

San Carlos Apache College

• THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION OF THE APACHE PEOPLE •



*In dedication to Roberta Patten, our beloved friend
and magnificent Chair of the SCAC Board of Regents.*

Commencement 2024

May 18, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m.

The Seven Mile Activity Center

92 Yavapai Street, San Carlos, Arizona 85550



Vision

“Upholding the power of Apache Wisdom and Knowledge”

- Nnee bi'at'e'ihii ntdzilgo ádantłih

Mission

To provide the Nnee an excellent higher education experience rooted in Nnee bi'at'e

SCAC's Goals and Objectives

- *Rekindle the language, traditions, and culture of the Apache people.*
- *Ensure the institution has the policies, processes, and resources required to maximize the success of every student.*
- *Achieve educational excellence through competitive and relevant academic programs as well as innovative teaching methods appropriate for different learning styles.*
- *Enable the institution to chart-its-own-course and successfully carry-out its unique mission by acquiring independent accreditation, financial self-sufficiency, and managerial autonomy.*



Apache Blessing

May the sun Dawah' jii Ch'igona'aínit'sih Yaa ídine le'
bring you new energy by day Dawan t'egona" aínani' łzii le'
May the moon Nagołtih- hínini' łaq,nii Tayigis le'
softly restore you by night Díínch'ii hínłdził-go Ananoh' dle'
May the rain Aina' ni'godzań bika' nkeego n'aá -go
wash away your worries Nkeen dań dołeel
May the breeze La'íí, dahazhį ni'godzań
blow new strength into your being Nzhoo zhineé -go biyeé -hí
May you walk gently through the world Biyi' Nadaq,doteel'
and know its beauty all the days of your life Nohyaa Dagozhool Doteel Shik'iiyu!



2024 SCAC Commencement Program

Processional	<i>Yellowbird Productions</i>
Mistress of Ceremonies	<i>Vivianna Talgo</i>
The Posting of Colors	<i>San Carlos Apache Veterans Association</i>
Singing of National Anthem	<i>Bo Goode</i>
Student Invocation Leader	<i>Olajuwon Burnette</i>
Moment of Silence	<i>In memory of Roberta Patten, Chair, SCAC Board of Regents</i>
Opening Remarks	<i>The Honorable Terry Rambler, SCAT Chairman</i>
Greetings	<i>Ms. Durena Thompson, Chair of SCAC Board of Regents</i>
President's Remarks	<i>Dr. Martín Miguel Ahumada, SCAC President</i>
Keynote Speaker	<i>Jacob Moore</i>
Student Commencement Speaker	<i>Marcilla Cruz</i>
Conferring of Degrees	<i>Dr. Lisa M. Eutsey, SCAC Provost and Executive Vice President</i> <i>Mike Kim, Adult Education Instructor</i>
Special Remembrance	<i>In memory of Jewell Fleming, SCAC Student</i>
Presentation of Special Award	<i>Dr. Lisa M. Eutsey, SCAC Provost and Executive Vice President</i>
Apache Drum Song	<i>Kennedy Johnson</i>
Benediction	<i>Dr. Marcus Christopher Macktima</i>
Recessional	<i>Yellow Bird Productions</i>





San Carlos Apache College President



Dr. Martín M. Ahumada

Dr. Martín Miguel Ahumada has been serving as the Founding President of San Carlos Apache College since April 11, 2017. Prior to stewarding America's youngest tribal institution of higher learning, Dr. Ahumada served as the Provost and Interim President of Diné College in the Navajo Nation. He also served as the President of the International Center for Higher Education & Philanthropy, and as a professor of higher education leadership at Harvard University where he was the chief advisor to Native American and international students pursuing doctorate degrees in the field.

Throughout his 40-year pioneering career in higher education, Dr. Ahumada has served as an advisor to education ministers and university presidents in different countries, and has held leadership roles with state higher education commissions and with national and international organizations dedicated to higher education. He has also served as a senior administrator with various universities and community colleges. He earned his bachelor's degree from Carleton College in Minnesota and his master's and Ph.D. degrees in Higher Education Administration from the University of Arizona.

Dr. Ahumada has earned many distinguished awards, including Harvard University's prestigious ALANA Award as the outstanding faculty member of the year, Carleton College's Alumni Award for Distinguished Achievement, Eastern New Mexico University's Father of the ENMU Foundation Award, and the University of Arizona Foundation's Distinguished Citizen Award. In November 2019, Dr. Martín Ahumada was inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame of his alma mater: Pueblo High School in Tucson.

Mistress of Ceremonies



Vivianna Talgo

Dagot'ee shii Vivianna Talgo gonsee, tógai nshíí ada nadots'in ba nashtíí, Hagoteelé di'nisha, Sen Gaa College yú oshtad. Vivianna Talgo is a member of the San Carlos Apache Tribe, who resides in the Bylas District. She comes from the White-Water People born for the Slender Peak Standing Up People Clan. Vivianna is enrolled in San Carlos Apache College where she is pursuing her an Associate degree in Liberal Arts. Vivianna is a passionate advocate for the preservation and dissemination of the Apache Language; she firmly believes that knowing and speaking the Apache Language enables her People to connect to their culture, traditions, and ancestors. She urges those who don't understand and speak the language to learn it while there are still fluent speakers available. And she urges fluent speakers to speak and teach the language as often as they can.

Vivianna passionately believes that any person can successfully achieve their lifelong ambitions if they pursue them with unwavering discipline, dedication, and determination. Vivianna was one of only two students who represented San Carlos Apache College at the last two national student conferences of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC), where she gave spectacular performances in the Informative Speech and other competitions. She is also the first and only winner of the prestigious and very competitive Dietrich Family Scholarship.



Provost & Executive Vice President



Dr. Lisa Marie Eutsey

Lisa Eutsey is the founding Provost of San Carlos Apache College. She most recently served as the Dean of Faculty at Diné College, building upon a seven-year stint there as a faculty member and Chair of the English Department. Her teaching at Diné College centered on developmental and college-level courses in composition, humanities, literature, creative writing, and communication. Prior to joining Diné College, Dr. Eutsey taught courses at Northern Arizona University for its Honors Program and its Communication Department, served as a visiting lecturer at the University of South Florida, and taught courses for six years as a graduate student at Penn State University.

Dr. Eutsey earned her Bachelor's degree with a dual major in English and History at Youngstown State University, and earned her Master's and Ph.D. degrees in English from Penn State University. Her experience as a faculty member and especially as a senior-level academic administrator—at rather diverse and unique institutions—sparked her interest in formally studying the field of higher education administration. This led her to pursue an M.Ed. in Community College/Higher Education at Northern Arizona University which she completed in the Fall of 2020.

Dr. Eutsey's most important goals for Apache College are to oversee its pursuit of stand-alone accreditation, to build the programs which most align with the community's employment and nation-building agendas, to foster and maintain strong relationships with the three state universities in key areas, and to position the College as a nexus for community education writ-large. Dr. Eutsey also worked closely with the local high schools to build a dual credit program so that high school students can earn a significant amount of college credits before they graduate.

Congratulations



*Building a home together
for lifelong learning.*



Student Invocation Leader



Olajuwon Burnette

Olajuwon Burnette (“OJ”) is the primary Medicine Man of the White Mountain Apache Tribe. He is Tu’kaa Dogaidn (White Row of Water Cane People) and was born for the Nadotso’o’n. OJ was raised and continues to reside in Bidiyu-Cedar Creek, Arizona, where he learned to become a Medicine Man at the feet of his late uncle, Harris Burnette, and his late grandfather, Ryan Burnette, Sr. OJ has also had the privilege of serving with them as part of the Burnette Singers, and is proud to be personally continuing their great legacy as spiritual leaders and Medicine Men for the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

OJ is dedicated to lifelong learning, especially pertaining to the history and culture of the Apache people. He is currently pursuing an Associate of Arts Degree with San Carlos Apache College. In addition to serving as a Medicine Man, OJ looks forward to also serving as a counselor in the behavioral health field. He has been employed with his tribe for the last eight years at the Rainbow Treatment Center where he specializes in treating clients contending with substance abuse. OJ and his soul-mate, Matraisa Johnson, have two children, Calaias and Aiyana.

Keynote Speaker



Jacob Moore

Jacob Moore. Vice President and Special Assistant to the President on American Indian Affairs. Mr. Moore responsibilities cover a wide range of transformative initiatives, including utilizing Indigenous knowledge, developing partnerships, and aligning research projects with tribal priorities, sustainability practices that incorporate traditional knowledge in a respectful way, collaborations with a wide variety of stakeholders, and social advancements in equity and global health.

Mr. Moore was formerly the Associate Vice President of Tribal Relations in the Office of Government and Community Affairs at ASU. His work included intergovernmental affairs between ASU and tribal nations and communities. Prior to his work at ASU, Jacob Moore was managing partner for Generation Seven Strategic Partners, LLC, and also worked as an Economic Development Analyst and Special Assistant on Congressional and Legislative Affairs for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Mr. Moore previously served as a member of the Arizona State Board of Education. He is currently on the board of directors for the Arizona Community Foundation, ASU Morrison Institute, WestEd, Arizona Minority Education Policy Analysis Center (AMEPAC), and Tohono O’odham Gaming Enterprise.

Mr. Moore earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance and an Executive MBA from the Arizona State University’s W.P. Carey College of Business. He is a senior global futures scholar with the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory and a health solutions ambassador with ASU’s College of Health Solutions. He is a citizen of the Tohono O’odham Nation.



Student Commencement Speaker



Marcilla Cruz

Marcilla Cruz is a proud member of the White Mountain Apache Tribe from East Fork, Arizona. She is Iyahaiye from the Eagle Clan and born for the Biszaha from the Roadrunner clan. Marcilla treasures being a devoted mother to two truly amazing children, Grayson and Lozen.

Marcilla served in the United States Navy onboard the USS Sterett DDG 104 and the USS Ronald Reagan CVN 76. Her military service enabled her to travel the world and gain special life-impacting experiences. A highlight of Marcilla's military career was her assignment at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center. Nestled in the rugged Sierra Nevada Mountains, this remote base is well-known for its challenging training programs in extreme and cold weather conditions.

After her honorable discharge from the Navy, Marcilla embarked on a new path that led her to San Carlos Apache College (SCAC). While attending SCAC, she earned a certificate in Substance Abuse and Addiction Studies and an associate degree in Social work and Liberal Arts. Her educational endeavors earned her the Arizona State University Library's Community-Driven Archive Fellowship, where she learned about preserving the stories, history, and cultural heritage of her tribe.

Marcilla aspires to pursue higher education at a Tribal College or University, which would provide her with an opportunity to enhance her academic qualifications and deepen her understanding of tribal cultures, traditions, and issues. Marcilla's commitment to lifelong learning and the pursuit of more advanced levels of higher education is rooted in her dedication to personal and community development and the empowerment of her Apache people.

Benediction



Dr. Marcus Christopher Macktima

Dr. Marcus Christophe Macktima is a member of the San Carlos Apache Tribe and an assistant professor in the History Department at Northern Arizona University. He also serves as a faculty member at San Carlos Apache College where he teaches Apache History. Dr. Macktima graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Ph.D. in History, a master's degree in Native American Studies, and a bachelor's degree in History with a minor in Native American Studies. Recently, he published an article in the Journal of Arizona History's Summer 2023 issue entitled, A Manufactured Identity: Cattle-Raising, the Coolidge Dam, and the Creation of the San Carlos Apachean Peoples. In 2022, he published a book chapter in an anthology series on the 21st Century American West titled, Sacred Space and Identity: The Fight for Chi'chil Bıldagoteel (Oak Flat) and the History of the San Carlos Apachean Peoples. Currently, he is working on his dissertation manuscript, Deconstructing the Apache Identity: A History of the San Carlos Apachean People, in preparation for book publication. He is married to Janae Macktima and together, they have 5 boys who are also members of the tribe.



San Carlos Apache College Graduates

Associate of Arts in Computer Information Systems

Artie Steele

Associate of Arts in Early Childhood Education

Karen Meade

Associate of Arts in Elementary Education

Raelenia Patterson

Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts

Sissy Beatty

Marcilla Cruz

Ginger Preston

Marie Kayson

Cayden Macktima

Noah Titla

Associate of Arts in Social Work

Raquel Dahkoshay

Juliette Ramirez

Nicholas Wycliffe

Avarista Perez-Chatlin

Agatha Quiyo

Associate of Business in Business Administration

Jolene Hoffman

Jerilyn Nozie

Cassandra Villegas



San Carlos Apache College Graduates

Associate of Applied Science in Business Management

Ralph Bead

Jerilyn Nozie

Charmayne Quintero

Felicia Whitegoat

Certificate - Social Services

Tricia Logan

Brenda Paxson

Kathaleen Smith

Certificate - Substance Abuse and Addiction Studies

Raquel Dahkoshay

Avarista Perez-Chatlin

Nicholas Wycliffe

Daphne Bolman

Cameron Farley

Tricia Logan

Kateri Parker

Brenda Paxson

Nicole Quintero

Juliette Ramirez

Marlana Robinson

Sanjiv Thompson

Early Childhood Education Certificate

Sylvia Pahe

High School Equivalency Plus

Janelle Rope



Board of Regents

Roberta Patten – Served as Chair from July 2023 to April 2024

Durena Thompson – Elected Chair in May 2024

Dr. Philip Stevens – Elected Vice Chair in May 2024

Loreal Jones – Re-elected Secretary in May 2024

Isaiah Belknap – Regent

Shirley Boni – Regent

Jessica Natsyn – Regent

President

Dr. Martín Miguel Ahumada

Cabinet

Dr. Lisa M. Eutsey – Provost & Executive Vice President

Administrative and Support Staff

Samantha Alvarez-Santi – Human Resources Manager

Daphne Bolman – Security Officer

Nicole Boni – Financial Aid Officer

Avarista Chatlin – Career Development Specialist /Caseworker

Tia Early – Assistant to the Provost & EVP/Cultural Education Coordinator

Gerry Himmelreich – Director of Curriculum, Assessment, and Institutional Research

David Jones – Lead Security Officer

Rachael Kenton – Registrar & Coordinator of Students Initiatives

Mike Kim – Adult Education Instructor

Nikki Lewis – Academic Advising Coordinator & Career Specialist

Janell McIntosh – Budget/Accounting Specialist

Laiken Molina - Library Tutor

Chris Phillips – WIOA Institute Coordinator

Artie Steele – IT Manager

Nicole T. Stevens – Executive Assistant to the President

Christy Talgo – Intake/Data Entry Clerk

Nikki Victor – Custodian

Lenora Woesner – Computer Training Coordinator

Kevin Wood – Retention Coordinator

Thomas Worcester - Library Tutor/Interim Receptionist



Full Time Faculty

Mark Clytus

Rick Chavolla

Dr. Jay Hedgpeth

Kathy Kitcheyan

Mike Kim

Victoria Wesley

Xina Uhl

Adjunct Faculty Members

Dr. Zorayda Agus

Casey Jones

Dr. Georgina Badoni

Betty Kitcheyan

Randy Begay

Monica Loas

Grace Bombulum

Dr. Marcus Macktima

Aurelia Bullis

Robert Meyer

Tes Davison

Dr. Peter Milne

Veronica Duncan

Alfred Moore

Dr. Virginie Faramaz

Ganimat Roojam

Medhat Farooque

Seth Pilsk

Noemi Hubilla

Amita Uppal

Joyce Johnson



San Carlos Apache College

Thanks its 2024 Commencement Sponsors!



**American Indian
Community House**



San Carlos Apache College expresses a special "Thank You" to Freeport McMoRan, Inc., the San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation, Big O Tires (Globe), and the American Indian Community House for their particularly "Amazing" generosity in making this graduation ceremony possible.



Izee' Baa Gowah
San Carlos Apache Healthcare



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**Cathy Sanchez-Cañez
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SkyHarvest



**OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRMAN**



DR. JOHN BUSH



BARBARA MAY



We are a kid-run business that makes jewelry. All of our profits go to local charities! You can find our latest line of jewelry at Vida e Caffè in downtown Globe.

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