



April 8, 2021

Dear Campus Community,

The UC Office of the President (UCOP) issued the [Native American Cultural Affiliation and Repatriation Interim Policy](#) on July 24, 2020 to clarify the process by which all UC campuses will implement the Federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and California NAGPRA (CalNAGPRA). NAGPRA protects Native American graves and requires repatriation of Native American human remains and certain cultural items (funerary objects, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony). Repatriation is the process of returning Native American ancestral human remains and certain cultural items to their indigenous communities. UC Santa Cruz is fully committed to the goal of repatriation as well as implementation of this policy and relevant laws. The Interim Policy substantially revised the previous policy to promote the repatriation of Native American human remains and cultural items, and to increase accountability and transparency across all UC campuses.

I write to raise awareness of new policy requirements, affirm the campus's commitment to the guiding principles and procedures, provide mechanisms to report if you believe you or others may hold Native American or Native Hawaiian human remains or cultural items, and enlist your assistance ensuring the campus fully complies with this important human rights policy. In particular, I want to draw your attention to the following significant elements of the new policy, which:

- Articulates principles that the repatriation of Native American and Native Hawaiian human remains is a fundamental objective and value of the university.
- Requires campuses to proactively review existing collections or other holdings that may potentially contain Native American or Native Hawaiian human remains or cultural items.
- Prohibits the use of Native American or Native Hawaiian human remains or cultural items in research or instruction activities without tribal approval.
- Requires the university to consult with tribes regarding traditional care practices.
- Provides mechanisms for tribes to file appeals and complaints if they disagree with campus actions or decisions under the policy.
- Provides a mechanism for members of the campus community to report Native American human remains and cultural items that are not being properly maintained or properly reported.
- Requires each campus to perform a review of all departments and units historically engaged in studies with human remains or cultural items and all departments or units identified by department deans, chairs, or unit heads as potentially holding human remains or cultural items, in order to identify previously unreported human remains or cultural items.

As the Chancellor's Designee under the Interim Policy, I am responsible for campus oversight, compliance, and decision-making associated with this policy, NAGPRA, and CalNAGPRA. Jon Daehnke (jdaehnke@ucsc.edu) serves as the NAGPRA Point of Contact for the campus under the policy and has been delegated authority to implement this policy.

As we prepare for the campus-wide review described above, I will be writing to department deans, chairs, and unit heads with further instruction in the coming weeks. I kindly request the cooperation of all UC faculty,

staff, and students with the NAGPRA Point of Contact and their department heads as needed in carrying out this review.

For updated information regarding the Policy, including a current distribution of a new draft to move the policy from interim to final, please visit <https://ucal.us/nagpra>. Please contact Jon Daehnke (jdaehnke@ucsc.edu) or the [Office of Research Compliance Administration](#) at lestanol@ucsc.edu or (831) 459-4114 with any questions regarding the policy or if you believe you or others may hold Native American or Native Hawaiian human remains or cultural items. We appreciate your attention and full cooperation with this policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Brandt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" and last name "Brandt" clearly distinguishable.

Scott Brandt
Vice Chancellor for Research