We Turned Pages of History Together
~ By Tom Lidot

In 2004 the focus of Tribal STAR was to provide training to non-tribal social workers. Originally funded to develop and implement training to improve outcomes for rural tribal foster youth aging out of the system. We quickly learned of the lack of communication between Independent Living services, the Indian Specialty Unit of San Diego, and tribal social services. The challenges began to resolve as soon as folks knew of each other. Hence, the importance of full introductions at the beginning of each meeting.

After doing Ten (10) plus trainings we realized the same questions came up over and over. What resources are available? Who to contact? How to engage in a culturally responsive manner? These questions were plotted on a continuum which was published in the Child Welfare Journal “Continuum of readiness for collaboration, ICWA compliance and reducing disproportionality.”

In 2009, we were asked by Casey Family Programs, to be involved in the Breakthrough Series Collaborative to Address Disproportionality to lead the Native American effort for California. This resulted in many products and publications: Following the Spirit of ICWA, Reasons Why People Do Not Claim Their Heritage, digital stories of Native youth, and the FACES video.
At our very first Judges’ Dinner in 2012 we had five (5) judges attend. A visiting judge from White Earth Nation told the story of her last day on the job as tribal judge. That day she called the state court to unseal records of an adult adoptee who had been part of the tribal community but never could prove connection because her records were sealed. By our second Judges’ Dinner we were able to help an adoptee from San Diego connect to his tribe because our local presiding judge was at the dinner and unsealed his mother’s records (she was also an adoptee).

Every year at the time of autumn equinox, Tribal STAR hosts a gathering of partners and stakeholders to acknowledge our collective successes and individuals who championed them. For me, 2013 was pivotal because we began to honor the families who provided safety and permanency for Native children. Suddenly it felt like a true Native event, children ran around the room, the music was loud, and the conversations were raucous. Celebration was held in Pala that year and it will always be held close to my heart.

In 2016 the 7th Generation Workgroup to Address Disproportionality *(7th Generation Meeting notes are below)* wanted to expand their reach to other counties in the region. I was skeptical that a group of 25 workers from different organizations would travel 1-2 hours each way for a 4-hour meeting in another county. I was wrong. Through this group we’ve been able to increase collaboration and support county ICWA specialists/coordinators and tribes in San Diego, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Orange County.

In 2017 we turned the pages of history. The years of successful ICWA training led to the California Department of Social Services adopting and implementing a full day of ICWA training into the common core. One hundred and sixty-six (166) years after the first governor of California declared that an extermination of Indians was inevitable, newly hired social workers are required to have a full day of ICWA training.

Since 2004 the program has evolved to do more than train social workers. Tribal STAR also promotes best practices in child welfare, court improvement, and builds community through effective collaboration. Our model is well documented. But it lives through the work each of us does every day. Until every child is safe, has a sense of belonging, and has a positive identity related to their heritage our work is not done. Please continue, the torch is passed to you.

There are so many individuals who made things happen along this path less traveled. A personal thank you to each of you who advanced the cause and mission. Together we created a true sense of belonging and modeled a definition of extended family that did not end on May 25, 2018 and continues as long as we stay connected.

~ By Tom Lidot

**Dear Colleagues,**
I have resigned from my position at Tribal STAR/The SDSU Academy effective May 25, 2018. As a result, the Judges’ Dinner will be postponed. Our Community Leadership Team is led by Lisa Tange, Casey Family Programs and she’ll be sending a notice to everyone as a new date is set. I apologize for any inconvenience.

I will continue to work for tribal communities in the areas of child welfare and self-determination and am continuing as a consultant advisor for the Center for Tribes. It has been 15 years of a journey less traveled and I’ve had the opportunity to work with some of the most committed and passionate champions in the field. Together we created a true sense of belonging and modeled a definition of extended family that does not end on May 25th.

Sincerely,
Tom

For Tribal STAR inquiries contact
Kim Mettler, Training and Curriculum Coordinator: Kmettler@sdsu.edu
Sunni Dominguez, Community Liaison/Program Assistant: Sadominguez@sdsu.edu

If you need to reach me personally use this email: TomLidot@pacific-mtn.com for all future communications.

The Family First Act – A New Resource for Tribes

The Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute (CNA Y) hosted a panel presentation entitled “Child Welfare in Tribal Communities: Implementing the Family First Prevention Services Act” as a part of our Policy and Resource Roundtable series. Additionally, CNA Y simulcasted this convening as a first-of-its-kind webinar, which can be viewed here.

Passed as part of the most recent appropriations package, the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) will significantly restructure federal child welfare revenue streams, provide new accountability mechanisms to tribes, and ensure that more children in foster care are placed with families. CNA Y’s roundtable explored how state, federal, and tribal governments can best coordinate in implementing FFPSA. We also discussed the most pressing unanswered questions about the new law and identified strategies together to support tribes and tribal organizations in its successful implementation.

For the latest information on local efforts and tribal advocacy for Family First contact Michael Huesca, Executive Director: Michael@sandiegopop.org
He is an active member of the California Child Welfare Council
And a consultant for the Children’s Bureau Center for States.

7th Generation

Hi Team,
Here are the notes from our last 7th Gen meeting. Thank you Lisa Williams for capturing these notes, and thank you Ann Bloxom, Cristine Smith-Snapper, and Sandra Flores for hosting the meeting. It was productive and energizing to see the collaboration. Please help take an active role to keep 7th Generation moving forward.
Best regards,
Tom
New Products from the Capacity Building Center for Tribes

Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ
Webinar Series

We hope you'll join us for an opportunity to learn more about the historical roles and identities of Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ people, how historical/intergenerational trauma has impacted this community, and the efforts to bring back balance, beauty, and acceptance.

Walking in Two Worlds: Understanding the Impact of Historical and Intergenerational Trauma on the Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ Community
June 13, 2018 @ 3:00 Eastern

Lenny Hayes, national expert and trainer, as well as member of the Center for Tribes National Advisory Committee, will provide an introduction and learning opportunity during the first webinar in this two-part series: Walking in Two- Worlds: Understanding the Impact of Historical and Intergenerational Trauma on the Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ Community.

Lenny will be joined by Sandy White Hawk, also a member of the Center for Tribes National Advisory Committee, for the second webinar, Supporting Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ Youth, and together they will offer an opportunity for those who work with youth to gain an understanding of Two-Spirit/Native LGBTQ identities and how to create safe and welcoming environments.

Each webinar will begin at 3:00 Eastern and will last for approximately 90 minutes. Visit the linked webinar pages above to learn more and register!

Lakota Worldview: Cultural Teachings to Support Native Children as they Grow
The Smooth Journey

A new video from the Center for Tribes features Ethleen Iron Cloud-Two Dogs and Richard Two Dogs as they share information about the Lakota Worldview and stages of life and the ceremonies that are part of those stages. This is the first video in a two-part series that demonstrates what the journey is like when smooth and free from interruption.

Lakota Worldview - The Smooth Journey

Interested in creating something similar for your own tribal community? Rick and Ethleen share more information about their process and their thoughts for other tribal communities in this companion handout.

“We developed the process we call the Lakota Worldview from the spiritual teachings of where we came from. We’re on a journey. Every individual has a specific purpose for which they come to earth. Everybody has a role.

The journey is supposed to be smooth. There are ceremonies and rituals put in place to make a smooth journey on this earth. However, there are interruptions – severe, life altering events. What do we do in those times? What do we do in response? Being healing-informed (instead of trauma-informed) in response to a temporary, impactful event where we focus on the healing, not the trauma, is important.
We put all of this into words – the cultural worldview, in our case, the Lakota Worldview. We developed this so others can access it. Everything is in a circle. We’ve gone away from our teachings – many times by force. We’re moving back to the teachings."

– Ethleen Iron Cloud-Two Dogs and Richard Two Dogs

The Center for Tribes is pleased to share a new resource from the Best regards,

Kathy Deserly, Co-Project Director
Capacity Building Center for Tribes
Capacity Building Collaborative
(406) 437-2893 – Fax: (406) 545-2227
Email: Kathy@CBC4Tribes.org
Websites: https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/tribes/
Tribal Information Exchange

15th Annual Community Celebration
- Sharing Best Practices for Collaboration & ICWA Implementation
- Honoring Champions
- Honoring History
- 2003 – 2018

Friday
September 21, 2018
San Diego, CA

ANNOUNCEMENT

7th Annual Judges’ Dinner
HAS BEEN POSTPONED

CONTACT
LISA TANGE, CASEY FAMILY PROGRAMS
LTANGE@CASEY.ORG

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES
Up-to-date research applicable to those who work with Tribal foster youth

POLICY, LEGISLATION, LAW AND PROMISING PRACTICES
Newly published articles foundational for those who work with Tribal foster youth
FUNDING AND EVENTS
Current Pow Wows, trainings and conferences

TRIBAL STAR TRAINING
Tribal STAR trainings in a variety of areas relevant to Tribal foster youth and their communities

You have noticed that everything an Indian does is in a circle, and that is because the Power of the World always works in circles, and everything and everything tries to be round.

In the old days all our power came to us from the sacred hoop of the nation and so long as the hoop was unbroken the people flourished.

The flowering tree was the living center of the hoop, and the circle of the four quarters nourished it. The east gave peace and light, the south gave warmth, the west gave rain and the north with its cold and mighty wind gave strength and endurance.

This knowledge came to us from the outer world with our religion.

Everything the power of the world does is done in a circle.

The sky is round and I have heard that the earth is round like a ball and so are all the stars.

The wind, in its greatest power, whirls.

Birds make their nests in circles, for theirs is the same religion as ours.

The sun comes forth and goes down again in a circle.

The moon does the same and both are round.

Even the seasons form a great circle in their changing and always come back again to where they were.

The life of a man is a circle from childhood to childhood, and so it is in everything where power moves.

Our teepees were round like the nests of birds, and these were always set in a circle, the nation's hoop, a nest of many nests, where the Great Spirit meant for us to hatch our children.

Black Elk, Holy Man of the Oglala Sioux 1863-1950

Over a hundred years ago Black Elk had a vision of the time when Indian people would heal from the devastating effects of European migration. In his vision the Sacred Hoop which had been broken, would be mended in seven generations. The children born into this decade will be the seventh generation.
Developmental Assets and Risky Sexual Behaviors Among American Indian Youth (in Special Issue: Development of Sexual Risk in Minority Youth: Risk and Protective Factors in Early Adolescence)

Author: Greene, K. M., Eitle, D., McNulty Eitle, T.
Published: 2018
Journal: Journal of Early Adolescence Vol. 38, No. 1, p. 50-73
Information: This study examined the relationship between developmental assets during early and mid-adolescence and early adult sexual behaviors among American Indians... The results indicated that certain assets during early and mid-adolescence, such as self-control, family support, and school attachment, were protective for various risky sexual behaviors in early adulthood.

Identifying the Needs of American Indian Women Who Sought Shelter: A Practitioner-Researcher Partnership

Author: Fox, K. A. Fisher, B. S. Decker, S. H.
Published: 2018
School of Criminal Justice.
Journal: Journal of Family Violence Vol. 33, No. 8, p. 251-256
Information: ...the findings reveal that the domestic violence agency service provider is meeting many of their needs. Findings also indicate that clients have a wide variety of specific personal needs (e.g., safety, housing, transportation), needs relating to their children (e.g., safety, education, socialization), community needs (e.g., relating to their tribe), as well as legal needs (e.g., help obtaining a restraining order or divorce). These multifaceted needs are discussed and specific recommendations are provided for successful researcher-practitioner partnerships.

Foster Care Children's Kinship Involvement and Behavioral Risks: A Longitudinal Study

Author: Gayle L. Blakely, Scott C. Leon, Anne K. Fuller, and Grace J. Bai
Published: 2018
Journal: Journal of Child and Family Studies, 26
Information: These results highlight the importance of assessing children’s kinship networks and individual strengths early in foster care.

Parental History of Adversity and Child Well-Being: Insights From Colorado

Author: Watanura, S. E.; Brown, S. M.
Published: 2017
Information: This report utilizes data from the Adverse Childhood Experiences module of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and from a linked State-initiated Child Health Survey to evaluate the impacts of parental history of adversity not only on their own adult health, but on the current health and well-being of their children in Colorado.

Perspectives of youth in foster care on essential ingredients for promoting self-determination and successful transition to adult life: My life model

Author(s): Laurie E. Powers, Ann Fullerton, Jessica Schmidt, Sarah Geenen, Molly Oberweiser-Kennedy, John Dohrn, Mary Nelson, Rosemary Iavanditti, Jennifer Blakelee, The Research Consortium to Increase the Success of Youth in Foster Care
Published: 2018
Information: Themes emerged around the centrality of youth self-direction, important processes in the coaching relationship, the essential value of experiential activities and self-determination skill development, and peer mentoring experiences that youth identified as fostering their success. Implications are discussed for research and practice in supporting youth exiting foster care.

Spaces of hope? Youth perspectives on health and wellness in indigenous communities

Author (s): Lyda W., David K., Kate S.
Published: 2018
Journal: Health & Place, Volume 50, March 2018, Pages 137-145
Information: In this article, we urge scholars and practitioners to rethink how we conduct health research to include methodologies that listen to the narratives and experiences of those who, day in and day out, navigate settler colonial landscapes, while continuing to create spaces of hope and healing.

Tracing the pathway from mental health screening to services for children and youth in foster care

Author(s): Michael D. Pultmann, Jedediah Jacobson, Elizabeth Parker, Molly Cevasco, Suzanne E. U. Kems
Published: 2018
Information:...States considering or employing the use of screening tools should weigh a variety of approaches to screening, assessment, and referral to services in order to ensure maximal benefit.
It's All Relative: Supporting Kinship Care Discussion Guides and Video Series
Published: 2018
Information: Illustrates the complex dynamics of family relationships and caregiver support needs through real-life stories of kinship caregivers.

Sibling Relationships Of Youth In Foster Care: A Predictor Of Resilience
Author(s): Wojciak, Armada S.; McWey, Lenore M.; Waid, Jeffery.
Published: 2018
Journal Name: Children and Youth Services Review v. 84, January 2018, p. 247-254
Information: …The promotion of sibling relationships, a readily available resource, can be drawn upon by those in clinical practice to improve outcomes for youth in foster care.

Youth Participation In Foster Youth Advisory Boards: Perspectives Of Facilitators
Author(s): Havlicek, Judy.; Curry, Ashley.; Villalpando, Fabiola.
Published: 2018
Journal Name: Children and Youth Services Review v. 84, January 2018, p. 255-270
Information: Our discussion explores implications for YAB program activities, youth participation in child welfare systems, and future research.

POLICY, LEGISLATION AND LAW
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Interagency, Cross-Sector Collaboration to Improve Care for Vulnerable Children: Lessons for California From Six State Initiatives
Author(s): Silow-Carroll, Sharon.; Rodin, Diana.; Pham, Anh.
Published: 2018
Information: Intended for California practitioners and policymakers, this report discusses the lack of coordination of services for children and youth with special needs and describes six programs in five States that implemented collaboration mechanisms such as interagency councils and task forces, data sharing agreements, and new departments or full-time equivalents focused on fostering communication and coordination across programs for vulnerable children.

Links to State and Tribal Child Welfare Law and Policy
Author: Child Welfare Information Gateway
Administration on Children, Youth, and Families
Published: 2018
Information: Child welfare professionals require ready access to State laws and regulations regarding decisions that affect child safety and well-being. This publication provides web addresses for State statutes that are accessible online and lists the parts of the code for each State and territory that contain the laws addressing child protection, child welfare, adoption, legal guardianship as a permanency option, and services for youth aging out of foster care.

Judicial Update
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California Tribal Court-State Court Forum
Publishes: Monthly 2018
Information: Forum E-Update from the Judicial Council of California regarding current research, conferences and funding opportunities

Promising Practices
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Challenges in Developing U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Child Health Recommendations
Author(s): Kemper, Alex R.; Krist, Alex H.; Tseng, Chien-Wen.; Gillman, Matthew W.; Mabry-Hernandez, Iris R.; Silvestri, Michael.; Chou, Roger.; Lozano, Paula.; Calonge, B. Nedrow.; Wolff, Tracy A.
Published: 2018
Journal: American Journal of Preventive Medicine v. 54, 1 Suppl. 1, January 2018, S63-S69
Information: The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) uses an objective evidence-based approach to develop recommendations. As part of this process, the USPSTF also identifies important research gaps in scientific evidence.

Relative Placement: The Best Answer for Our Foster Care System
Author: Edwards, Leonard.
Published: 2018
Information: Research findings are cited that indicate relative placement are the most stable
CURRENT GRANTS AND FUNDING

Microgrant Program: Putting our money where the youth are
Deadline: July 1, 2018
Information: Micro-grants of up to $1,000 will be awarded to kids age 18 and under for service projects in their communities...

William T. Grant Foundation Seeks Applications for Inequality Research
Deadline: August 1, 2018
Information: This grants program supports research on reducing inequality or improving the use of research evidence.

Herb Block Foundation Accepting Applications for Projects That Defend Basic Freedoms
Deadline: October 4, 2018 (Letters of Inquiry)
Information: This program helps safeguard the basic freedoms guaranteed in our Bill of Rights, to help eliminate all forms of prejudice and discrimination, and to assist government agencies to be more accountable to the public.

Indian Housing Block Grant Program
Deadline: Rolling
Information: The Indian Housing Block Grant Program (IHBG) is a formula grant that provides a range of affordable housing activities on Indian reservations and Indian areas. The block grant approach to housing for Native Americans was enabled by the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA). Eligible IHBG recipients are Federally recognized Indian tribes or their tribally designated housing entity (TDHE), and a limited number of state recognized tribes who were funded under the Indian Housing Program authorized by the United States Housing Act of 1937 (USHA).

Indian Community Development Block Grant
Deadline: Rolling
Information: The ICDBG Program provides eligible grantees with direct grants for use in developing viable Indian and Alaska Native Communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities, primarily for low and moderate income persons.

Karma for Cara Foundation
Deadline: Open
Applications for Youth Microgrants
Information: Grants will be awarded to kids 18 and under for service projects in their communities.

Partnership With Native Americans
PWNA serves Native Americans through eight distinct [funding] programs.

Public Welfare Foundation Accepting LOIs for Social Justice Programs
Deadline: Ongoing
Information: Grants will be awarded in support of efforts to advance justice and opportunity for people in need through criminal justice, juvenile justice, and workers’ rights programs.

Start a Snowball
Applications for Youth Philanthropy Projects
Deadline: Rolling
Information: Grants will be awarded in support of philanthropic projects led by youth between the ages of 5 and 18.

Aiden’s Red Envelope Foundation Supports Families of Children With Special Needs
Deadline: Rolling
Information: Grants of up to $5,000 will be awarded to Southern California families that have children with disabilities for special equipment, therapy, summer camps, or treatments.

Craft Emergency Relief Fund Accepting Applications From Craftspeople In Need
Deadline: Open
Information: Grants and loans of up to $8,000 will be awarded to professional craftspeople experiencing career-threatening illness, accident, fire, theft, or natural disaster.

Grants.gov Calendar
Native American Scholarship Resources:
American Indian Graduate Center
College Scholarships.Org
The Gates Millennium Scholars Program

EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

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This Calendar contains local events and conferences both local and national that will be of interest to placements.
Approximately 8000 Tribal and non-Tribal professionals, leaders, public Human Service agency staff, regional training academy staff and university students have received training throughout the project. The training package provides up-to-date, research-based information in a variety of areas, including: the youth development philosophy, methods for collaboration, effective ways to work with rural populations, effective ways to work with Tribal rural foster youth and their communities, the Indian Child Welfare Act, and the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Act.

For more information regarding trainings in your area please contact technical assistance.

To register for one of the trainings below please contact:

Kim Mettler  
Training and Curriculum Coordinator  
Academy for Professional Excellence SDSU School of Social Work  
Phone: (619) 594-3217 Fax: (619) 594-1118  
Email: Kmettler@sdsu.edu  
Sunni Dominguez
INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT (ICWA): WORKING WITH NATIVE AMERICAN FAMILIES AND TRIBES

ICWA: Working with Native American Families and Tribes is intended to provide social workers with foundational knowledge of the Indian Child Welfare Act and best practices.

All ICWA Trainings –
Training 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Continental Breakfast and working lunch included
*Note the pre-requisite to attend these trainings is a 60-90 minute eLearning on ICWA Introduction. For registration please contact:
Sunni Dominguez – sadominguez@sdsu.edu or call 619-594-6107.

Next training: TBA

SUMMIT

The Summit provides an overview of Native American culture, history, and distrust of government systems and services. The training include first-hand accounts of Tribal youth experiences receiving CWS services. Participants engage in collaborative brainstorming to support goals and objectives. The training allows organizations to focus on specific challenges and identify solutions.

Next training: TBA

The Other Side of ICWA

The Other Side of ICWA is intended to address “the spirit of the law” and those concerns missing in traditional training that are essential for successful implementation of ICWA.

Next training: TBA

GATHERING

The Gathering provides an overview of Native American culture, history, and distrust of government systems and services. The training reviews the unique issues that affect adolescent development of Tribal youth. Participants engage in collaborative brainstorming. The Gathering provides first hand accounts of Tribal youth who have experienced receiving CWS services and basic communication techniques that support more trusting relations with Tribal youth and families. The training allows organizations to focus on specific challenges and identify solutions.

Next training: TBA

COLLABORATIVE

The Collaborative is an adapted half-day training designed to introduce Tribal and non-Tribal child welfare workers to the challenges of serving Tribal foster youth. It covers a brief historical overview and concludes with recommendations that support increased communication and collaboration among providers that strive to achieve positive outcomes for Tribal youth.

Next training: TBA

T4T

Training for Trainers focus on skill building to lead cross-cultural discussions that result in positive outcomes. The training also helps participants learn how to conduct Tribal STAR training in their area. Topics covered in the training include cross-cultural communication, cultivating and maintaining trust-based relationships, and understanding how history affects today’s relationships between CWS and Tribal programs.

Next training: TBA

The training will be from 8am – 5pm.
Working lunch provided.
Participants will need to complete the pre-requisite ICWA eLearning before March 13.
Preference is given to individuals who plan to train ICWA in 2018-2019, and county child welfare staff who serve as ICWA liaisons, coordinators, or specialists.
Location TBD.

For more information contact Sunni Dominguez sadominguez@sdsu.edu.

E-LEARNING
ICWA Bias, Media and Historical Context eLearning: This eLearning course will explore how media and propaganda have affected our perceptions resulting in a bias toward American Indians. During this course you will be asked to identify three events in American history related to American Indians – and what do these events have in common?

For more information contact:
Kim Mettler
Training and Curriculum Coordinator
Academy for Professional Excellence SDSU School of Social Work
Phone: (619) 594-3217 Fax: (619) 594-1118
Email: Kmettler@sdsu.edu

Sunní Dominguez
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Email: Sadominguez@sdsu.edu

NEXT ISSUE
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General information, pertinent articles and resources related to Native American Foster Youth can be sent to us at tstar@mail.sdsu.edu for inclusion in the next edition of the Tribal ST AR eNewsletter. Whenever possible please make submissions 3 weeks prior to publication of the next newsletter. The next issue will be published the first week of July. All submissions will be reviewed and are published at the sole discretion of the Tribal ST AR editorial staff.

For current news, thoughts and events follow us on Twitter
#T ribalST ARNews

T ribal ST AR

T ribal ST AR is a program of Academy for Professional Excellence, a project of San Diego State University School of Social Work.

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can update your preferences, unsubscribe from this list or email acraven@sdsu.edu.

Note: documents in Portable Document Format (PDF) require Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.0 or higher to view, download Acrobat Reader.
Note: documents in Word format (DOC) require Microsoft Viewer, download word.
Note: documents in Excel format (XLS) require Microsoft Viewer, download Excel.
Note: documents in Powerpoint format (PPT) require Microsoft Viewer, download PowerPoint.
Note: documents in Quicktime Movie format [MOV] require Apple Quicktime, download Quicktime.