The Oregon Tribal Archives Institute:
Providing a Professional Development and Networking Opportunity for Oregon’s Tribal Communities

AABC/NWA Conference, Vancouver, B.C.
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What is the Oregon Tribal Archives Institute?

OTAI was designed to address the need for an affordable, in-depth archives and records management training that would specifically address the archival education needs of Oregon’s nine federally recognized tribes.
Project Background:
Previous Work with the Tribes

Project Background:
LSTA Grant Development and Goals

Year 1 Goals

• Conduct Needs Assessment
  Pre-Surveys
  Site Visits

• Begin Curriculum Development

• Build and Strengthen Relationships

Year 2 Goals

• Finalize Curriculum
  Identify Trainers
  Plan Field Trips

• Plan and Host OTAI

• Conduct Assessment
Site Visits: Summer 2011

The Klamath Tribes, July 25-26
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, July 11-12
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, July 20
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, August 9
Burns Paiute Tribe, August 31
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians, September 8
Coquille Indian Tribe, September 15
Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians, September 16

Site Visits to Oregon’s 9 Tribes: July-September, 2011

In-person needs assessments with each of the tribes’ archivists, record managers, museum curators, and any other interested staff members.
Site Visits: Summer 2011

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, July 7
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, July 11-12
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, July 20
The Klamath Tribes, July 25-26
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, August 9
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians, September 8
Coquille Indian Tribe, September 15
Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians, September 16

Meetings with Staff
(L) Larry and Blanche, Klamath
(R) Larry and David, Grand Ronde

Tours of Facilities
(L) Coquille Indian Tribe Plankhouse Sign
(R) Grand Ronde Records Center

OMA Site Visit Blog Posts
Curriculum Development: Fall 2011-Spring 2012

Our Objectives:

• Formulate a List of Topics Based on the Site Visits

• Brainstorm Sessions and Schedules

• Identify Trainers

• Share Information with Project Collaborators
Curriculum Development:
Formulate a List of Topics

Grant Funding and Grant Writing
Archives 101
Content Management Systems
Facilities Planning
Disaster Planning
Collections Maintenance and Care
Digitization Best Practices
Sound Recordings, Best Practices
Digital Asset Mgt Systems & Metadata

Born Digital Records
Exemplary Digitization Projects
Digital Preservation
Reference and Access
Records Retention
Researching Elsewhere
NWA Discussion
Outreach and Social Media
Model Programs
Curriculum Development: Brainstorm Sessions and Schedules
Curriculum Development:
Identify Trainers
Curriculum Development: Share Information with Project Collaborators
Institute Planning

Lodging & Meals and Conference Arrangements

University Housing & Dining Services

Conference Materials  Special Event  Field Trips
The Institute
Sunday August 19th – Friday August 24th

Sunday Night ~
Opening Dinner

Monday ~
Sessions at the
Valley Library
The Institute
Sunday August 19th – Friday August 24th

Tuesday ~ Field Trip to Siletz and BCHS

Siletz Tribal Community Archives

Benton County Historical Society
The Institute
Sunday August 19th – Friday August 24th

Wednesday ~
“All Things Digital” Day

Thursday ~ Field Trip to Grand Ronde and Closing Dinner

Grand Ronde Tribal Community Archives

George Wasson, Closing Dinner Speaker

Friday ~
OTAI’s Last Day!
Facilitator Perspective: Jennifer O’Neal

Sessions
• Archives 101
• Collections Management Systems
• Indigenous Access Issues
• Researching Elsewhere
• Outreach and Social Media
• Model Programs
Facilitator Perspective: Lessons Learned

- Provide basics as a foundation
- Better to provide more information than too little
- Apply pertinent information to community’s needs
- Each community is different
Facilitator Perspective: Lessons Learned

- Various forms, guides, etc.
- Provide examples successful projects and collaborations
- Attendee participation and case studies
- Interaction with attendees—understand community needs
Key Issue:
Develop long-term relationships and collaborations between institutions and tribal communities

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Plankhouse
University of Oregon Libraries and The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation: Theodore Stern Papers

- University of Oregon Anthropology Professor (1963-1982)
- Faculty Papers within University Archives
- Umatilla and Klamath tribes significantly documented
- Collaboration with Tamástslikt Cultural Institute (TCI)
- Hands-on archive training processing collection
Grand Ronde Goal

• To make the Grand Ronde Cultural Center and Archives the center of research about the 30+ tribes who came to the reservation and the following 150 years of history. An organized Archives makes this possible.

• Attempts to capture a regional culture area of 14 million acres and the culture and history of seven major tribal groups
Grand Ronde Cultural Center and Archives

- Archives
- Collections Processing
- Research Area
Extensive Archival collection needs now possible with a trained archivist
Assessment

Institute Assessment
Evaluation of each specific session

“Reflection” Session

• Paper-based questionnaire re: OTAI as a whole

• Group discussion re: plans for the future

Follow Up Assessment

January 2013

Phone Interviews

• Application of content learned

• Thoughts on future gatherings
Moving from Institute to Network

The network is designed to facilitate communication among tribal archivists, records managers, and culture keepers in order to ask questions, share resources, and celebrate their work.
The Oregon Tribal Archives Institute (TAI) is the culmination of a two year grant project developed by the Oregon Multicultural Archives dedicated to assisting Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes with their archives and records management needs. TAI took place in August of 2012 with the goals to provide Oregon's tribal archivists and records managers with professional development and networking opportunities through a week long training.

TAI Information
- Project Overview
- Year 1 - The Site Visits and Curriculum Development
- Year 2 - The Institute
- Publications and Presentations about TAI
- Oregon Tribal Archives Network
- Acknowledgements
- Contact Information
Any Questions?

Thank you for joining us!
To continue the discussion regarding tribal archives please return to this room at 3:30pm for the NWA Native American Collections Roundtable discussion.