"UC San Diego has articulated a commitment to serving tribal communities. My goal as director of the Intertribal Resource Center is to honor those efforts by building a safe and culturally relevant space on campus for Native American Students."

**Intertribal Resource Center**
itrc.ucsd.edu

The mission of the Intertribal Resource Center at UC San Diego is to support student success, to create a community center on campus for faculty, staff and students and to serve as a resource to Native American communities. Our Center is committed to increasing access to opportunities in higher education for Native American students from all tribal nations and creating a home-away-from-home environment for students on campus.

**Elena Hood**
Director, Intertribal Resource Center
Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians,
Absentee Shawnee, Choctaw
B.A., Native American Studies, UC Berkeley Ed.M., Admin., Planning and Social Policy, Harvard Graduate School of Education
ABD in Education, UC San Diego

**Native American Student Alliance**
Facebook.com/NASAatUCSD

The Native American Student Alliance (NASA) is dedicated to promoting Native community and culture throughout the UC San Diego campus and surrounding areas. NASA believes in contributing to the academic success of each student, Native or non-Native, as well as creating a safe and open space for students to come together. Contact them at nasa@ucsd.edu.

**SAMMY**
Yaqui
4th Year
Dance

**What is your advice to incoming students?**
As a transfer student, the biggest challenges I faced was finding a place where I felt I belonged in this big campus and learning to ask for help when needed. My first year here was a learning experience, from transitioning from semester to semester to realizing that making friends was going to be a challenge. I highly encourage students to get involved on campus and in the community, that way they will get the chance to meet people, and it will help them find their place and make them feel like they belong. Fortunately found NASA/ITRC, it is a place where I feel like I can relax from the hustle of university life, and the people are so close that it feels like a family. Lastly, do not be afraid to ask for help. UC San Diego has many available resources to make the experience smooth and enjoyable. Enjoy the experience and always try your best!

**Plains Indian Ledger Art Project**
plainsledgerart.org

The Plains Indian Ledger Art Project (PILA) facilitates the digitization of the unique genre of Plains drawing on paper created during the 1880-1900 period, in order to promote preservation, research, and public access. Central to the project is the understanding that ledger drawings hold profound historical, cultural, and epistemological understandings that inform the past, present, and future of Native American/Indigenous communities. The project is located in the Department of Ethnic Studies at UC San Diego.
POPULAR PROGRAMS
- Academic Internship Program
- African Studies Minor
- African American Studies Minor
- Chicano/a-Latino/a Arts & Humanities Minor
- Community Law Project
- Critical Gender Studies
- Dimensions of Culture: Diversity, Justice and Imagination
- Ethnic Studies
- Health Care--Social Issues Program
- Human Rights Minor
- International Studies
- Partners-at-Learning Program
- Public Service Minor
- Morehouse & Spelman Exchange Programs
- UC San Diego in Washington DC

Peterson Hall
To promote and honor Native culture, UC San Diego opened a photography exhibit in Peterson Hall, located at Thurgood Marshall College. The exhibit pays homage to the Kumeyaay, the native Californians and original locals of the land on which the UC San Diego campus stands. Peterson Hall is a prominent lecture hall and a wonderful place to enjoy a piece of Native history through the beauty of photography.

Tommi Gaines, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Global Health
Navajo

What is your advice to incoming students?
Get involved with campus organizations, particularly those that will connect you with other Native Americans. There you'll find a wealth of resources to help you balance school, family, work, and culture commitments as you navigate campus life. Also, throughout the year, you will hear about a variety of activities, events, and presentations that raise awareness on Native American culture and current issues relevant to Native American communities. Engage in these opportunities. In addition to being quite informative, these opportunities can help advance your academic career and connect you to new networks at UC San Diego.

RESOURCE CENTERS
APIMEDA Programs and Services
apimeda.ucsd.edu
Black Resource Center
brc.ucsd.edu
Cross-Cultural Center
ccc.ucsd.edu
Intertribal Resource Center
itruc.ucsd.edu
Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Resource Center
lgbt.ucsd.edu

Raza Resource Centro
raza.ucsd.edu
Student Veterans Resource Center
svrc.ucsd.edu
Undocumented Student Services
undoc.ucsd.edu
Women's Center
women.ucsd.edu

Geneva has worked with Native American communities, families, and students for more than 25 years. As the Program Coordinator for CA-NARCH Student Development Program, Geneva provides Native American college students interested in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields with enrollment and retention services to increase their success.

What is your advice to incoming students?
Participate in NASA—it offers a sense of community, friendship, activities, and a place to connect with students from similar backgrounds who can show you the ropes at UC San Diego. Find a mentor, who you can connect with, get to know the Native staff, family, and faculty to build your own support network. Get connected with the San Diego area calendar of Native events, there is always something going on. There is tons of Native support at UC San Diego so always seek help when you need it.

Geneva Lofton-Simmons
Student Program Coordinator
CA-Native American Research Center
for Health (NARCH)
Luiseño from the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians
SAM
Taos Pueblo
1st year
Psychology/Clinical Psychology

What is your favorite thing about UC San Diego?
There are so many things to do here at UC San Diego, like going down the cliffs to Black's Beach or taking a day trip into San Diego to explore the city. UC San Diego has a beautiful campus filled with so many different people and that is my favorite part about this school. I love seeing and meeting all of the different types of people because you get to know people from all walks of life and I feel that is an important part about being in college. Although so many people come from different backgrounds, you tend to find similarities with others and you get to create new friendships that will last a lifetime. I know that I definitely have and I am looking forward to meeting even more people throughout my next few years on campus.

American Indian Graduate Student Association
The American Indian Graduate Student Association was created to promote academic and professional success among American Indian graduate students and to promote community. Our organization will seek to provide a support network for American Indian graduate students throughout their academic career. We are committed to increasing the representation and retention of American Indian students in graduate school. For more information, please contact the AIGSA at aigsa@ucsd.edu.

Tribal Membership Initiative
The Tribal Membership Initiative is a new endeavor by UC San Diego’s Graduate Division to increase diversity, by providing fellowships to incoming graduate students from Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian ancestry.

All tribal members admitted under this initiative and enrolling in a UCSD MA, MEng, MEd, MBA, MFA, MIA, MPP, MS, PhD, DMA, or EdD degree program will be eligible to receive a four-year fellowship.
- MBA, MIA, and MPP participants will receive a $20,000 per year stipend and a maximum of $25,000 per year for tuition and fees.
- All other participants will receive a $20,000 per year stipend, full coverage of tuition and fees for the first year including nonresident supplemental tuition, if applicable, and coverage of all resident tuition and fees for the second year.

UC SAN DIEGO POWWOW
The UC San Diego Powwow is one of the most popular annual events organized by the Native American Student Alliance. Hundreds of visitors of all ages from the San Diego and campus community join to celebrate Native American culture with American Indian food, colorful regalia, bird dancing, the crowning of Miss UC San Diego Powwow Princess and a veterans recognition ceremony.

The Powwow is also an opportunity to build relationships between UC San Diego, the greater Kumeyaay and Luiseño communities, as well as urban natives living in San Diego. The UC San Diego Powwow is open to all dancers, singers, and drummers, powwow.ucsd.edu

Harvey
Navajo
3rd Year
Clinical Psychology

What is your favorite thing about UC San Diego?
Being at UC San Diego has helped me realize the most important quality in life—perseverance. Being able to power through academic and personal hardships allows me to discover my strengths and weaknesses, while also helping me realize my own potential and opening new doors to my future.
Triton Alumni

How did UC San Diego prepare you for your career?
When coming back to work in Indian Education and in my community, I was able to approach the entire system with new eyes. I was able to find and develop ways for our people to go around the barriers and find success in school and more importantly, find success in our Native community. As a Native person finding success in our Native community ultimately makes the entire Native community stronger.

What challenges did you face as a Native student?
I became very homesick and I felt like I wasn't able to help my family in the same way I did living on the reservation. This was a difficult time, putting all my time and energy into this demanding institution. I walked this beautiful campus among thousands of other students in solitude. During my time and loneliness, I met a few Native American women on campus, we were able to connect and support each other through our similar experiences. This struggle was a time I challenged myself and definitely grew as an individual. The support I received made the difference for me and I am grateful for it. Twenty-two years later, I now appreciate and enjoy my solitude; I think because the beauty of the campus and UC San Diego area—and knowing that I overcome a great struggle.

Lorraine Orosco
Ipai, San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians
Education Dept. Executive Director at San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians
B.A., Sociology, UC San Diego

Career Services Center
career.ucsd.edu

The UC San Diego Career Center helps students determine and fulfill their career goals. Students can use the center to find employment and internship opportunities, both on and off campus. Career advisors are always available to guide students on the right path to their dream careers or prepare for grad school.

Engaged Learning Tools
ucsd.edu/engagedlearning

UC San Diego students can begin developing their resumes and experience from their first year through engaged learning tools like the REAL Portal, Enhanced Electronic Transcript, Co-Curricular Record and more.