

Archival Creative Friction: Indigenous Peoples' Existence and Resistance in the Archival Multiverse



**NAISA CONFERENCE
JUNE 5, 2012**

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Archival Activism and Resilience



- Laws and Regulations
- Professional Organizations
- Collaboration with non-tribal repositories
- Tribal Communities

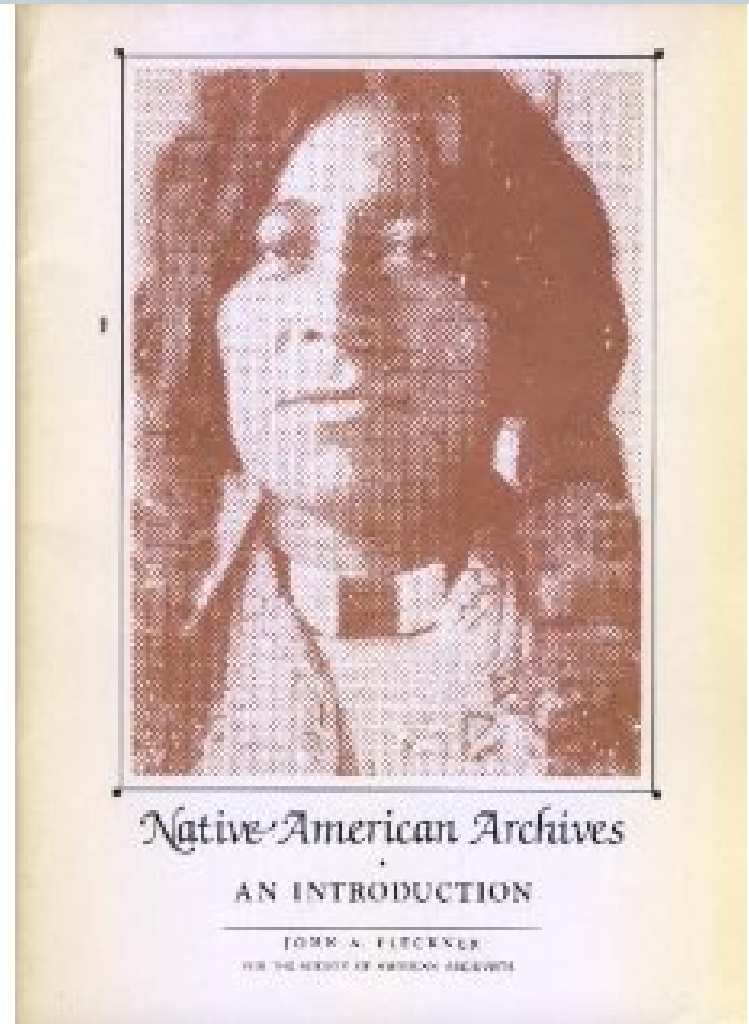
Foundational Laws, Regulations, International Responses



- **1970: UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting the Illicit Import, Export, and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property**
- **1978: American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA)**
- **1982: Working Group on Indigenous Populations established by the UN**
- **1990: Native American Graves and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)**
- **1998: First Roundtable on IP and Indigenous Peoples organized by WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization)**
- **2007: UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is adopted by the UN General Assembly**

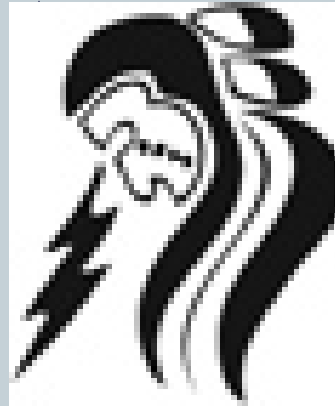
Publications

- *Native American Archives*, by John Fleckner (Society of American Archivists, 1984)
- *Keepers of the Treasures: Protecting Historic Properties and Cultural Traditions on Indian Land* (National Park Service ,1990)
- *Pathways to Excellence: A Report on Improving Library and Information Services for Native American Peoples* (US. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, 1992)



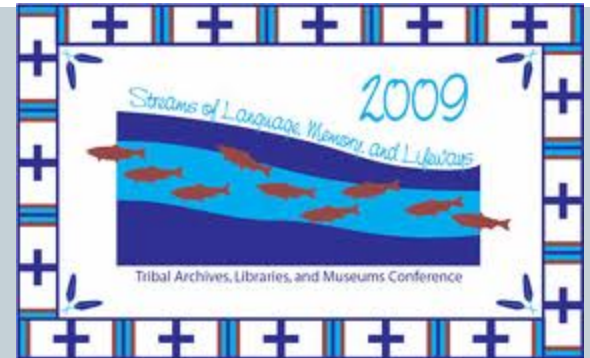
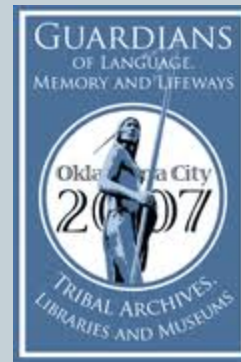
Training and Education

- Knowledge River, University of Arizona
- Circle of Learning, San Jose University (Partnership between SJU and AILA)
- University of Washington (iSchool)



Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums Conferences

- 2002 and 2005: Mesa, Arizona (Arizona State Museum; Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records)
- 2007: Oklahoma City (Oklahoma Department of Libraries; Oklahoma Museum Association)
- 2009: Portland, OR (Oregon State Library)
- 2011: Oahu, Hawaii (Western Museum Association)
- 2012: Tulsa, OK (Oklahoma Department of Libraries)



Local Community Training



- Convening Culture Keepers (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- Oregon Tribal Archives Institute
- Society of Southwest Archivists

Convening
Culture
Keepers

gathering of Wisconsin tribal librarians, archivists, and museum curators



Society of American Archivists: Native American Archives Roundtable (NAAR)



- 2005: Grant for Native American Archivists to attend SAA for two years
- 2005: Native American Archives Roundtable (NAAR) officially created
- David George-Shongo, Seneca Nation Archivist, first NAAR Chair (2005-2007)



Protocols for Native American Archival Materials



- Group of 19 began in April 2006 at Northern Arizona University; coordinated by Karen Underhill (Head, Special Collections and Archives) with generous from numerous groups and foundations
- Goal: Identify best professional practices for culturally responsible care and use of American Indian archival material held by non-tribal organizations
- Model Document: *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Protocols*
- Final Document completed April 2007
- <http://www2.nau.edu/libnap-p/index.html>

Protocols: Main Concepts and Issues



- ❑ **Foundation: Native American communities are sovereign governments**
- ❑ **10 Sections address issues in the collection, ownership, preservation, handling, access, and use of American Indian archival resources.**
- ❑ **Guidelines for both the non-tribal repository and the tribal community.**
- ❑ **Building relationships, balancing different approaches to knowledge management, and mutual respect and reciprocity through shared stewardship and consultations**
- ❑ **Expand the nature of the information professions to include Native American perspectives and knowledge.**
- ❑ **Challenges western European norms of study and traditions that often privilege the rights of mainstream culture, values, and practices**

Protocols Case Studies



- National Museum of the American Indian
- National Anthropological Archives
- Northern Arizona University
- Washington State University
- American Philosophical Society
- Yale University



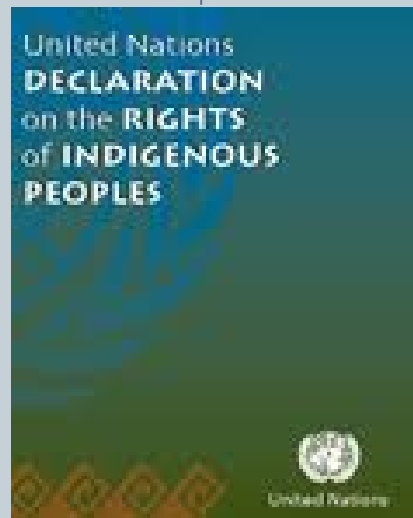
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Recent Developments



- 2010 White House Tribal National Conference Progress Report (Respect for Cultural Rights)
- UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples



QUESTIONS?



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