



FPCC Press Release: 6/24/2014

FPCC is excited to announce our participation in the *National Science Foundation Sustainable Building Research and Mentoring Program*. This year's students and mentors come from Haskell University, Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, and here on the Fort Peck Reservation.

The proposed program will create four weeks of research activities for sixteen American Indian students (Tribal college and high school students). This summer research program will allow student research participants from high schools and three tribal colleges to conduct field and laboratory research on new, sustainable building wall materials and systems, as well as synthesize and present their findings at relevant conferences.

This year's program began on June 13th where student participants traveled to the University of Colorado Boulder and began classroom/laboratory research activities including: Straw Bale Workshop; Presentation by American Indian Science Engineering Society (AISES) faculty and professionals; Solar Panel Installations; and Library Research Initiatives.

On June 25th our students will return to the Fort Peck field site and begin a series of field research activities, including working with Tribal Professional Engineers. The final stage of the project includes student presentations at FPCC's GTD on July 7th.

Participant Profiles:

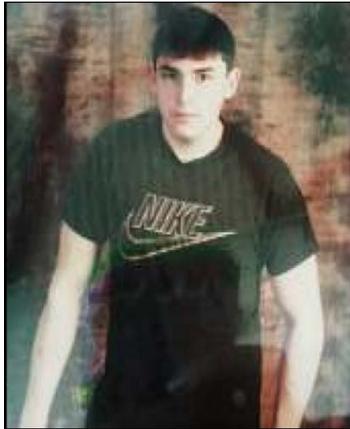


FPCC student Kaitlyn Tapaha is 20 years old and currently lives in Wolf Point, MT. She is seeking a degree in computer and web design and plans to graduate in the spring of 2016. "I am interested in the Sustainable Building Research Project because I would like to learn more about engineering and I feel like I can contribute to this project with my current knowledge in computers. Also I feel like this would be a great experience for me and would benefit me in the future should I pursue a career in engineering. This would broaden my horizon and help me to better the Fort Peck Reservation."



FPCC student David James is Assiniboine & Hunkpapa Sioux. David graduated with a 3.7 GPA in Business Administration and also the student senate President and FPCC Board member. "I was selected by the school to be the American Indian College Fund student of the year for 2013/2014. I will be moving on to my Bachelor's Degree at Sitting Bull College next fall to continue my education."





David Smith is a graduate of Fort Peck Community College with a certificate in Welding Technology who made Dean's List Fall of 2011 with a 3.8 GPA. David has participated in various college courses including, completing a 10-hour Occupational Safety Health Administration course, pipefitting certification, and is starting a Building Trades Associates of Applied Science Degree, which he hopes to graduate in the fall of 2015. He is very knowledgeable about various tools and equipment and has worked for Fort Peck Housing Authority during the summer of 2013 that sharpened his skills in different areas of carpentry. David loves to work with his hands and enjoy helping others in need, and believes that with the knowledge he learns from the research and mentoring program, that he will greatly help the environment, his community, and himself by gaining more experience in the vocational field.



Marcus Decoteau is a Fort Peck Community College student who likes to design and build. Marcus enjoys math and since he was young he liked to calculate situations such as the earth's weather patterns, rotation, or the forces of gravity.

Other members of the Fort Peck Community College Team include:

- Coordinator: Jonny Bear Cub
- Professional Engineer: Ashleigh Weeks
- STEM Faculty: Zara Berg

New at Student Services

New to Student Service staff is Judy Linthicum whom recently made the transition from Poplar's Wellness Center. Judy's enthusiasm and energetic personality is a perfect fit for the department, as she will work closely with the financial aid director as well as coordinating student activities.

Elijah Hopkins recently accepted the Vice President of Student Services position. Previously Elijah served as the Enrollment and Retention Specialist at the college. According to Hopkins, "I was presented with an opportunity to work closely with a team of professionals and I eagerly accepted. We all have a similar vision and I'm glad to be part of something so positive."

So stop by and say hello to our new additions to Student Services today! The crew is located at the War Eagle Vision building at FPCC's Poplar Campus or call 768 6300.

