Chaundelle Frazier

It is in the lonely hours I miss you.

For every hour is lonely with you gone.

It is when my joy is at a high I wish you could feel the way I do.

It is when beauty crosses my path I wish you were here to revel with me.

It is when I throw my head back in exuberance I wish you were laughing beside me.

It is experiencing new thrills I wish you could have these memories as well.

It is being in a place where we have no memories of us and creating them in my head because I see you everywhere.

It is knowing that anywhere I go, you are haunting me.

OPINION

Beverly Foley is prepared to leave Haskell on a high note

ASHLEY IGNACIO

Beverly Foley, Navajo from Chinle, Arizona, plans on furthering her education after Haskell in the hopes of making major changes in Indian policies by attending graduate school in Washington, D.C. or in the Navajo Nation. Her focus is on environmental issues like water rights and/or human rights.

She explains her transition from a business student to becoming an IAIS major with an emphasis in environmental justice at Haskell.

“When I first came here, I was a business major. All I was thinking about was making money and working in the casinos to make even more money. After I attended Dr. Wildcat’s symposium, The Rights of Mother Earth, it opened up a whole new indigenous perspective for me. That symposium was a life changing experience and I realized that I needed to contribute to the environment in positive ways because life is not all about making money,” stated Foley.

Haskell also contributed to the discovery of Foley’s own indigenous identity. “While living on the Navajo reservation, I was not really connected to the Navajo traditions and I did not think I was unique,” explains Foley who admits that she is not fluent in the

Navajo language just like many other young Navajo scholars today.

But after meeting and listening to other Haskell students from various tribal reservations across the United States, Foley began to appreciate the diversity of tribal cultures. This made her want to discover more about her own Navajo culture and particularly the functions of the Navajo Nation government because politics are her greatest interest.

“Haskell gives a student the opportunity to research their own tribe and their tribal government which is important because I think there are a lot of well-educated indigenous peoples who are uneducated about where they come from and who they are,” shares Foley.

Other opportunities that Haskell provided Foley with were once in a lifetime trips to; Hawaii for a summer internship, to Florida and Colorado with the AISES (American Indian Science and Engineering Society), and two trips to Washington, D.C. for Student Senate. The Hawaii trip with the HERS (Haskell Environmental Research Studies) internship was one of Foley’s most memorable experiences because, “the Indigenous people there had string games and songs that were very similar to the Navajo traditions which really connected me to them through our cultures,” stated Foley.

Haskell Student Senate President and American Indian College Fund “Student of the Year,” Beverly Foley.

Overall, “Haskell has been a positive experience for me. I’ve learned so much from my fellow peers who amaze me with their intelligence and their class presentations that just blow me away. It makes me proud to be here because I know the quality of students that we have here at Haskell,” shares Foley.

Beverly would like to give thanks to the Haskell administration because she says that “they do the best they can for the students” and she appreciates their open communication with the student senate office.

“Since the accreditation, I feel like our Haskell family has gotten closer and has opened a bigger dialogue between the students and administrators,” explains Foley who hopes to see the conversations continue.

A sincere gratitude to IAIS instructor, Dr. Eric Anderson, who was Beverly’s academic advisor that always made sure she was enrolled in all the proper IAIS courses to graduate on time. Also, a special thanks to Haskell counselor, Ms. Angelina Adams, who encouraged Beverly and had faith in her ambitions. And of course, Beverly could not

have done any of this without the support from her family. “My mom, every year, she would buy me a new jacket. She made sure that I was warm and protected. It was like those were her arms being wrapped around me,” commented Foley.

“Having my older sister here was great for additional support also. Plus, my two kids, my daughter and son, who always told me that they were proud of me for going back to school. Now, like two little ducklings, they are following in my footsteps and are currently both enrolled in college. My daughter will be graduating too! She is receiving her Associates degree from Haskell. So it will be a mother-daughter celebration in May,” exclaimed Foley.



Students are seeing unwanted guests in dorm rooms

RACHEL WHITESIDE

Haskell University has five dorms that students can live in; Roe Cloud, Winona, Pocahontas, Osceola Keokuk, Blalock Hall, and one student residential assistant dorm, Powhatan. Recently, a few of these dorms have been a home to residents that are not human. When asked about the dorms, many students had a lot to say about how unsatisfied

they are with pest control.

“My first semester at Pocahontas Hall people kept telling me about a room in the basement where the laundry was. Turns out it was a room full of cockroaches. When you flip on the light they hundreds of them just scatter,” stated Mary Turner, Haskell sophomore.

Insects play a huge role in a lot of the dorm residents’ stories from

cockroaches and ants to deadly spiders such as recluse and black widow as well as wasps and stink-bugs. Canté England shared her experience saying, “I stay in Roe Cloud hall, my room is on the first floor and I’ve had wasp, multiple brown recluse spiders, and two ugly black spiders.”

Recluse and black widow spiders are famous for being extremely venomous. To be bitten by these



ENTERTAINMENT

Haskell springs forward with renewal day cookout

RAQUEL BUTLER

Grills were smoking as Haskell celebrated a day of renewal with students and community members.

“We call this the ‘Renewal Day’ of 2015. To Native Americans January 1st isn’t the start of our new year. Spring is the new year; this is when the Earth comes back to life. We’re revitalized and we all have a good feeling when spring comes. So that’s what this was all about, we wanted to get together and do something for our students. This day is really all about them. Accreditation and all the hard work we do here is all about the students being successful,” said Assistant to the President Steve Prue.

Haskell students were treated to; hamburgers, bratwursts, and hotdogs alongside dishes such as corn on the cob and pasta to celebrate Haskell’s recent accreditation check. “I started my day off thinking I was just going to go to good old Curtis Hall for lunch. It was a very nice surprise this morning when I walked over to Tecumseh Hall to sign up for the Zoo trip and a cook out was going on. I had an opportunity to enjoy a delicious lunch consisting of braughts

and burgers,” said sophomore Taylor Jolibois.

“This all popped into our heads after the accreditation visit. We had reviewers on our campus for our ten year accreditation check. The reviewers were really impressed with the; campus, the quality of staff, and especially impressed with the quality of our students. The student’s presentations made a tremendous impact on that. We don’t know the result of their review; it will probably be about 6 weeks before they share that. I’m sure there are a few things we will need to address as a university but overall were really excited and enthusiastic about the visit and the outcome,” stated Prue.

Haskell President Venida Chenault wanted to highlight the hard work staff and students had done through the accreditation process, “Wherever and whenever we can, we are looking to create a cultural agent. That means we sit down and get together. We just came through a period of great work. On behalf of students who were involved in the process, faculty and staff, we needed to recognize and honor that work that people are doing. Individuals across the board put in a tremendous



Haskell students line up to enjoy some good food as part of Haskell's Renewal Day.

amount of effort to highlight Haskell and the success that we have as a university.”

Chenault was very impressed with the event as a whole, “It’s wonderful; it’s always great when we can get students and faculty together for a meal. We decided it’s an appropriate time to renew our energy and get things moving forward.

Staff and administrator were able to come together in a short amount of time as well to make the event a reality. “The idea totally sprang out of the mind of Freda Gipp in the president’s office. The president was all for it and we reached out to Ms. Stumblingbear in food services asking if she could do this on short notice. She said absolutely. We got with facilities and asked them to set up the tables and we asked the creator for a good day. After that it was just a matter of communicating with everyone about the

event that was going on,” said Prue.

Chenault praised the communication between departments as

well. “We talked about it just over 2 weeks ago and it was announced in university council. Ms. Stumblingbear stepped up and offered to provide the meat. We as administration and faculty offered the side dishes. Administration recently adopted a new means of communication that helped the event go smoothly. “The communication that was sent out was actually done through a new process that we’re trying. We’re now using links through emails instead of attaching documents which will help keep everyone’s inbox smaller and save time, stated Prue.



Haskell students had a great time at the Renewal Day cookout.



Facilities worked the grill for the Renewal Day cookout.

SPORTS



Did fee increase lead to increased retention?

OBADIAH EASTMAN

Since the fall of 2013, Haskell has seen some great improvement. According to the Haskell webpage, there were approximately 745 students from that semester and the year ended with 47 students that had withdrawn from Haskell with the fees still standing at \$215. With the fee increase jumping up to \$715, there has been an increase in students. There were approximately 808 students this past fall and to date there has only been 14 students

that have withdrawn from Haskell in the fall of 2014 (this does not include the withdrawals from Spring 2015). This data though is not shown on the Haskell website, but was obtained from Lou Hara from the Registrar's office.

Tina Tourtillott from the registrar's office commented, "since the fee increase in Fall 2014, I have noticed a small change in the students. I have noticed that students this year haven't withdrawn from classes that much which is pretty interesting. Maybe it's the increase in fees that

are making them wanting to take more required classes so they could get their degrees faster, but I can't really say for sure."

Haskell alumni, Cecelia Curley said, "Well, the prices did change but it's still up to the students if they want to be more involved while here at Haskell. I remember when I went to Haskell I really enjoyed that it was an affordable education. It's still affordable today even with the fee increase. I see a lot of people upset about the increase, but what it really all comes down to is that it's still way more affordable than most other colleges. As for if the fee increase makes students want to be more academically involved, as a college student it's really up to them as a person and what goals they plan to obtain while attending Haskell."

Current Haskell student Mahalia Henderson, a sophomore, had this to say when asked the question, "The fee increase, I think, has changed the level of academic performance in some students. Especially if you're an on-campus student, 715 dollars is a lot to simply throw away after already making it more than halfway through the semester. As for the mindset, I do think the mindset of current and possibly future students of Haskell has changed a little. Some students may want to get their money's worth of a 700 dollar university-quality education as opposed to digging yourself a hole in debt even at a local community college. Haskell is still affordable, but to some students the fee increase can still be an inconvenience, particularly to those students who don't receive pell."

Haskell students interested in art offered scholarships to attend IAIA

The Institute of American Indian Arts at Santa Fe (IAIA) visited Haskell to find the next big Native American artists.

RUSTIE ANGLIN

Jonathan Breaker, an admissions counselor at the Institute of American Indian Arts at Santa Fe (IAIA) was spotted at the library recently to recruit artists looking to progress to the next level. "I really am blessed and honored to have talked to these students that come from all across the country. It seems that a lot of the students here are pretty much

like our student body. They come from many different backgrounds and interests. I'm

happy to talk with them. I'm hoping at some point we can accommodate some of these student's interests and have them come to our school. I'm really happy to be able to possibly help some of them down the road," stated Breaker about the Haskell students he interviewed.

Sophomore D.j Sindone attended the one on one interviews because of IAIA's prestigious reputation, "I wanted to see the school that is the



Haskell sophomore Kayla Kent discusses her future with IAIA rep Jonathan Breaker.

pinnacle of Native American art and get their opinion of my works, and they loved it. Mr. Breaker was

highly impressed and offered me 3 scholarships right away. I showed him my take on the Haskell logo and he couldn't wait to show it to his colleagues at IAIA. Fellow sophomore Kayla Kent was a bit hesitant at first but ended up loving the talks, "Before taking to the representative I had my indecision about applying to IAIA. After I talked with Mr. Breaker I realized I needed to quit

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