

Oglala Lakota College



Annual Report 2017

Mission, Vision and Values

Vision

Rebuilding the Lakota Nation through Education.

Mission

The mission of OLC is to educate students for professional and vocational employment opportunities in Lakota country. The College will graduate well-rounded students grounded in *Wolakolkiciyapi* - learning Lakota ways of life in the community – by teaching Lakota culture and language as part of preparing students to participate in a multicultural world.

Values

Oglala Lakota College strives to practice and teach the values of traditional Lakota culture: *Ohitika* (Bravery), *Wacantognakapi* (Generosity), *Wowacintaka* (Fortitude), *Wokiksuye* (Remembrance), *Unsihanpi* (Humility), *Woyuonihan* (Respect), *Woonspe* (Learning), *Woslolye* (Knowledge), *Wookahnige* (Understanding) and *Woksape* (Wisdom).



OLC's 2017 graduating nurses. OLC is continuing to graduate as many culturally sensitive nurses as possible to meet the demand for Registered Nurses in Lakota Country and other medically underserved areas. Graduates pictured left to right at top are Gregory Salway, Marque Little White Man, Violet Fast Horse, April Byerley, Thelma Big Crow, Cori Barber and Tierney Wright. Bottom row Sarah Yellow Boy, Frances Morgan, Tricia Badmilk, Melita York and Michelle Alcantar.

Cover Art: Painted by Richard Red Owl, Oglala Lakota artist, who was born and lives on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. He was an OLC Board of Trustees member for years.

President's Letter

2017 was another good year for Oglala Lakota College. OLC hosted the annual American Indian Higher Education Consortium Conference in Rapid City, SD, a showcase and national meeting for Tribal College students. We had the opportunity to give national recognition to two people who left us in the previous years but who were very special to OLC and the Tribal College movement: Newton Cummings, OLC Board Member, and Wilmer Mesteth, Lakota Studies Instructor and Lakota spiritual leader. At AIHEC we also honored someone who was with OLC from the beginning in 1970 and recently retired. Mr. Tony Fresquez was present at the birth of the Lakota Higher Education Center, Oglala Sioux Community College and the initial accreditation of OLC in 1983. He served in many roles including VP for Student Services, Humanities Department Chair and Instructor. We were fortunate to honor Mr. Fresquez.

Graduation again was the high point of our year. We graduated six Master's, 54 bachelor's, 73 associates and 16 certificates. We received a report from Diverse Degrees in Education that from 2011 to 2016 OLC was ranked among Top Native American Degree producers: 1st AA in Office Technology, 1st AA in Construction, 1st AA in Auto Mechanics, 3rd BA in Native Studies, 5th in Master's, 5th BS in Social Services, 6th BA in Business, 6th AA in Education, 16th BA in Education, 7th BS in Information Technology, 8th BA in Social Science and 11th AA in Nursing.

We closed out our Allied Health grant which was a consortium of SD Technical Schools. We exceeded targets in almost every area by serving 269 participants with 146 completing a program of study. The key areas were Certified Nursing Assistant and Medical Coding. One-fourth of those who completed the program earned credentials, 75 were employed and 31 were enrolled in further education.

We plan on continuing the CNA program since there is a great need at nursing homes in the area including the OST Nursing Home in White Clay. The grant also helped us upgrade the Nursing Program with a van and new computerized training manikins.

We were able to assure the operation of the Lakota Woglaka Wounspe immersion school with a three-year Native American Language grant from the Department of Education. We were one of only five grants awarded. I have asked Dr. Dawn Frank to work with Principal Valarie Charging Eagle to assure we continue to make progress. We are also collaborating with the Lakota Day Care and Red Cloud Indian School to develop strong Lakota language programs on the Reservation.

We hosted a focus visit for accreditation from The Higher Learning Commission. I would like to commend our Board, faculty, staff, students and community for the hard work they put into the preparation of the report and the professional way they conducted themselves during the visit. We held off on doing a new strategic plan until we receive the HLC report so we can include their recommendations in our objectives. We began the strategic planning process and should receive the HLC report in early 2018.

Our students continued to work with the Oglala Sioux Tribe and other reservation groups. Faculty/Student Research included bison nutrition, genetics and behavior data, inventorying tribal collections, box turtle nutrition, genetics and behavior, greenhouses, sustainable housing design, gravel field mapping, annual stream health assessment, research on the in situ leach mine near Hot Springs, soil surveys and curating fossils and artifacts. In summary, OLC has worked closely to meet Tribal research needs in wildlife biology, cultural resources, sustainability through greenhouses, addressing concerns about uranium, and surface water quality.



OLC President Tom Shortbull congratulates Leola Bear Runner - Quiver for earning her BA in Lakota Studies.

Funding through a recently submitted National Science Foundation proposal is focused on continuing to meet these needs and addresses improvements in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math recruiting, math competency, retention, persistence and graduation rates.

I am pleased to announce that I was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame in 2017. I am pleased since this reflects well on the accomplishments of Oglala Lakota College since the majority of my career has been spent at OLC. There is a full report on the induction in the Spring 2017 Wichahpi newsletter which is on our website at www.olc.edu.

In terms of our Iwicacaga Sakowin Scholarship Endowment campaign we did very well this year. We brought in over \$6,400,000 dollars in direct mail, matching gifts, and bequests. The overall endowment total for all three endowments should reach \$50,000,000 in 2018.

I would like to direct you to our redesigned web site for more information on the College. We have redesigned it for ease of use and attractiveness. In Spring 2018 we will have a capital campaign section on the site.



Board of Trustees

OLC's Board of Trustees is comprised of nine representatives elected from the nine districts of the Reservation and representatives of the Oglala Sioux Tribal President, OST Education Committee of the Tribal Council, Student Senate and Council of Elders. There are Local Boards at each Instructional Center on Pine Ridge and student organizations at all 11 Instructional Centers.

The current members of the OLC Board of Trustees are:

Dennis Brewer, Pine Ridge District Representative; BOT Chair; former Director of Transportation for Shannon County Schools, Pine Ridge, SD.

Vacant, Medicine Root District Representative.

Anthony Wounded Head, BOT Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair, Porcupine District Representative; former Tribal Councilman, Porcupine, SD.

Madonna Peterson, BOT Secretary, Lacreek District Representative, Martin, SD.

Dr. Gloria Kitsopoulos, OST Education Committee Representative, Superintendent, American Horse School, Allen, SD.

Harry Eagle Bull, Tribal President's Representative, former Bureau of Indian Affairs Area Education Director, Porcupine, SD.

Bennett "Tuffy" Sierra, Wakpamni District Representative; BOT Vice-President; Community Leader/Counselor, Slim Buttes, SD.

Peter Red Willow, Eagle Nest District Representative; Community Leader/Student, Wanblee, SD.

Garfield Apple, Wounded Knee District Representative; former Oglala Sioux Tribal Councilman; Director OST Elderly Meals; Manderson, SD.

Leonardo Salomon, Pass Creek District Representative, Allen, SD.

Donovan Youngman, White Clay District Representative, Bus Driver for Shannon County Schools; Community Leader: Oglala, SD.

Tada Vargas, Student Senate Representative, Rapid City, SD.

Joe American Horse, Council of Elders Representative; former Oglala Sioux Tribal Chairman, Oglala, SD.

All BOT members are members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe.

We would like to thank Tada Vargas for her service as Student Senate Representative on the Board. We welcomed Joel Garnette to the Board as new Student Senate Representative in November 2017.

*Johnson Scholarship Foundation:
The Johnson Scholarship Foundation is dedicated to assisting disadvantaged people to obtain education and jobs which aligns with the mission of Oglala Lakota College. On pages 4 and 5 we have reprinted with their permission an article from their 2017 Annual Report. We would also like to again express our gratitude to them.*

President Thomas Shortbull

Miss OLC, Jamie White Face, is studying Business Administration.



Graduation 2017



Graduates being led by Kyle White, BS in Natural Science with emphasis on Earth Science, and Sheldon Two Crow, a traditional dancer, carrying the College staff. They are followed by Dr. Otakuye Conroy-Ben, keynote speaker, Thomas Shortbull, OLC President, Dennis Brewer, OLC Board of Trustees Chair, Troy "Scott" Weston, Oglala Sioux Tribal President, Dr. Dawn Frank, OLC VP for Instruction and Dr. Barry Dunn, President South Dakota State University.

The highlight of any year is our graduation. We hold it at our powwow grounds at Piya Wiconi in conjunction with a three day powwow. The graduates lead the Grand Entry for Sunday afternoon as part of the graduation ceremony and OLC provides a traditional Lakota meal. Friends, family members and the entire Reservation community gather to honor a great achievement.

Male graduates are given eagle feathers and female graduates are given eagle plumes which are traditional symbols of achievement in Lakota culture.

Graduation 2017 was very special. It was held on Father's Day.

Spiritual Leader Richard Moves Camp opened the festivities with a prayer. He has replaced Wilmer Mesteth, who died two years ago, as the spiritual helper for OLC. Prayer and Lakota ceremony are a key part of OLC in perpetuating Wolakolkiciyapi.

OLC Board of Trustees Chair Dennis Brewer welcomed everyone especially the fathers and grandfathers. He has been on the Board for 24 years and has two daughters who graduated from OLC.

Oglala Sioux Tribal President Troy "Scott" Weston said he was an especially

proud father who had a son achieve a Bachelor's degree that day. He praised the graduates as those who would maintain the Tribe and nation with a plan and keep the dreams of the youth alive.

President Shortbull was the Master of Ceremonies. He said that this was the first year that OLC had a Miss OLC and he introduced the 2017 Miss OLC, Jamie White Face. He introduced President Barry Dunn of South Dakota State University (a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe) and Interim President Dr. Jan Puszyński of SD School of Mines.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Otakuye Conroy-Ben (Titakuye Ota Win), Assistant Professor School of Sustainable Engineering and Built Environment, Arizona State University. She was born in Porcupine, SD and went to high school in Rapid City, SD.

Otakuye received a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Notre Dame and an M.A. in Analytical Chemistry, an M.S. in Environmental Engineering, and a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering, all from the University of Arizona. She then completed a post-doctoral appointment in Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Arizona. Her main

areas of research and interest are the environment especially water/wastewater treatment, emerging contaminants and sewer epidemiology. She is a board member of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society and founding member of the Indigenous Women in Science Network.

Dr. Conroy-Ben started her talk stating "It is a great day to be Lakota! I am a descendant of Oglala chiefs, Smoke and Red Shirt. I started my postsecondary education at the He Sapa College Center of OLC in Rapid City, SD. OLC started me on a path of success at Notre Dame and Arizona State."

She said her sister started at OLC and then achieved a Nursing degree from SDSU. Her mother obtained a Bachelor's from OLC.

She had the graduates stand and face the audience and give them a round of applause for their support. She congratulated the graduates and told them to pass their academic as well as traditional Lakota knowledge on in whatever fields they pursue. She hoped they would help preserve the environment, especially clean water, and right the injustices of the past.

Oglala Lakota College

Oglala Lakota College is chartered by the Oglala Sioux Tribe and serves students on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation and in Rapid City, South Dakota, where there is a sizable Native American population. The two reservations were ranked as the first and third poorest areas in America by a U.S. Census report in 2015.

Despite the poverty, OLC serves over 1,500 college students a year. OLC also serves 400 General Equivalency Diploma students and operates the Head Start program which serves 500 children a year from birth through age 5. OLC is not only a college; it is the base of development for the Oglala nation. Business and entrepreneurship programs are a key part of this development. The tribe, local nonprofits and businesses need accountants, program directors and managers. OLC offers a B.S. in business with specializations in accounting,

management, tribal management and entrepreneurship and a master's degree in Lakota leadership and management.

From 1996 to 2008 the Johnson Scholarship Foundation provided scholarships to students. OLC President Tom Shortbull and JSF agreed to establish the Johnson Scholarship Foundation Endowment with a grant of \$800,000, which OLC would have to match with \$1,200,000. The endowment was set up in 2009 and now has over \$2,269,000 in principal. OLC uses the earnings of \$144,000 annually to provide scholarships to business students and to support a business and entrepreneurship faculty member.

Students must maintain a GPA of over 2.5 and develop a mini business plan. Business plans have included an accounting firm, bowling alley and arts and crafts store. Student Heather Brings Plenty wrote a plan for a business called the Takoja (Grandchild) Day Care. Another recipient, Kenneth Keith, maintains a 3.82 average and plans a restaurant to serve healthy meals.

President Shortbull, who was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame in 2017 for his work with state government and the College, stated, "On behalf of our college community I would like to thank the Johnson Scholarship Foundation for partnering with us to support students who are the foundation for future business and economic development for the Lakota people."



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President Shortbull





Linda Scabby Face

Hello, my name is Linda Scabby Face. I am an Oglala Sioux Tribal member from Oglala on the Pine Ridge Reservation. I have two beautiful children and am one of 16 children born to Benedict Scabby Face and Gloria Martin.

My life was going in a downward spiral. It was spinning out of control until I thought of my family and children. I changed my life and views for the better to encourage my children to go to school. It was hard and painful at times. My aunt, Paulina Fast Wolf, who was the director of the White Clay College Center, talked to me and gave me the strength to get back on my feet and go back to school. Now I am determined to get my Bachelor of Science degree in Information Technology.

It has been a rough couple of years for everyone as we experienced grief and loss. The challenges for me personally were to watch my brother who was in a wreck lay in a hospital and not be able to enjoy life like he should. At 24 years old, the world is passing him by and there is nothing that I can say or do to make things better.

Then just before classes started in the Fall of 2006 I lost one of my sisters which put a huge strain on my family. She was the one person that I could confide in no matter what troubles I had. I know this world is nowhere close to being perfect but I can still dream that one day we can live in a world where there

are no challenges and hardships. I do my best to make sure I won't jeopardize my opportunity to continue with my schooling. I understand that it takes time and patience to overcome any obstacles that get put in my way.

To this day as a college student I understand the difficulties life throws at us, but we must keep moving forward to achieve our dreams. I challenge myself to dig deep within myself and focus on every angle of my education.

My career goal is to work in an environment where I can help a company achieve its goals and objectives while achieving my own personal growth and career development goals.

Technology fascinates me so much that I would like to pursue a Master's in Information Technology. In time I want to develop my own computer company. Technology is always growing and changing so we need to think about future technology advances.

The knowledge that I've acquired while pursuing my education will definitely help me in teaching our younger generation about the technology that is available. I want the future generations to be as passionate about education and learning about technology as I am.

My family and friends continually encourage me to pursue my education, because I would be the first in my family to graduate college. It makes them very



Linda Scabby Face is working towards a BS in Information Technology.

thrilled that I am challenging myself to push forward - not only for my benefit, but for the benefit of my children and those around me.

I'm proud of what OLC has helped me achieve so far: 2016-2017 & 2017-2018 Student Senate and Student Organization Senator for White Clay College Center, 2017-2018 Student Rep/Secretary for White Clay College Center Local Board, 2017 AIHEC Knowledge Bowl Captain, and 2016-2018 TRIO Peer Mentor.

I'd like to share some encouraging words from an unknown author that have inspired me.

"It's hard to wait around for something you know might never happen; but it's harder to give up when you know it's everything you want."



President Tom Shortbull congratulates Colby Weston who earned a BS in K-8 Elementary Education.



Pictured are OLC dancers and singers at AIHEC Conference 2017.

Kristina Iron Cloud

My name is Kristina Iron Cloud. My mother's name is Denise Brown Eyes from Slim Buttes, SD and my father is Gerald Iron Cloud from Porcupine, SD. My family comes from the Mila Yatapika (Knife Chief) society in Porcupine, SD. Currently, I reside in Rapid City with my two daughters.

Growing up on the Pine Ridge Reservation I had always attended meetings with my mother and learned to love coffee. Since then I had a sense of a planning attitude towards all things big and small. From middle school valedictorian to high school national honor society and Coca-Cola Scholar, I've consistently wanted to 'do my best'.

While a senior in high school I earned nine credits in College Algebra, Speech and Freshman Writing from OLC.

I studied Biological Anthropology at the University of New Mexico. Then I got married and travelled from the east to the west coast. I moved home for the birth of my first child who is now 5 years old.

Over the next few years my mother Denise taught me the art of making a star quilt. Throughout that process I learned a lot of what it means to listen and learn. I learned about my family's history and stories of my mother and her mother that I had not previously known. During this time the importance of oral history has never been more evident. For months she

only allowed me to cut fabric precisely and I pulled out more stitches than I had sewn!

About three years ago I applied for a small business loan from The Lakota Funds and purchased a long arm quilter. This was the beginning of my small business Emilie Elise Quilting. This was my income to support my children and myself while waiting to start OLC's Nursing program. I still create star quilts and have a website: www.eequilting.com.

I made the 90 mile drive for two years for class and I don't regret a minute of it! Not even a month after my last class I started my job at Rapid City Regional Health as a Registered Nurse in Progressive Care – Critical Care as identified in the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. I've obtained Basic Life Support, Advanced Cardiac Life Support certifications as well as Advanced Electrocardiogram Interpretation and am registered and studying to take the Trauma Nursing Core Course within the month. Within a few more months I will transition to Float Pool where I will have a variety of experiences from the Intensive Care Unit to the emergency department to pediatrics to oncology.

It is my intention to create a career with Rapid City Regional Hospital and help bridge the miscommunication between the Native American community and the hospital that we often see. I am currently taking courses with South Dakota State University to transition from RN-MSN and become an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse - Nurse Practitioner to ensure I achieve my own mission statement "*to be a consistent presence of culture and professional advocate for any patient that I care for.*"

Kristina Iron Cloud is pictured with her daughters Sienna and Sequoia (in her arms).



Matching Gifts - Foundations - Corporations for 2017

Matching

3 M Foundation
Aetna Foundation
Ball Corporation
Boeing Gift Matching Program
Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation
General Mills Foundation Gift Matching Program
IBM Matching Grants Program
Johnson & Johnson
Lilly US Matching Gifts Program
Merck Partnership for Giving
Millennium Pharmaceuticals Matching Gift Program
Northwestern Mutual Life Foundation
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program
Random House
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Schwab Charitable
Wells Fargo
Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign
YourCause Chevron Matching Employee Funds

Foundations and Corporations

Charles Frueauff Foundation Inc.
Coydog Foundation
Eagan Family Foundation, Inc.
Golden West Telecommunications
H C D Foundation
Huisking Foundation
J & E Trevor Charitable Foundation
Northern Star Foundation
The First National Bank of Gordon
The Helen G. Hauben Foundation
William M. Hales Foundation
Winky Foundation

Oglala Lakota College thanks all our donors in 2017 including staff, faculty, Board of Trustees, Oglala Sioux Tribe, Districts, community members, federal agencies as well as the companies who matched employee gifts and the foundations and corporations who gave. We again thank the thousands of individuals who gave through direct mail or online. Please go to olc.edu to find out more about the College and our capital campaign to build our Student Scholarship Endowment - *Sakowin Iwicacaga* (The Seventh Generation).



Graduate Arthur Hopkins is being honored by having an eagle feather tied to his hair at graduation. He earned a BA in Lakota Studies with emphasis in Indian Law.

College Information

Students Fall 2017

Enrollment	1,246
Indian Students	1,179 (94.6%)
Full-time Equivalent (FTE)	1,032
Full-time Students	731 (58.7%)
Part-time Students	515 (41.3%)
Male	419 (34%)
Female	827 (66%)
Entering Freshmen	83
Seniors	109
Graduate Students	16

Graduates 2017

Master's	6
Bachelor's	54
Associates	73
Certificates	16

Staff

Postsecondary Staff	152
Full-Time Faculty	66
Adjunct Faculty	132
Head Start Staff	125

Budget Information

(Fiscal Year ending 9/30/17)	
Payroll and Fringe	\$17,116,056
Construction/Equipment	\$335,450
Facilities Maintenance	\$548,750
Other Operating Costs	\$7,208,808
Student Support	\$4,425,042
Pell	\$3,560,499

Endowment

Faculty	\$25,834,547
Student Scholarships	\$21,885,767
Maintenance	\$1,305,694

Student Life

Oglala Lakota College has a unique structure. Our students live in their home communities and go to classes at our 11 Instructional Centers. We have a Center in each District of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, a Center in Eagle Butte, SD and a Center in Rapid City, SD.

Each Center has a student organization and OLC maintains a student government. Students participate in governance through the Piya Wiconi Okolakiciye which includes staff, faculty and students in decision-making and policy development. The Student Organizations select delegates to the overall Student Senate which in turn selects a voting Student Representative on the OLC Board of Trustees.

Governance is not the only activity of the Student Organizations. Students work with faculty and staff on the big College-wide events which include the Wazi Paha Festival, Graduation powwow, Homecoming, Wilmer Mesteth Day, and new student orientation. Events at each Center include graduate and Akicita (Veterans') honorings and workshops in a variety of areas such as hand games, ledger art, tipi raising, Lakota star knowledge, etc.

We have two athletic teams, men's and women's basketball, which compete against area colleges. Our Lakota singers, drummers and dancers participated in the

reservation-wide powwows sponsored by the Teca Okolakiciye Reservation dance society. We sent a large contingent of students to the American Indian Higher Education Consortium Annual Student Conference. Students competed in men's and women's basketball, co-ed volleyball, women's volleyball, and archery.

The AIHEC conference is not only athletics. At the 2017 AIHEC Spring Conference our students took 1st Place in the Science Bowl, 2nd place in the Science Poster and Science Oral competitions, 3rd place in the Business Bowl, 1st place in Quill Work and 3rd place in Leather work. Our students also took 2nd place in Individual Chess and 2nd place in Team Chess. We had 1st and 2nd places in numerous Speech categories including Informative, Persuasive, Oral Interpretation Serious, Oral Interpretation Humorous, Duo Interpretation 2 Part, Duo Interpretation Humorous and One Act Play. Our hand games team took 2nd place in the team competition, Best Hider and Best Group Singers.

An exciting aspect of our student life is outreach to the schools on the reservation. This work has a two-fold benefit, it encourages young people to become involved in athletic activity and acts as a recruitment awareness opportunity for future college students.

This past year we have had 587 youth and 57 adults participate in soccer and 587 youth and 98 adults participate in youth baseball. We also sponsored an NBA Coaches' Clinic. Six schools have been active in participating in OLC athletic activities: Pahin Sinte Owayawa, Little Wound, American Horse, Red Cloud and Wounded Knee.



Pictured in front of a beautiful traditional star quilt is Trivia D. Afraid of Lightning who received an MA in Lakota Leadership & Management.

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