

HSU to host 20th California Indian Conference

The Times-Standard

Posted: 10/03/2005 04:15:23 AM PDT | Updated: 8 years ago

ARCATA -- Traditional American Indians and academic scholars from throughout California will convene at Humboldt State University for the 20th Annual California Indian Conference next weekend.

The conference focuses on a range of issues concerning California's indigenous peoples, including health, education, natural resources and culture restoration and preservation.

With the theme "Finding Balance Through Traditional Native Knowledge," the gathering will offer sessions on tribal land and resource management, the status of the salmon fishery on local rivers, storytelling, California Indian artists and basket weavers, protecting sacred sites, Indian museums, language revitalization, archeology, healing through traditional culture and other topics.

First established at the University of California at Berkeley in 1985, the event provides a forum for the exchange of views and information among academics, educators, students, California tribes, organizations and community members. This will be the third time it has been held at HSU.

Sessions are planned for the Van Duzer Theater on Friday and the Kate Buchanan Room on Saturday and Sunday.

Friday's keynote speaker will be Loren Bommelyn, a member of the Tolowa Tribe, a 2002-03 Distinguished HSU-California State University alumnus, a recipient of the 2002 National Heritage Fellowship, and a cultural consultant and educator. He will address current trends in California Indian education at 1:30 p.m.

In Saturday's 9 a.m. keynote address, Frank Tuttle will focus on health issues affecting the state's tribes. Tuttle, of Concow and Yuki ancestry, directs Community Outreach Services of the Consolidated Tribal Health Project Inc., of Ukiah. He is also a renowned artist.

Natural resource management will be the focus of Sunday's keynote, to be delivered at 9 a.m. by Nolan Colegrove, a member of the Hoopa Tribe. A tribal forester, Colegrove is president of the Inter-Tribal Timber Council and of the California Indian Forest and Fire Management Council.

The conference begins Friday at 11 a.m. with opening welcomes from HSU President Rollin Richmond and Wiyot Tribal Chairwoman Cheryl Seidner. It concludes Sunday at 1 p.m. with a wrap-up and evaluation from elders in attendance. Registered participants may also attend a poetry reading on Friday evening at the Gist Hall Theatre, a Saturday-evening salmon barbecue,

an art show and cultural presentations at United Indian Health Services Potawot Health Village in Arcata.

For registration and other details, visit the conference website at <http://www.humboldt.edu/~cic> .

http://www.times-standard.com/local/ci_3082750