

The Student Affairs Diversity Council (SADC) strives to cultivate an environment that embraces and promotes the broad scope of diversity within the division.

AIRC News For Fall 2016

Franci Taylor,
American Indian Resource
Center

The American Indian Resource Center (AIRC), located at 1925 De Trobriand Street, #622 at Fort Douglas. The AIRC is safe home-away-from-home for all American Indian students and their allies at the University of Utah. The AIRC is a comfortable house that provides a warm, inviting safe place for all students to study, gather, work in the computer lab, share meals and enjoy the events and projects supported by the various American Indian student organizations and students. The AIRC is open from 8:00am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday, and is available for special events outside these office hours and on weekends by reservation.

The American Indian Resource Center (AIRC) has been very busy this fall with the continuation of existing services and a number of new programs. In partnership with Dr. Ana Maria Lopez, MD, MPH, FACP, Associate Vice President Health Equity and Inclusion, we began the fall semester with the annual Blessing Ceremony for American Indian students pursuing Health Sciences degrees. Rupert Steele, tradition elder from the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute provided the blessing and inspirational words to encourage the students through this 2016-2017 academic year. The



AIRC provides both the Welcome and a spring departure celebration each year.

The AIRC held their annual Fall Open House and Welcome gathering for students, faculty, staff and community members in early September. This celebration is used to allow all students and the greater University community to gather, share a meal, meet students and share information about their departments and upcoming student events and opportunities. This event and the opening social provided by the Intertribal Student Association (ITSA) allow incoming students to meet other American Indian students, ITSA officers and leaders, and become part of

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the AIRC community. ITSA is the umbrella group of American Indian students and allies at the University of Utah. They meet on Friday afternoons at the AIRC and cordially invite all students to attend and join their meetings, community service events and socials. ITSA, in partnership with the AIRC, have created a number of community projects to reach out to the larger Salt Lake City American Indian community and are collaborating with the Salt Lake City schools to encourage students to invest in higher education. ITSA's membership is primarily undergraduate students but they also collaborate with the University of Utah Association for American Indian Graduate Students (AAIG) which provides support for current graduate students and information to undergraduates interested in attending graduate school.

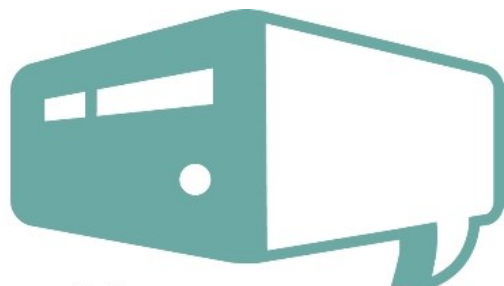
The AIRC Kitchen Table Soup and Tutoring evenings are again happening on alternative Tuesday evenings. These events where homemade soup is provided for students and faculty in a friendly environment that allows a greater comfort for students to ask for assistance in their course work. Because students most frequently ask for assistance in the STEM courses, there is a greater participation from faculty and graduate students in these areas, but we also have faculty assistance in writing and the humanities. These nights have been a great success and when the students returned in the fall, one of the first questions was, "When will the soup nights begin again."

The University and the AIRC have completed two Annual Tribal Leader's Summits on Education and tribal issues and are in the planning process for the third summit which will be held in early 2017. The date will

not be set until after the November meeting of the Utah Tribal Leaders meeting and is based on which dates the Tribal Chairs and Education Directors decide is the most convenient date for them to attend. These events allow the tribal leaders and education directors to discuss concerns and for the University to present cutting edge programming. These discussions have led to planning committees to work to create a new Tribal Leadership certificate, consultation agreements, and outreach programs. The Director of the AIRC has met with and is scheduled to continue meeting with tribal education directors on site. Within the 2016-2017 the Director and other key University of Utah staff currently have plans to travel to each of the eight Federally Recognized Tribal Nations within the 2016-2017 academic year.

The University of Utah currently offers four different scholarship opportunities for tribally enrolled American Indian Students. The MOU with the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation provides one general scholarship available to all tribally enrolled American Indian students and the Ute Scholarship available to those students enrolled in the Ute Indian Tribe, tribal nation. The Meldrum Scholarship is also available to any student enrolled in a Federally Recognize Nation and finally, the American Indian Leadership award that is based on the recognition of a student for outstanding leadership and community service. These scholarships are allotted through the Scholarship office.

The AIRC is currently creating a clearing house that will also provide information to students and the community of available non-university scholarships, internships, research programs and other opportunities for American Indian students



radiowest

The Fight Over Utah's "No Promo Homo" Laws

The LGBT activist group Equality Utah filed a lawsuit against the Utah State Board of Education and others over what it calls "anti-gay school laws." The law explicitly prohibits "the advocacy of homosexuality." Listen to Doug Frabrizio and others discuss the lawsuit and the effects of so-called "no promo homo" laws. Listen now at radiowest.kuer.org

Reflection: The Diversity of My Disability

Merriam Webster's dictionary defines diversity as "the quality or state of having many different forms, types, ideas, etc." For me, diversity isn't a clear cut definition of race, gender, ism's, and so forth. When someone looks at me, they see a Caucasian, cisgender, curly haired, young, European, college educated woman. When I look at me, I see my disability; the thing that makes me stand out to be specifically different than everyone else. Invisible to the eye, but prevalent to me... My life is dictated by an anxiety and panic disorder.

Debilitating as it is, me having this is not something most people will see. This disability is invisible to them, but what they will see is my dog... My Psychiatric Service Dog (PSD).

As the years have passed and I have gotten older, my disorder has aged, and unfortunately, grown with me. Because of this, most of the time, it is out of my control. The only thing that I control is the help I have from having a dog who can do something for me that I physically cannot do for myself to function on a day to day basis.

"You don't need help, you just need to not get overwhelmed. Take a second and just breathe." Believe it or not, it isn't as simple as just taking a step back to calm down and relax. When I have an anxiety attack or a panic attack, my whole world will stop spinning. "A panic disorder is an anxiety disorder that is characterized by recurrent unexpected panic attacks. These are sudden periods of intense fear that include palpitations, sweating, shaking, shortness of breath, numbness, and feeling that something really bad is going to happen" ([Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panic_disorder)). In my case, these are true. When I have a panic attack, I lose my ability to focus, to recognize where and who I am, to trust anyone, and to remember how to breathe. I lose my ability to function, all until I have something significant enough to re-stabilize me. In my life, this is a dog.

When doing research about PSD's, I had to accept that in reality, this dog will be doing something for me that I am unable to do myself, and a lot of people who don't even know me will have a problem with that.



Just because I am not in a wheelchair, or blind, doesn't mean that I am fully able bodied. I am considered "broken" because of my disability, and people will gladly take a moment out of their day to let me know that if I have a dog next to me. My Service Dog is medical equipment, just like a wheelchair, crutches, or an oxygen tank. My dog is medically necessary and anywhere in public medical equipment is allowed, so is my Service Dog (See anythingpawsable.com).

There are many things that people do not understand regarding Psychiatric Service Dogs, and that is ok. As I write these next paragraphs, please take a moment to recognize that these statements may not be applicable only to me... They can be applicable to anyone with a Service Animal. This is just my experience. These are "I" statements.

My Service Dog is working. When I am out in public, please understand that my dog is doing vital work, even if it doesn't "look like" it's working to you. Just like when you are working, it just wants (and needs) to be left alone to do its job. Please don't touch my dog without my permission, especially if their vest says, "Service Dog, Do Not Pet" or "Working Dog, Do Not Pet." My Service Dog is my lifeline. It can be the only thing standing between me and death, so please don't

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distract it from doing its job or tasks because my life and health rests in its paws (See anythingpawsable.com).

My handler doesn't approach you in a store and ask for your medical history. Please respect my and my handler's privacy and don't ask for personal information like:

- 1.) Their disability
- 2.) My name
- 3.) My job
- 4.) Diagnoses
- 5.) Their symptoms
- 6.) Their "issues"
- 7.) Whether or not I'm a "good dog"

anythingpawsable
News+more for Service and Working Dogs

My medical history is private, so please don't ask me about my diagnosis, or try and guess why I have a Service Dog. I don't always want to answer questions. People who see me out in public with my Service Dog will want to ask me about its job, purpose, its name, breed, training, and an overabundance of other questions, but I just want to run a quick errand and go home, just like you, so please don't be offended if I avoid your questions (See anythingpawsable.com).

Not all Service Dogs are the same. Behavior tells it all, and I ask that you please not compare my dog and me to other Service Dogs teams, because we are not all the same. We are all going through something different, and we all have our own battles to fight (See anythingpawsable.com).

My Service Dog is very loved, so you don't need to "feel sorry" for my Service Dog because it is working a lot of the time. It gets to run around and play and do whatever it wants to do when it's not working, and I make sure of that (See anythingpawsable.com).

Service Dogs are protected under the law (See ada.gov). U.S. Federal Laws, the U.S Department of Justice, and the ADA allow for my, and all, Service Dogs to go anywhere in public people are allowed to

go. There are no exceptions. It doesn't matter if it's a place where food is being made, or a hospital, or a place where a business might not want a dog to be. Service Dogs are protected by the law, and there is no certification required. There are no papers, documentation, ID, certifications, or other required information for me to have my partner in public with me. Not only is there no documentation necessary, but it is illegal for anyone to ask for any (See anythingpawsable.com). Only two questions may be asked by a business if you need to know my partner is a Service Dog: (1) "Is the dog a Service Animal required because of a disability?" and (2) "What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?" (See ada.gov)

I would rather not "need" a Service Dog. Please don't tell me you would "like to have a Service Dog." In order to have a Service Dog, you have to be disabled as defined by United States Federal Law. When someone says, "I wish I had a Service Dog like you," they are saying, "I wish whatever is wrong with you was wrong with me too." Believe me, you don't want what I have. Yes, it's great that my dog is with me to help me, but it's not easy, and although my partner is completely worth it, I'd rather not "need" them (See anythingpawsable.com).

FACT:
Just because I don't "look like" I'm working to you doesn't mean I'm not doing my job. If I'm out with my person, I'm working.

Source: ada.gov
C.F.R. 36.202

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News+more for Service and Working Dogs

As I read through this paper, I saw how realistically diverse I am. I am diverse because I am different, even

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if the thing that makes me different isn't something I am particularly proud of. I'm fortunate to have the support of those around me, who understand what I go through on a daily basis. This includes a very open-minded and welcoming University of Utah campus. I am given opportunities to grow as a staff member, and as a student, even though I have a disability. I am included in everything in my department, regardless of taboos in society regarding anxiety and panic disorders, and although not everyone knows about my disorder, for those who learn of it, they strive to treat me the same as they did before they found out about it.

I am fortunate to be treated fairly on campus by those around me, and that makes me emphasize my efforts to make our students feel more included in our diverse society, because I know I get to be in it too, regardless of if my Service Dog is next to me or not.



TED TALKS

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: The danger of a single story

Our lives, our cultures, are composed of many overlapping stories. Novelist Chimamanda Adichie tells the story of how she found her authentic cultural voice — and warns that if we hear only a single story about another person or country, we risk a critical misunderstanding.



Through the Lens: Life, Animated

As a young boy, Owen Suskind went years without saying a single word. He was autistic, and his parents worried that he'd never be able to relate to other people. One day, they discovered they could communicate with the help of classic Disney animated films that Owen adored. He could recite the films verbatim, and they helped him understand the complex cues of social interaction. Listen at radiowest.kuer.org

Upcoming University and Community Events



Thurs., Dec. 1 @ 6:30-9pm

Free Film: "From This Day Forward" with Q&A
1383 S 900 W, SLC [\[more info\]](#)



Thurs., Dec. 1 @ 6-8pm

World AIDS Day: 12th Annual Red Party
Bodega [\[more info and RSVP\]](#)



Dec. 4 @ 12-6pm

Hanukkah Market
Wagner Jewish Community Center [\[more info\]](#)

Mon., Dec. 5 @ 2-3pm

De Runas a Ciudadan@s Universales: Experiencia del Pueblo Kichwa Otavalo del Ecuador
LNCO 2110 [\[more info\]](#)

Through January 6 @ 8am-5pm

Faces and Places Exhibit
West Jordan Schorr Gallery (8000 S Redwood Rd.),
Free Admission [\[more info\]](#)

Dec. 6 @ 7-9pm

Kids and Christmas Benefit Concert
Ogden's Egyptian Theater [\[more info\]](#)

Dec. 14 @ 12-1pm

Patient Voice: Refugee Communities
HSEB 3515B [\[more info\]](#)

Upcoming Seminar



How to Support Survivors of Sexual Assault

Presenters: Katie Cartee, Darrah Jones, Sherrie Hayashi, & Heather Horstmeier

Wednesday, December 14, 2016
12:00-1:30pm in the Union Theater
[\[more information\]](#)

Sat., Jan. 21 @ 9am-12pm

MLK Jr. Day of Service
Multiple Locations [\[more info\]](#) or contact [Bryce](#)



Debra Daniels (Co-chair), Women's Resource Center
Kari Ellingson (Co-chair), Student Development
Michael Bard, Registrar's Office
Ella Butler, Career Services
Branden Dalley, Union Administration
Tim Davis, Housing & Residential Education
Kyle Ethelbah, TRIO Programs
Cairisti Flatley, Campus Recreation Services
Jonathan Holloway, Student Health Center
Darrah Jones, Center for Student Wellness
Fatima Liaqat, Office of Admissions

Carol MacNicholl, Center for Disability Services
Chuck Masoka, Assessment, Evaluation, & Research
Kai Medina-Martinez, LGBT Resource Center
Belinda Otukolo Saltiban, Office of Inclusion Excellence
Matthew Plooster, Scholarships & Financial Aid
Catherine Riney, University Counseling Center
Nick Robbins, Dean of Students Office
Nomani Satuala, Center for New Student & Family Programs
Tricia West, Student Development
Bryce Williams, Bennion Center