



**American Philosophical Association
Committee on the Status of Indigenous Philosophers**

**Annual Report to the Executive Board
for 2008-2009**

Submitted by Thomas M. Norton-Smith, Chair

1) APA 2009 Central Division Meeting Session, Sponsored by CSIP

The Committee sponsored two sessions at the Central Division meetings in Chicago, chaired by Kyle Whyte (Allegheny College). The titles and participants were as follows:

Panel I: Author Meets Readers

Topic: *The Dance of Person and Place: One Interpretation of American Indian Philosophy* by Thomas Norton-Smith

Panelists: Thomas Norton-Smith (Kent State University)

Agnes Curry (St. Joseph College)

Lee Hester (University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma)

Lorraine Mayer (Brandon University)

Scott Pratt (University of Oregon)

Panel II

Topic: On Indigenous Apologies

Presenter: Audra Simpson (Columbia), "Liberalism, Residential Schools, and Formal Apologies"

Presenter: Dale Turner (Dartmouth), "Indigenous Apologies and Reconciliation"

2) CSIP Business Meeting

The Committee held a business meeting at the 2009 Central Division Meetings during which it considered:

1. A revision of the Vine Deloria Jr. Memorial Fund;
2. Reinvigorating the SISIP Program (Supporting Indigenous Students in Philosophy);
3. The draft of the *Inclusiveness Committee Chair's and Members Manual*;
4. The creation of a CSIP website;
5. Kyle Whyte's (Allegheny College) selection to write a diversity essay;
6. The selection of an associate chair for the 2010-2011 term;

7. The selection of Kyle Whyte as program chair for the 2010 Pacific Division Meetings.

Finally, the Committee was informed that George Rudebusch (Northern Arizona University) and J. L. Vest (Central Florida University) had been newly appointed, and the Committee recognized the contributions of departing members Brian Burkhart (Pitzer) and Lorraine Mayer (Brandon University).

3) The Vine Deloria Jr. Memorial Fund

Over the past three years the Committee has been crafting a proposal to establish a fund to assist indigenous students pursuing philosophy. According to past chair Laurie Anne Whitt, “This project commemorates the life and work of Vine Deloria Jr., and honors his memory and continuing presence among us.” The APA Board of Officers approved the Committee’s revised proposal in June 2009, authorizing up to \$2000 in each of the next three years “to support prizes, conferences, or other activities.”

In the first year, the CSIP proposed to establish up to three \$500 awards to fund travel for indigenous *graduate students* who are presenting papers at APA conferences. The Committee also proposed to establish up to five \$100 essay prizes for indigenous *undergraduate students*, with two of the prizes reserved for students attending tribal colleges.

Awards for graduate travel and undergraduate essay prizes will be publicized on the CSIP website and by way of “bulk” email contacts with philosophy departments. Members of the CSIP will establish criteria and judge submissions for the awards and prizes. At the close of the first year, the Committee will evaluate the extent of the success of these measures in increasing “the presence of indigenous students in our classes and scholars in our profession,” and adjust future proposals in response.

4) Newsletter on Indigenous Philosophers

The Committee continues to encourage submissions to the APA Newsletter on Indigenous Philosophers. Those interested in contributing should contact Adam Arola (University of Oregon) at: aarola@uoregon.edu.

Thomas M. Norton-Smith, for the CSIP:

Adam Arola (*ex officio*), Katy Gray Brown, Gordon Christie, George Rudebusch, Dale Turner, and J. L. Vest.