Re: UC Repatriation Committee Candidate Outreach

Dear UC Davis Campus Community,

This correspondence is soliciting nominations from qualified and passionate candidates to serve on the University of California NAGPRA Committees. Respectful repatriation rooted in meaningful tribal consultation is required by California NAGPRA (CalNAGPRA). Furthermore, CalNAGPRA requires the UC to establish both Campus and Systemwide NAGPRA Committees. (Health and Saf. Code §8026) These committees are platforms for passionate advocates to ensure legal compliance, cultural respect, and the decolonization of the UC’s repatriation practices.

The committees are composed of both UC and Native American representatives. All members must be reviewed and nominated by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) before appointment by the UC. (Id.) The NAHC is continually accepting nominations for all positions. More information and application packets can be found here.

Committee members can expect to commit 8-14 hours per semester. The committee will meet 2-4 times per quarter/semester to discuss specific collections and campus repatriation policy.

All UC representatives must meet the following criteria:

- Have a graduate degree and five years of working experience in either Archaeology, Anthropology, Native American Studies, Ethnic Studies, Law, Sociology, Environmental Studies, or History, with a focus in California.

Preference will be given to members “who have demonstrated, through their professional experience, the ability to work in collaboration with Native American tribes successfully on issues related to repatriation or museum collection management” (Health and Saf. Code §8026(c)(2)). The UC Policy currently allows the UC to make exceptions to the above qualifications provided that the nominee is approved by the NAHC, and such exceptions promote repatriation and amplify the UC Policy’s Purpose and Guiding Principles.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns to calnagpra@nahc.ca.gov.

Respectfully,
Mario Pallari (he/him)
Attorney
Native American Heritage Commission