

IRSJ Academic Senate Report

October 22, 2024

Provided by Annie Knight

- IRSJ met this past Thursday on October 17th.
- The group discussed ideas for the creation of a Native American or Intertribal advisory board to establish permanent Native Community partnerships and continue the relationship building that has been in progress since this past spring. The vision includes partnership and shared leadership with Native Community Leaders, IRSJ, and SAC's newly formed Inter Tribal Student Council. Such an advisory board would support the permanent commitment local Native Communities are seeking from our college administration to support Native events and have a Pow Wow. This advisory board could also advocate for permanent affinity space and staff support for SAC's Inter Tribal Student Council, similar to resource provided other campus affinity groups. The advisory board could also **co-create** with our Native community partners a Land Acknowledgement including actionable items for us as faculty to engage in and hold ourselves accountable for. IRSJ will continue working on a proposal to be presented to senate.
- IRSJ members recently completed a survey to help prioritize our goals for this year. Finalization of goals informed by survey feedback will occur during our next meeting in November.
- We are creating a task force to develop recommendations for incorporating DEIAA (diversity, equity, inclusion, antiracism and accessibility) datapoints and narrative requests for next year's faculty prioritization process.
- We will also be creating a task force for drafting a resolution with community guideline recommendations to support more equitable shared governance spaces campus wide.
- Both task forces will eventually be sharing their work with the senate for input.
- We'd also like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to attend the [Mesoamerican Knowledge & Native Traditions](#) event on November 12, which is being hosted by SAC's Ethnic Studies Department and the People, Ideas & Culture CAP as well as next week's [Native American Heritage Celebration](#) on October 30.

- The next IRSJ meeting will be held November 21st, from 2:30-4pm. Faculty are welcome to reach out to Dr. Maria Aguilar Beltran or Annie Knight (IRSJ Senate Reps) for meeting information or questions about the group.