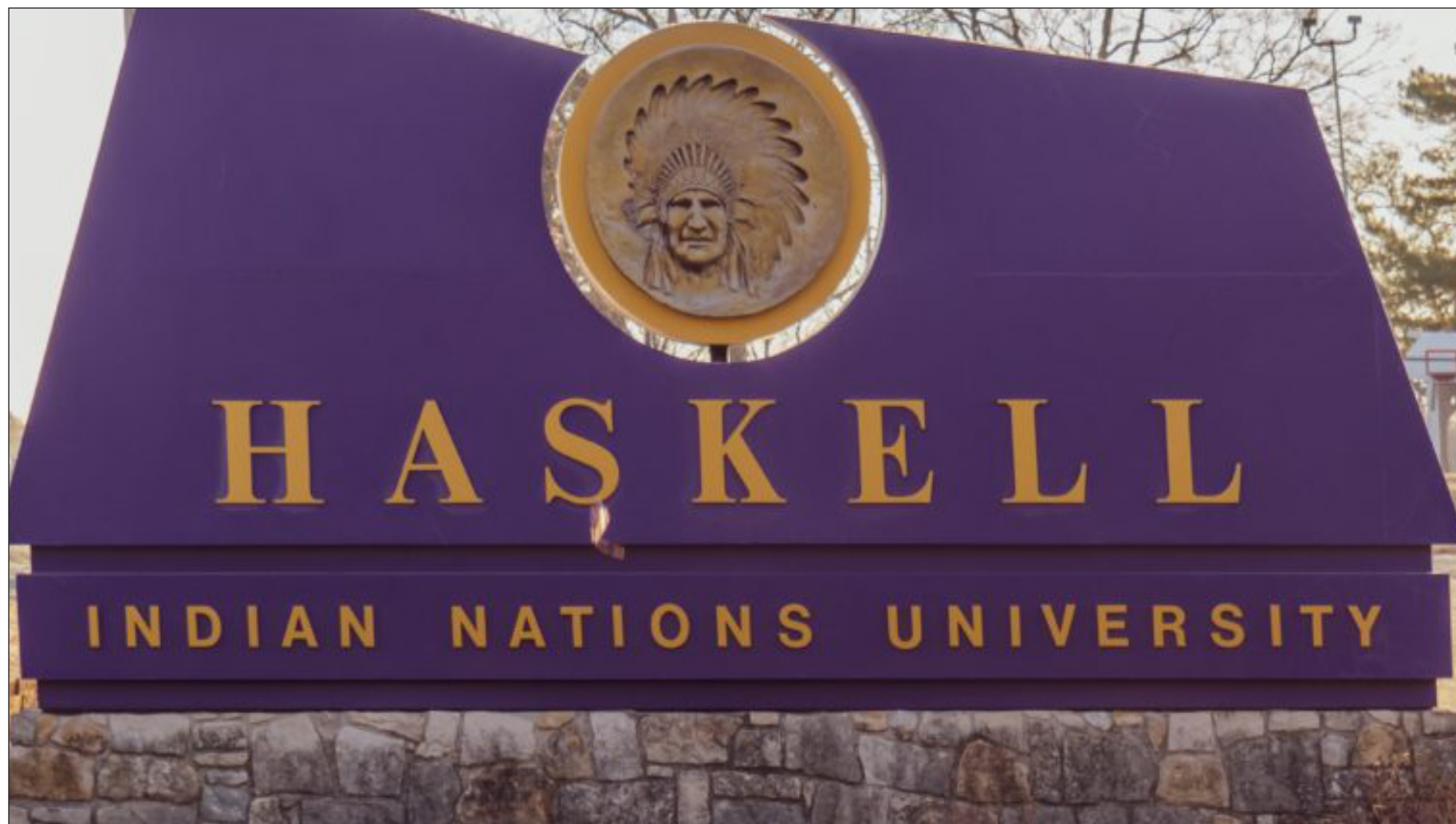


The Indian Leader

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University Sign. Photo by Jared Nally

Students and faculty publicly rebuke a controversial fall housing policy

JARED NALLY

Four months ago, Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU) announced that students would be returning to campus in the fall. For four months students have been planning their return to campus—plans, for many, that included affordable campus housing. Now, just weeks before students are set to return, the university released their fall re-entry

plans and updated their housing applications—updates that excluded returning freshman and transfer students, sophomores, and juniors from living on campus along with other students who don't meet additional restrictions. Public outcry over the exclusions is now being organized through petitions and surveys by students and faculty.

"I don't want people to lose their hope in Haskell," said acting Student Government Association (SGA) President Rebecca Villalobos (San Carlos Apache). Villalobos has organized an online petition as well as a survey to document community concerns and

offer visibility for impacted students. "The petition gives students a chance to use their voice even though we aren't all together," said Villalobos. Villalobos, who was elected vice president of communications and is the only remaining SGA member, acknowledged previous problems with representing the student body under former University President Ronald Graham's administration and added, "I have been trying to reach out to the new administration and make a better relationship with them."

Continued on page 2



Summer 2020, student follows new dining COVID safety policies at Curtis. Photo by Jared Nally

Fall housing applications are open, not all students are eligible to apply

JARED NALLY

The closure of Blalock Hall and a “one person per room” policy for the fall is limiting on-campus housing. According to a Student Residential Housing Program announcement, “This change will reduce the number of students who are eligible for housing, but it is necessary because of serious risk factors presented by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.” The new policy currently restricts housing to only athletes, graduating seniors, and first-semester freshmen/transfer students with additional qualifying restrictions such as GPA and course load (see the full announcement here).

The announcement said, “For those students who are living in campus housing, there will be updated expectations and protocols for safety, including mask wearing and visitation mandates. These cooperative living expectations must be in place, and may need to be further expanded, for the sake of health, sanitation, and the safety of everyone on campus.”

The Office of the President added in the Fall 2021 re-entry plan that “Students should make decisions to return to campus and residential housing with careful consideration with their families. Health and safety restrictions will be set and enforced for students, and despite the University’s best intentions, these safety measures could potentially lead to negative student conduct sanctions and/or eviction from residential housing when violated.”

Third-party groups are stepping up to help meet the needs of students who don’t meet fall housing eligibility requirements. The Facebook group HINU OFF CAMPUS Student Housing/Roommates/Help says “[Their] group is for HINU students that are currently looking for Housing this FA21, if you have no idea what to do for housing [they] may help. [They are here] to provide a way to help students find roommates, off campus housing, and tips”.

Continued from page 1

A unified faculty body has also expressed concern with the controversial housing policy. Haskell Faculty Senate issued a letter to acting University President Tamarah Pfeiffer on July 21 outlining eight areas of concern and expressing dissatisfaction that both faculty and students were left out of the discussion on housing. Number one on the list, “Students do not have the financial resources to afford local apartments, and with the late announcement, many places are already rented.” HFS has also started an informal student survey to gauge student impact.

While Villalobos and HFS seek redress, many students simply cannot wait for what that might look like. Students seeking housing security have formed groups like the Facebook group HINU Off-campus student housing/roommates/resources, helping connect students to available rentals and roommates. Some students are also making the decision not to return at all. The Lawrence Journal-World reports enrollment projections of around 400 students in the fall, a historic low of almost half the number of students enrolled pre-pandemic.

HINU has not provided public guidance for students who don’t currently qualify for housing. However, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens, Haskell National Board of Regents president, told the Lawrence Journal-World that he encourages students to continue to apply even if they don’t qualify and to wait and see if HINU can find room to house them, stating, “I would ask people to remember that it is a time of change and uncertainty, and sometimes you just have to be ready to bob and weave and duck and dive.”

dents who did not qualify for housing or are attending HINU online.



30 days after a vote of no confidence in her leadership, Vice President of Academic Affairs Melanie Daniel retires

JARED NALLY

“I recently learned that Ms. Melanie Daniel has decided to retire effective May 28, 2021,” said Acting University President Tamarah Pfeiffer in an email to the Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU) campus. Daniel’s retirement comes 30 days after Haskell Faculty Senate passed a no-confidence resolution in Daniel’s leadership.

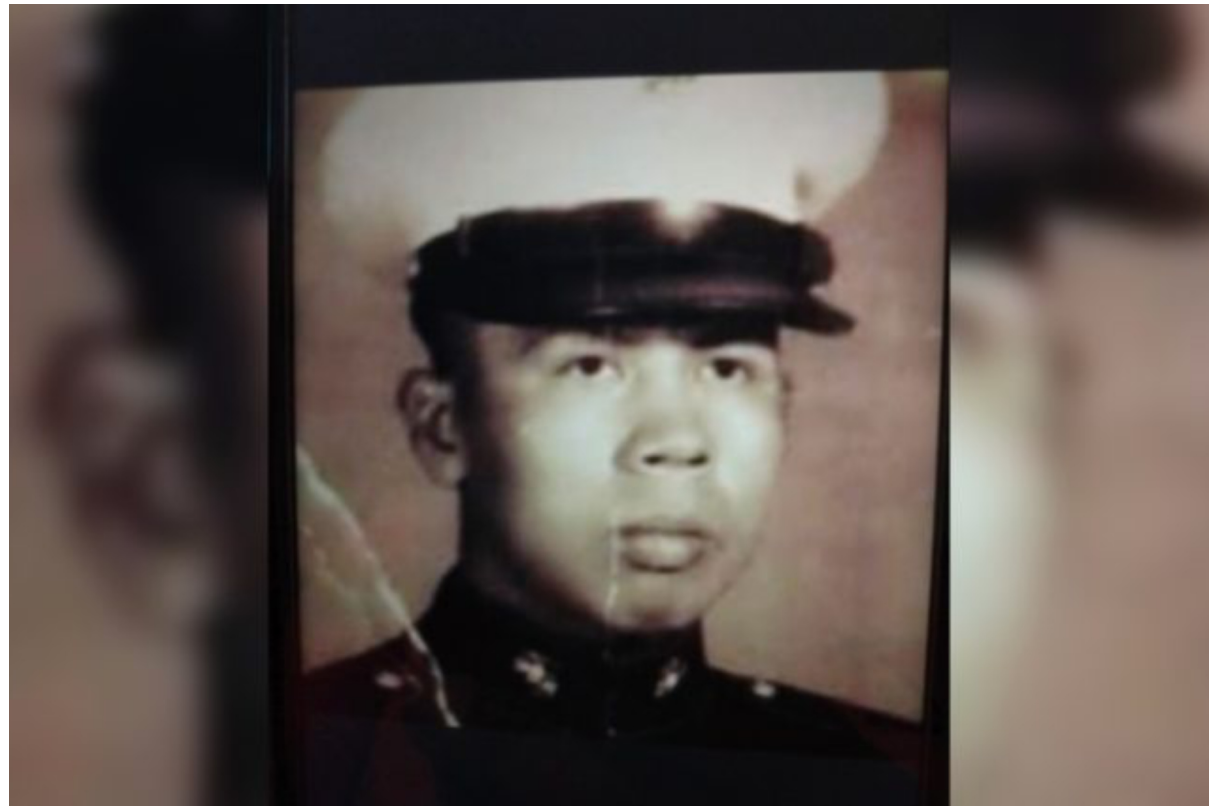
Haskell Faculty Senate passed two no-confidence resolutions this year. The first resolution declared no-confidence in former president Ronald Graham who was removed from office 36 days later, after an internal investigation. A second resolution was passed on April 30, declaring no confidence in Daniel, who has now entered retirement 30 days later. Both Graham and Daniel did not complete a full year in their positions.

Pfeiffer, who became acting president after Graham’s removal, said in the email, “With this change in leadership at Haskell I’ve asked that Ms. Cheryl [Chuckluck] to serve as the Acting Vice President of Academics. Please join me as she takes on the leadership as Acting VPA for Haskell Indian Nations University. In her place as Dean she has placed Ms. Jacqueline Boyd as Acting Dean of Professional Schools.”

Daniel did not respond to inquiry on her retirement plans or provide a statement to the HINU community.



Melanie Daniel's university photo.



James “Babe” Lee Jones Jr.

Retired HINU Librarian, James “Babe” Lee Jones Jr was laid to rest Monday, July 14th

JARED NALLY

Past Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU) librarian James “Babe” Lee Jones Jr. passed away at the age of 72, Thursday, June 10, and was laid to rest in his birthplace of Seminole, Oklahoma Monday. Jones was a Haskell Institute Alumni and returned to work in the HINU community following his United States Marine Corp service. While working as a HINU librarian, Jones sponsored the Haskell Intertribal Club and Student Veterans Club. Condolences to Jones’s family and friends as his loss will be greatly felt.

Fall campus fees return to normal, over \$680k generated from ‘Online’ fee increases during the pandemic

JARED NALLY

With the return of students this fall, Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU) student fees will also return to their pre-pandemic rates. Students living on-campus will pay \$715, including housing and food services, and students living off-campus will pay \$240 for the semester.

Last March, Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) operated institutions received federal aid to transition to distance learning during

the pandemic. HINU was awarded \$5.6 million from the CARES Act and was required to make direct-to-student aid payments as part of Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF). The direct aid payments were to assist students with increased financial burdens, including campus fees. Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, a BIE-operated school, chose to waive student fees during this time, while HINU restructured its \$240 “Off-Campus” fee into a \$715 “Online” fee. The HEERF student aid payments covered the \$475 student fee increase, and the fee increase allowed the university to generate over an estimated \$680,000 in additional operational funding.

Vaccine hesitancy

BRYCEN MILLER

Covid-19 vaccination numbers continue to rise, with over 150 million people receiving their first dose; however, according to a CBS News poll, 4 in 10 Americans say they might get the vaccine or refuse it entirely.

Alec Davis, a Junior at Haskell, explains his reasoning for not getting the vaccine, “I have had the chance a handful of times but just never took up on the opportunity. For instance, I worked night shifts when the Haskell clinic was giving out the shots.”

He also explained how he has moved out of the Lawrence area back to his home, where he and his family would have to travel an hour to get the vaccine. They are skeptical about getting the vaccine due to some of

them being put on pause in the past.

On April 13, the Johnson and Johnson Covid-19 single-dose vaccine was temporarily paused. According to an article in the New York Post, six women who had received this vaccine developed blood clots, and one died. Now that the vaccine is back out, people have reasons to still be skeptical.

Haskell student Taylor McMasters says that she has not received the vaccine either. “I have yet to receive the vaccine because I am unsure about it. I decided to take my time and see how others react to getting theirs, but the idea of getting the vaccine is unsettling for me.” She also said that some of her friends are very hesitant about receiving the vaccine as well.

With the number of people who are hesitant to get the vaccine, the question that comes up

is whether schools should require their students to get the vaccine to return? Alec Davis shares his opinion on the topic, “I do not feel that it should be required to return. There have been many colleges that have reopened since last fall semester without requiring the shot. These same schools are open and do not have any campus-wide problems related to the virus.”

As the fall semester gets closer and students prepare to go back to campus, Haskell students are left wondering if they will require vaccination. While we haven’t gotten any answers from the board members, there was a Zoom call on May 11 for Haskell faculty, students, and stakeholders to comment on reentry plans. Hopefully, this call will lead to answers to questions like this and others that students may have.



Photograph of Potawatomi Chef Lorretta Oden's Three Sisters and Friends salad. Photo by Jared Nally

Eating healthy

BRYCEN MILLER

Have you been struggling to eat healthier due to the pandemic? Haskell Indian Nations University professor Judith Gipp gives her input on the topic. “The pandemic is a very challenging and stressful time for many. The stress we experience can impact how we eat, what we eat, when we eat, our sleep patterns, and our methods to engage in exercise. If we

can start our day eating well it will help us create a routine to get through the day, week, month, and beyond.”

Judith Gipp also adds “A suggestion I have is to create a dietary routine, a routine filled with a variety of foods. Try to build a balanced plate for your primary three meals as well as with your mid-morning and mid-day mini-meals or snacks. Maintain a caloric intake based on your estimated energy needs and expenditures for the day. Limit foods

with added sugars, high sodium, saturated fat, and refined carbohydrates. And look to fruits and vegetables, whole grains, reduced-fat dairy, lean meats, and plant-based proteins as a way to meet our macro- and micronutrient needs. Think of it in terms of variety, balance, and moderation.”

For more information on how you can eat a healthier and balanced diet, go to DRI Calculator Results ([usda.gov](https://www.ars.usda.gov/nutrition/dietary-reference-intakes/))



STRONGHEARTS
Native Helpline

Available 24/7/365

1-844-762-8483

strongheartshelpline.org

New national domestic violence hotline for Native Americans and Alaska Natives

JADA MARTIN

Native American and Alaska Native women suffer from the nation's highest rates of domestic and sexual violence. StrongHearts Native Helpline was created specifically for Indigenous communities to feel comfortable and re-empower those who this violence has impacted. StrongHearts is a product of the National Domestic Violence Hotline and National Indigenous Women's Resource Center. It is available 24 hours a day either by calling or texting 1-844-762-8483 or through an online chat on their website strongheartshelpline.org.

Native American women suffer from domestic violence and abuse 10 times the Nationals average. According to a National Institute of Justice study, about 84.3% of Native American women have experienced domestic violence and abuse in their lifetime. "...the National Domestic Violence Hotline realized that in spite of the super-high rates in Indian country, Native Americans did not really reach out to the hotline for help..." said Lori Jump, the Director of StrongHearts.

"...there are so many people that call us who don't realize that what they're experiencing is domestic violence. So many people feel that if it's not physical then it doesn't count

as domestic violence and that's just not the truth. There are many different ways to abuse somebody and that's why raising awareness is so important, it's to educate people, especially those that might be experiencing it. It's to let them know that there are options out there, that there's help." continued Jump.

Mellissa Holder, University of Kansas faculty and 1995 HINU alumna said, "It is important to bring awareness about domestic and sexual abuse because individual wellness equals community and tribal wellness. If we continue to normalize or dismiss domestic and sexual abuse then our communities become numb to the individual cases."

Those who might not have the time to call StrongHearts Native Helpline or can't get to a secure place to make a call can send a text to the helpline. StrongHearts added a text feature where you can communicate anonymously through text. "...texting and chatting are the main forms of communication outside of face-to-face for younger people. I think it removes a barrier, sometimes saying it out loud makes it more real, and sometimes texting it or chatting it without actually having to say those words to another person is easier..." commented Jump.

Holder said, "... if a person is not ready to come forward, then I would recommend they identify their support system and use the resources available to them to keep themselves safe until they are comfortable

(or able) to move forward...."

"I encourage family and friends to be good allies and also be patient with the person experiencing abuse. People often question why someone doesn't just leave, and for many, there are multiple factors involved that make the 'just leaving' much more difficult." added Holder on important things to remember when confronting someone who is experiencing domestic abuse. StrongHearts also offers resources for friends and relatives of victims of abuse.

If you are experiencing domestic or sexual abuse StrongHearts Native Helpline is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. You can reach the StrongHearts helpline at 1-844-762-8483 or at <https://strongheartshelpline.org/get-help> to access their text line.

Students can also speak with Haskell's Interim Title IX Coordinator, Ms. Tonia Salvini. The Title IX Office for Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence is located in Pushmataha hall (155 Indian Avenue Lawrence, KS 66046) or call 785-749- 8457. Here, students can file a complaint and talk with the Title IX Coordinator about concerns involving sexual harassment, sexual assault, and domestic violence.



“Ramblin”, a film by HINU alumni Christopher Marshall

BRYCEN MILLER

A Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU) 2010 Alumni is currently finding success in the career of film, with his movie “Ramblin” having featured in the Lift-Off Sessions virtual film festival in May.

Christopher Marshall, Muscogee Creek, director and writer of “Ramblin”, started his journey with film at HINU in his news class. Marshall wrote, filmed, and eventually started producing news stories. Soon after he joined Stories N Motion, a club where they created films. During an email interview, Marshall said, “‘Ramblin’ was born in Ross Hall in my creative writing class. It was originally a short before I thought that it could work as a feature film.”

Marshall’s cast, Carol Redwing, Yankton Sioux and HINU 2010 Alumni, played

Mackenzie Jacobs. Redwing said, “The main cast characters, in real life, we’re all living in different towns—we all had busy schedules and travel to fit in with one another.” During the film process, they had to be flexible with backgrounds and camera angles for the driving scenes.

Marshall said, “trying to schedule shooting days around the schedule of seven adults with kids and careers proved to be troublesome.” About a year and a half later, Marshall and his crew were able to wrap up principal photography and have their first public screening in November of 2019 at the Native American Film Festival at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

Marshall said, “ ‘Ramblin’ was in the ‘workprint’ stage so some scenes only had audio coming out of one channel, some scenes weren’t in black and white and a couple of the establishing shots in the scenes repeated themselves. It was rough! But we

got a lot of good feedback and was well received by those in attendance.”

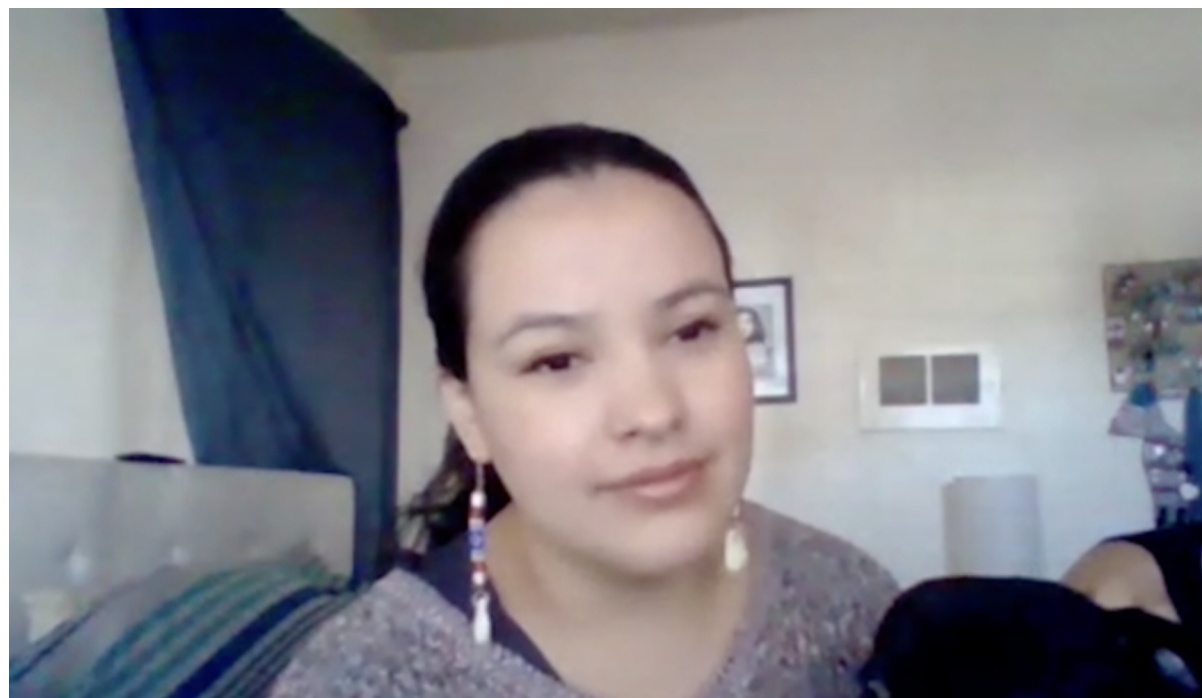
In 2020 they finished re-edits and were ready to show everyone the final product. Marshall said, “It’s so AWESOME to be finally showing the flick to people all over the country and around the globe via the film festivals that we’ve been selected for.”

Redwing also said that it was, “Very exciting! It was really cool to see how each sequence had been edited and to see the final product with the soundtrack added in. The music and score had some excellent pieces from our buddies and it was nice to support their musicianship at the same time. It blows my mind how it all came together—the festival features are icing on the cake.”

“Ramblin” featured cast that were Marshall’s friends from HINU. When Redwing was asked about her experience with developing long-term friendships with her HINU peers she said, “... I am coming to a point in my life where many of my classmates and friends are now my colleagues in various fields. I am so proud of my Haskell peers and am looking forward to seeing what the future holds. As for the Ramblin’ film crew, we were inseparable at Haskell. I knew deep down that our group would remain life-long friends/family.”

Marshall’s words of encouragement for current Haskell students are, “Haskell provides so many opportunities to a growing student. Don’t just go to class and stay in your dorm: get out, mingle, talk to other students. Join a club. Start a band. Make a movie and make some memories!”

Redwing’s words of encouragement are, “Whether it’s an assignment or just a rough patch: don’t give up. It takes a lot to start or go back to school. Your ancestors see you and they bless you. I had times where I wanted to pack up and put school on pause but I had to always remind myself of the deep opportunities to learn and grow. If you’re coming from a place with a good heart and mind, things will work out in your favor... as time is an illusion. Your essence and drive will be what withstands the tests of time—you might as well soak it all in while you can. Onward Haskell! <3”



Actress Janae Collins in an interview with Haskell student Sarah Pearl-Hall.

Movie for Killers of the Flower Moon announced

DELILA BEGAY, ALEXANDER MANYGOATS, SARAH PEARL-HALL.

New movies are always exciting. Killers of the Flower moon is a new movie which is currently being filmed in Oklahoma. The movie is based off a book written by David Grann set in the 1920s where the richest people in the world were the members of the Osage Nation. When they started to be killed off, the FBI was called, which then tells the tragic story of the most chilling conspiracy theory in American history. Sarah Pearl-Hall has got the interview with Janae Collins, who is one of the actresses in the movie.

SARAH PEARL HALL: What character did you get casted as and what was her backstory?

JANAE COLLINS: Reta is the character, and she's Mollie's little sister. Mollie has three other sisters. There's Anna, who's the oldest, then there's Mollie, then there's me, and then there's Minnie. It's a very heartbreaking and angering book, and that's where I did my first research about my character, what happened to her, what happened to her sisters.

PEARL-HALL: Yeah, that's very

enlightening—you know—to hear about that. I think it sort of perpetuates the cause of phasing out Native blood over time, and so yeah, that's a really important story to tell. I was just wondering, how does that feel to know that this is a highly anticipated project—a big director, plenty of big names in the film, and being an Indigenous woman—knowing that you're representing a very important role within the film, how does that make you feel?

COLLINS: It feels very serious, almost surreal, when I think of, you know, the opportunity in and of itself to be able to represent, but then also very serious, because the subject matter is very sensitive and especially to the Osage people. It's very painful for them; so that's something that I take super serious, and it's something that I'm definitely going to bring every ounce of my character ability to portray Reta in a very meaningful and careful way as she existed, and she was murdered, and her family still is alive, and they have descendants from the Burkharts, because Mollie had children, and there are still a lot of the community members—they were related to people that were murdered, so it's a very serious subject matter.

Following Sarah's interview, we have Alexander Manygoats with Delton Yazzie who is Navajo and Lakota and is a sophomore at Haskell Indian Nations

University.

ALEXANDER MANYGOATS: So what's your opinions about this movie, Killers of the Flower Moon?

DELTON YAZZIE: So what I got from it so far, it's pretty—kind of a tragic backstory really. Especially with it having to do with the Osage Nation. I looked over it and seen something about it being discarded through the FBI. That was pretty different. But my take on it so far would have to be, I think it's messed up.

ALEXANDER MANYGOATS: I see. So do you view or do you not agree with what's going on in this film or were about to make?

YAZZIE: I don't agree.

MANYGOATS: Why is that?

YAZZIE: Just because what happened and what happened with the Osage Nation

MANYGOATS: Okay, have you heard any stories about these?

YAZZIE: No. This is actually the first one. I've honestly never heard about this before. I'm surprised it hasn't been shown off earlier—the fact that it has to do with the tribe. I think that kind of shocked me at first because I feel like the fact that I didn't know about it is the fact that the media can try to cover it up—try to not really show other people.

MANYGOATS: Yeah, What do you think they would take out of the movie?

YAZZIE: It would take out the truth. I feel like they wouldn't really—they probably talk a lot about the truth on the very tip top surface, but when it really comes down to it they won't really tell us what actually happens because they don't want—you know—pretty much the good guys, I guess in their eyes, to look bad—so the FBI pretty much.

After hearing what Janae and Delton have to say, what are your opinions about the movie and is this going to be a movie you will watch? This has been Delilah Begay. Have a good day.



Photo courtesy of Chuck Masoka.

Wearing Haskell PRIDE

JADA MARTIN

Pride Month, in June, honors the 1969 Stonewall Riots, also known as the Gay Liberation Movement. This year, the Haskell Alumni Association is showing its support for LGBTQ2S+ students and alumni during Pride Month by creating rainbow Haskell t-shirts. The shirts are on sale now for \$30, including delivery; proceeds will go toward an event supporting the LGBTQ2S+ community.

Joel Hernandez (Navajo), president of the Haskell Alumni Association and 2013 alumni, says one of the reasons why he brought this idea to the board is because a couple of people from Facebook had mentioned the idea of Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU) including Pride themes on some of their merchandise. Hernandez said, "... they were wishing for something they could wear during the month because they certainly enjoyed their time at Haskell..."

The Haskell Alumni Association tries to show its support for the students at HINU in any way it can. "... I think it's very important to support our Two-Spirited family members because we're all together, we're all the same people, even though we're different Nations we all are still one..." said Brittany Hall (Shawnee Tribe), Haskell Alumni Association Treasurer and 2012 alumni.

Chuck Masoka (Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate), a 2006 alumni, answered why it's important that HINU shows its support towards the LGBTQ2S+ community, "I identify as a gay man, so my lens on this is coming from my own perspective. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transexual, and two-spirited people have existed in our tribal communities since the beginning of time. We are a part of the community. We are artists, storytellers, scientists, educators, comedians, and leaders...colleges and universities have an obligation to provide a safe learning environment for every student. Recognizing that LGBTQ2S+ people exist and making an effort to communicate support is a great step in the right direction of enhancing that support of an inclusive learning environment."

"That's why Pride is so important, it's about loving ourselves enough to advocate for equal protection under the law, and loving how we're changing public discourse on who we love, how we love, and how that's expressed. Haskell factors into this equation by being the only intertribal, federally run university in the nation, which will naturally become a home for native students from all across the country. There's never been a better time for an institution like Haskell to support Pride. Why shouldn't an institution take a moment to

recognize and hold space for its members, students, staff, and faculty? It's just acknowledging what was already there. It's saying, 'I see you. I honor you. You are welcome here,' " said Masoka

When asked about his reaction to the new t-shirts, Masoka said, "I was so excited! I wish it was around when I was still on campus, but I'll be proudly rockin' it this summer!"

