

AISES 2017

The American Indian Science and Engineering Society 2017 Conference gathered 1900 attendees, 200 exhibitors, 40 sessions during 3 days in September. 29 PNW-COSMOS students, mentors and personnel and Sloan Indigenous Graduate Partnership Scholars and personnel were in attendance.



For the last 40 years, AISES has been the conference that connects Indigenous students and scholars at all levels, providing networking opportunities, professional development, and a forum for presenting research conducted by and for Indigenous peoples. Twenty students from our Alliance institutions attended the 2017 AISES Conference in Denver, Colorado, September 21-24. Sixteen of the students were invited to give either a poster or oral presentation.

Photo credit: Stephan Chase

Taymee Brandon (Tech) and Dionne Zoanni (MSU) received AISES Travel Scholarship Awards. Ranalda Tsosie (UM) was awarded 1st place in the graduate poster category. Daylen Isaac (WSU) received Honorable Mention. It was wonderful to have so many students attend and present! A special congratulations to Taymee, Daylen, Dionne, and Ranalda!

Six Heritage students presented posters:

- Michael Buck presented “Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) of Asum (Pacific Lamprey *Entosphenus tridentatus*) Interpreting TEK through Yakama Nation Culturally Relevant Methods”;
- Brooke Capetillo presented “Characterization of Bacteria from the Wheat Rhizosphere”;
- Cristy Fiander presented “Updating the Yakama Nation “Winter Wildlife Sanctuaries” Map using a Geographic Information System”;
- Zane Ketchen presented “Marker-Assisted Selection for Photoperiod Insensitivity in the Nuña Popping Bean”;
- Robyn Raya presented “Diversity and abundance estimation of non-target fish species community in two Yakama Nation streams”;

- Corbin Schuster presented, and was awarded 2nd place in the undergraduate competition, “Impact of Varying Fat Source and Fat Concentration on Reduced Chow Consumption Following Short Access to High Fat Diet”.

Two Northwest Indian College students presented posters:

- Dineh Judd presented “Assessing the Suitability of the Lummi Reservation for Coastal Prairie Habitat”;
- Na’ta’ne Miles presented “Necrotrophic Fungi Associated with Seed of a Traditional Food Plant, Great Camas (*Camassia leichtlinii*), at a Tribal College”.

Two Montana State University students and one recent graduated doctoral student presented two oral presentations and one poster:

- Audrey Harvey spoke about “Modifying seeding date of perennial grass species to improve restoration of disturbed areas”;
- Dr. Anita Moore-Nall spoke about “Mongolian language reflects changes in place names with changes in geomorphology in the Darhad Valley”;
- Dionne Zoanni presented a poster on “Traditional knowledge systems and tribal water governance on Fort Peck Reservation, MT”.

Two University of Montana students presented posters:

- Moses Leavens presented “Denatured state conformational bias in a 3-helix bundle”;
- Ranalda Tsosie presented, and was awarded 1st place in the graduate competition, “Confronting Mine Waste Contamination in Navajo Communities Combining Traditional Knowledge and Western Science”.

Two Washington State University students presented posters:

- Tyler Fouty presented “How do debris flow mechanics differ with changes in scale?”;
- Daylen Isaac presented, and received an honorable mention in the graduate competition, “Characterizing the impact of biochar on plant growth and development”.

Additionally, Robert Dorsey (MSU), Taymee Brandon and CJ Holland (Tech), and Jennifer Harrington (UM) attended the conference to network and for professional development opportunities.