



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

**Annual Report to the Executive Board  
for 2010-2011**

*Submitted by Thomas M. Norton-Smith, Chair*

**1) APA 2011 Central Division Meeting Sessions, Sponsored by CSIP**

The Committee sponsored two sessions at the Central Division meetings in Minneapolis, organized by Program Chair Kyle Whyte (Michigan State):

**Panel #1**

Topic: Symposium on Environmental Justice and Indigenous Peoples

Chair: George Rudebusch  
Northern Arizona University  
George.Rudebusch@nau.edu

“Risking Recognition: New Assessment Strategies for Environmental Justice and American Indian Communities”

Robert Figueroa  
University of North Texas  
robert.figueroa@unt.edu

“On The Killing of Navajo Sheep in the 1930s: A Case Study in Environmental Justice”

Brian Yazzie Burkhart  
California State University Northridge  
brian.burkhart@csun.edu

“Environmental Justice and American Indian Communities: Political not Traditional”

Kyle Powys Whyte  
Michigan State University  
kwhyte@msu.edu

**Panel #2**

Topic: Symposium on Vine Deloria Jr.

Chair: Kyle Powys Whyte  
Michigan State University  
kwhyte@msu.edu

"American Indians and Philosophy: A Response to Vine Deloria"

Lorraine Mayer  
Brandon University  
mayerl@brandonu.ca

"Deloria, Sacred Places, and Circularity"

Thomas Norton Smith  
Kent State University  
tnortons@kent.edu

"Responsibilities vs. Rights: Vine Deloria, Jr. and Environmental Justice"

Luan Fauteck Makes Marks  
Tanam Institute  
luanmakesmarks@yahoo.com

Thanks to the efforts of Brian Burkhart, Shawn Burns, and J. L. Vest, our sessions were broadcast on the internet. I especially appreciate the efforts of Linda Smallbrook, who made sure Committee funds were available—at the last minute—for us to have access to a wired environment at the conference hotel.

## **2) CSIP Business Meeting at the APA 2011 Central Division Meeting Sessions**

- Chair Norton-Smith informed the Committee that Lee Hester would be unable to assume the Chair next year. The Committee unanimously endorsed Brian Burkhart. Norton-Smith said that he would convey the Committee's endorsement to the Board.
- Chair Norton-Smith reported that there were no applications for Vine Deloria, Jr., travel grants this year. There followed a discussion about how best to advertise the grants, and whether the grants should be revised for next year—the last of our three year allocation. The Chair indicated that the Board would have to be approached next year if the Committee wished to petition for a new allocation. George Rudebusch volunteered to review the current criteria and suggest revisions.
- Sandra Tomsons attended the meeting and invited the Committee to sponsor sessions on Indigenous Philosophy at the University of Winnipeg. Committee members endorsed the proposal.
- The Committee thanked J. L. Vest, Shawn Burns, and Brian Burkhart for their successful efforts in broadcasting CSIP sessions over the internet.
- The discussion turned to next year's venue. The Committee decided not to sponsor sessions at the Eastern Division meetings, but could not decide between the Central or Pacific because a site for the Pacific Division meetings had not been made public. The Committee will continue the

discussion via email. (The Committee has since decided to sponsor sessions at the Pacific, and Kyle Whyte has agreed to continue as Program Chair.)

- **Newsletter on Indigenous Philosophers.** The Committee continues to encourage submissions to the APA Newsletter on Indigenous Philosophers. Those interested in contributing should contact Lorraine Mayer (Brandon University) at [mayerl@brandonu.ca](mailto:mayerl@brandonu.ca). Lorraine suggested that session papers ought to be submitted to the Newsletter.

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