



Bacone

and beyond...



2022 Update:
We're still here!

- Letter from the President
- Student Spotlights
- Notable Alumni
- ...and more!

Board of Trustees

Chair: Chief Joe Bunch, United Keetoowah
Band of Cherokee Indians
Joe Garcia, Ohkay Owingeh
Neely Tsoodle, Kiowa
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Governor Reggie Wassana, Cheyenne &
Arapaho Tribes
Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear,
Osage Nation
Quinton Roman Nose, Cheyenne
Assistant Chief Jeff Wacoche, United
Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians
Donald Mason, Delaware/Cherokee

Administration

Nicky Michael, Ph.D. – Interim President of
Bacone College (Lenape)
Wambli Sina Win, J.D. – VP of Academic
Affairs (Oglala Sioux)
Kelly LaChance, Ed.D. – Vice President of
Student Affairs (Confederate Tribes of Siletz)
Rebecca Truelove, Ed.D. – Dean of
Accreditation and Research (Eastern
Shawnee)
Wil Lowe, M.B.A. – Director, Human
Resources (Muscogee Creek)
Wendy Burton, M.B.A. – Director of College
Relations & Technology
Leroy Thompson, D.Min. – Director of
Development and Enrollment
Tera Cuny-Baker, M.B.A. – Interim Athletic
Director (Hunkpati Dakota and Oglala Lakota)

Faculty

Rhonda Barron, M.Ed. – Instructor/Librarian
(Chickasaw)
Yaniv Cohen, Ph.D. – Associate Professor,
Biology
Shawn Dixon, M.Ed, B.S.M.I., AAS RT(T) –
Assistant Professor,
Radiography; Chair, Radiologic Sciences
(Choctaw)
Michael Elizondo Jr., M.F.A. – Director,
Bacone College School of Indian Art
(Southern Cheyenne, Chumash)
Diana Goodwin, Ed.D. – Assistant Professor,
Education; Chair, Education
Linda Jordan, M.S. – Assistant Professor,
English; Chair, Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts
Nicky Michael, Ph.D. – Associate Professor,
AIS; Chair, American Indian Studies (Lenape)
Kevin Neal, M.S. – Assistant Professor,
Criminal Justice (Cherokee)
Ran Ren, M.B.A. – Assistant Professor,
Business; Chair, Jerome Steele School of
Business
Donna Sharp, Ph.D. – Assistant Professor,
Family Studies
Linda Strange, M.B.A. – Professor,
Accounting
Derric Sutton, Ph.D. – Assistant Professor of
Business (Muscogee Creek)
Leroy Thompson, D.Min. – Associate
Professor, Philosophy and Religion
Stephen Wiley, D.Min. – Assistant Professor,
Liberal Arts and Humanities



OUR HISTORY

Bacone College, formerly the Indian University, was founded in 1880 to educate American Indian students. Today, Bacone College is transforming into a tribal college.

For 140 years, our students and graduates have assumed leadership positions in communities, tribes, states, churches, and our federal government.

OUR MISSION

As a historic American Indian-serving institution, Bacone College provides a quality, holistic, liberal arts, educational experience for students in a culturally diverse environment, empowering life-long learners with the knowledge, skills, and capacity to be transformational leaders in both Native and non-native communities.

OUR VISION

Empowering transformational leaders who incorporate traditional values and voices to positively impact our local communities around the world

Development Team:

Dr. Leroy Thompson, director
thompsol@bacone.edu

Wendy Burton, director of college relations
burtonw@bacone.edu

Rita Courtwright, communications manager
courtwrightr@bacone.edu

Lahoma Davidson, grant manager
davidsonl@bacone.edu

Dr. Nicky Michael, interim president
michaeln@bacone.edu

On the cover: Ruben Little Head Jr. (Northern Cheyenne, Navajo), Business Administration major, six-time world champion Northern Traditional dancer.
On the back: Ruben Little Head Jr. and Jayla McIntosh (Navajo, Muscogee Creek), Exercise Science major, President of the Student Government Association.

Cover photos by Rita Courtwright
Graphic design by Wendy Burton



Letter from the President

Dr. Nicky Kay Michael (Lenape)

As the first woman, and American Indian woman at that, to be interim president of Bacone College, I am honored to greet you as our family and friends of Bacone. As a council member of the Delaware Tribe, I am humbled and honored to serve this historic institution that has as its mission to provide a quality, holistic liberal arts educational experience to raise up transformational leaders in both Native and non-native communities.

I am a native of Oklahoma with degrees from Stanford University, Oklahoma State University, and University of Oklahoma. I served as Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies at Bemidji State University before coming to Bacone College in 2020 where I have been the Chair of American Indian Studies and Indigenous Curriculum since that time. In addition, I have taught at the University of Wyoming, Tulsa Community College, Rogers State University, University of Oklahoma, and Stanford University.

This is our first formal Annual Report since our near closure in 2018, but I am happy to report that Bacone is continuing its mission to provide “a quality, holistic, liberal arts, educational experience for students in a culturally diverse environment.” As your Interim President, I want you to know that I am committed to that mission. I also want you to know that the vision of Bacone College is my vision: “Empowering transformational leaders who incorporate traditional values and voices to positively impact our local communities around the world.”

I come to Bacone at a critical time in its life. Like our nation and our world, I believe the word that could best describe life in a post-pandemic world is “disconnected.” Because of necessary protocols and practices to combat the virus, our campus has endured isolation from its alumni and friends. We have shifted back and forth to remote and hybrid forms of instruction. Like teachers everywhere, our faculty have taught from behind masks and dealt with students who are only a small image on a screen. We have cancelled social events and pow wows and prayer meetings, and all the things that keep us connected with our supporters. Buildings have been empty sometimes while staff labored to work from home but keep the ‘wheels turning.’ It is a story all can relate to.

The theme of this Annual Report is “Bacone and Beyond.” As I assume the duties of Interim President, my mind is filled with visions of the present and the future for the college but, most importantly, for our students. Here you will find an update on where we are, but more importantly where we are going. A return to ‘normalcy’ is a recommitment to what makes Bacone, “Bacone.” The challenges and pitfalls of the recent past must not hinder our future work. It is time for all constituencies of Bacone to pull together with a unified vision, heart, and mission.

The honored late chief of the Cherokee Nation, Wilma Mankiller once said, “I don’t think anybody anywhere can talk about the future of their people, ...without talking about education. Whoever controls the education of our children, controls our future.”

As a partner with Bacone College in educating the children of dozens of American Indian tribes, you are making the future of their families, their communities, their tribes, and the world.

I invite you keep reading and to join us in the journey of “Bacone and Beyond.”

Sincerely,

Jayla
McIntosh



Navajo, Muskogee Creek,
Exercise Science, President
of the Student Government
Association

As a student, the cost of the school was financially overwhelming. However, the Posey scholarship provided a sound financial resource that allowed me to fully focus on my education and not worry about any financial burden while attending Bacone College. Bacone College has provided a unique and excellent college experience during my educational journey. They have a strong history of continually supporting and sustaining Native American culture, communities, and students. It also embraces other diversities and inclusivity of all students and staff. I enjoy the innovative classroom and engaging school activities. They also provide student programs and clubs that encourage an open-minded atmosphere and highlight students' creativity.

David
Cote



Osage, Art,
President of the
Native American
Student Association

The Posey Scholarship not only persuaded me to go to college, but made it stress-free knowing I don't have to worry about it. Graduating in 2020, I wasn't able to go to college right off the back. Being stuck at a dead-end job, this gave me a perfect opportunity to get my foot out the door. Coming to Bacone College has opened so many doors, and I'm glad I made this decision. Being a studio arts major at Bacone College, I have learned a lot of new skills, and so much more about the campus history. Bacone College has also given me the opportunity to be the president of the Native American Student Association (NASA). Being part of NASA, I have put on many events for the students and others that want to join in. I'm glad I took this opportunity, and excited to see where this adventure takes me.

Elizabeth
Morgan



Kiowa, Radiography,
President of the Auntie
Project

The Posey Scholarship helped me get my education without the financial stress of wondering where I will get assistance. I chose Bacone College because of the family ties I have to the school, my grandmother went to school here and I wanted to follow in her footsteps. The other reason is that the school has such a rich history and a beautiful campus it is a national treasure. I love this school and have never felt so at home at any other educational institution as a Native student. *(The Auntie Project is an organization founded by Elizabeth Morgan to allow students to share their cultural knowledge and American Indian Identity with one another through social gatherings, art, cultural traditions, and food.)*

Join us in producing more transformational leaders like these:

Alexander Posey (Muskogee/Creek), class of 1892, poet, humorist, journalist, and politician, who founded the Eufaula Indian Journal in 1901, the first Native American daily newspaper.

Patrick J. Hurley who served as United States Secretary of War from 1929 to 1933 and Ambassador to China in 1945.

Jack Cleveland Montgomery (Cherokee) who received the United States military's highest decoration in WWII—the Medal of Honor—and for whom the Jack C. Montgomery Veterans Regional Medical Center is named.

Chief Joseph Medicine Crow, (Crow Nation), who grew up at Murrow Indian Children's Home on the campus of Bacone, graduated Bacone 1936, became the last hereditary War Chief of the Crow Nation, was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by Barack Obama in 2009.

Don Chandler, Class of 1954, member of the Cherokee council, who played for the New York Giants from 1956-1964.

Enoch Kelly Haney (Muskogee/Seminole), class of 1962, who created the "Guardian," which sits atop the capital building in Oklahoma City.

Sharron Ahtone Harjo (Kiowa) Kiowa artist and Miss Indian America in 1965

Timothy Hill (attended 2013-2014) drafted by the Kansas City Royals in 2018, pitcher for the San Diego Padres

Will Lowe – (Muskogee Creek), class of 2011, Speaker of the Council, Muskogee (Creek) Nation and Human Resources Director at Bacone.

Eric Strocen, (valedictorian of the class of 2015), now attorney with Wirth Law Offices of Tulsa.

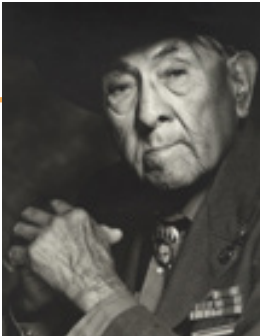
Bacone College continues to graduate transformational leaders who are impacting local communities around the world.



Bacone College, seated in the midst of 39 federally-recognized tribes in Indian country provides American Indian students the opportunity to venture to “Bacone and Beyond-- and we’ve been doing it for 142 years!

How does Bacone do this?

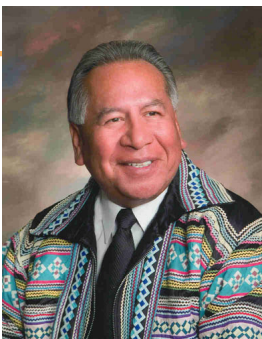
Bacone College offers American Indian students like those pictured here with access to a holistic liberal arts education through the Posey Scholarship---up to a \$10,000 per year award.



This Posey Scholarship (named after one of our most notable graduates) provides financial access to over 150 American Indian students every year who might not otherwise be able to benefit from higher education.

In fall 2021, Bacone actually awarded nearly \$1 Million in Posey Scholarships to students like those pictured here.

And this does not even include academic scholarships, athletic scholarships, and club scholarships! In total, Bacone College awarded \$1.8 in unfunded scholarships to its students this year.



These are unfunded scholarships which means that they are simply a discount on tuition and Bacone College absorbs the difference. This is our institutional commitment to the education of American Indians and others. This is what we are doing. What will you do? How can you be a part of this great mission?

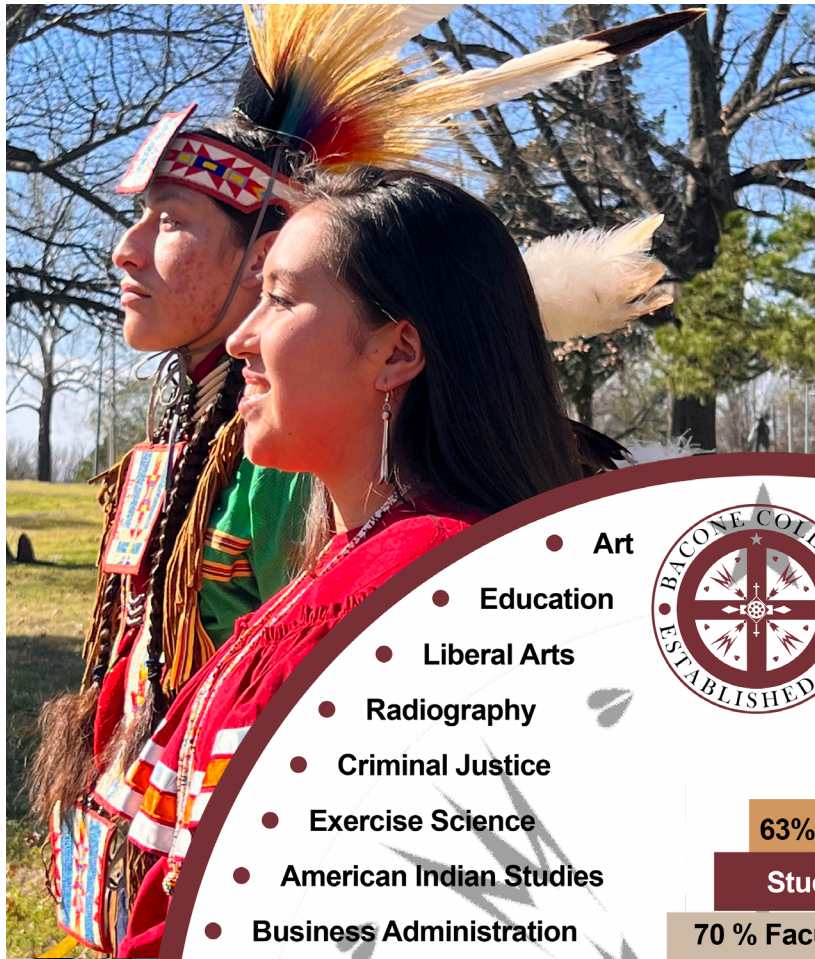
Every Posey Scholarship costs Bacone College up to \$10,000. We invite you to partner with us in our 143rd year of changing lives by sending an American Indian student to “Bacone and Beyond.”

A gift of \$10,000 will provide one Posey Scholarship. Perhaps you and a friend or other members of your organization or your DAR Chapter or your church would partner together in this great work. You may not be able to give at this level, but any gift will make you a partner in changing the lives and futures of American Indian students for generations.



Your gift by June 1 will guarantee that a deserving student will grow to “Bacone and Beyond!”

You may indicate your intention with the Commitment Card attached on the back cover. You may also give online at www.bacone.edu/give or contact the development office at development@bacone.edu.



- Art
- Education
- Liberal Arts
- Radiography
- Criminal Justice
- Exercise Science
- American Indian Studies
- Business Administration

HLC Accredited Since 1965

14:1 student-Professor Ratio

63% American Indian Student Population

Student Body Represents Over 40 Tribes

70 % Faculty & Staff American Indian Population

American Indian Student Scholarships up to \$10,000 Available

Bacone College

2022

Serving American Indian Students Since 1880

Oklahoma's Oldest Institution of Higher Education

Prominent Indian Art Program & Art Collection

Chartered by four Oklahoma Tribes:

United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes

Osage Nation

Kiowa Tribe



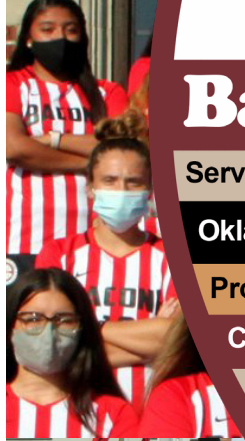
Softball •

Baseball •

Men's & Women's Golf •

Men's & Women's Soccer •

Men's & Women's Basketball •



“BACONE AND BEYOND” CAMPAIGN TAKING OFF

Private individuals, Tribes, and National Organizations are sending students to “Bacone and Beyond! The “Bacone and Beyond” Campaign to raise \$600,000 is well underway with gifts already coming in to raise up “transformational leaders for native and non-native communities around the world” before the public phase even begins.

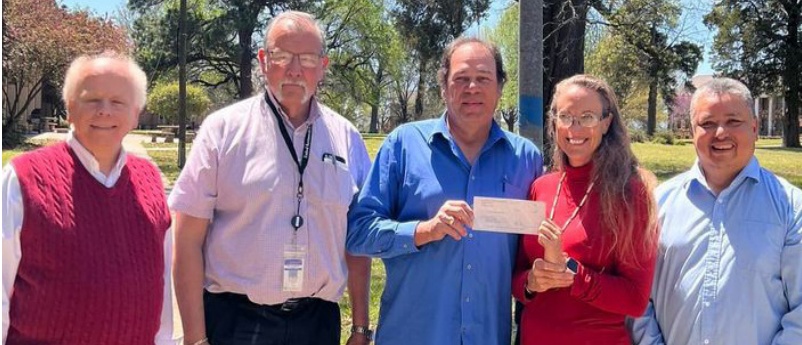
THE DIANNE SHUMAKER AND BOB SOUTHARD FELLOWSHIP (\$50,000)

Dianne Shumaker and Bob Southard led the way by creating the college’s first private fellowship by donating \$50,000 for scholarships for American Indian women.



Bob Southard and Dianne Shumaker

THE UKB FELLOWSHIP (\$50,000)



Bacone VP of Development Dr. Leroy Thompson, UKB Chief Joe Bunch, UKB Education Director Dr. Les Hannah, Interim President Dr. Nicky Michael, and UKB Assistant Chief Jeff Wacoche.

The first tribe to charter Bacone College to become a Tribal College, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians (UKB), have continued their pace-setting role in education by creating the UKB Fellowship at Bacone College. This fellowship program makes the UKB the first among tribal nations to support their students in this creative way.

UKB Chief Joe Bunch, UKB Assistant Chief Jeff Wacoche and UKB Education Director Dr. Hannah presented Bacone College personally delivered a \$50,000 check to be used for five \$10,000 scholarships for future Bacone students. The goal of the Tribal Fellowship Program is to raise up the next generation of leaders for the tribe. Your tribe could be next to join in this important work.

Here’s how a Tribal Fellowship works: (1)The tribe selects 5 members of its tribe to become part of the Fellowship: (2) The 5 students could be Business Majors in Bacone College’s Jerome Steele School of Business and Finance or in another program as agreed to by the tribe;(3) At the end of each school year the students return to their tribal homes to participate in tribal government in ways that the tribe would consider appropriate and helpful; (4) The goal would be for these students to return to their homes and tribal leadership upon graduation.

Wado to the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma. We challenge other tribes to match their example.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION RENOVATE THE KIVA AND SUPPORT THE LIBRARY (\$46,200)

The Daughters of the American Revolution have been friends of Bacone College and Indian Education for nearly 75 years. They announced this week that they are continuing that historic relationship in 2022 with a gift of \$46,200. This gift will renovate the home of the Center for American Indians known as the KIVA (A Hopi word for Gathering Place) and supply computers for the library. This generous gift will provide the following: (1) Eighteen \$900 all-in-one student-use laptops for the Bacone Library and computer library totaling \$16,200; (2) Washer, dryer, plumbing and flooring for the Kiva Building Student Union totaling \$5,000. (3) Pottery Shop equipment for the Bacone Art Department totaling \$5,000 and (4) Furniture and Fixtures for the Kiva Building student rooms totaling \$20,000.



NSDAR President General Denise VanBuren, National Chair of the American Indians Committee Suzanne Heske, and Sue Allen.

Suzanne Heske, National Chair of the American Indians Committee for the NSDAR, announced this generous award on Monday, April 18 in celebration of this continuing friendship. In January, Denise VanBuren, President General of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution visited campus to dedicate the VanBuren Sunshine Gallery - named in her honor. We treasure our friendship with the DAR and thank them for their support.

For more information on how you can be part of sending a student to “Bacone and beyond through a gift or creating a fellowship for your tribe, church DAR chapter, or in honor of an individual, contact Dr. Leroy Thompson at 918-348-8786 or Dr. Nicky Kay Michael at 918-360-9351.



GIFT PLEDGE CARD - PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL OR VISIT WWW.BACONE.EDU/GIVE TO MAKE A DONATION ONLINE



I/we wish to make a contribution to **the Bacone and Beyond** campaign. In consideration of the gifts of others for the same purpose, I/we hereby pledge/agree to contribute the sum of:

\$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000, \$5000, \$10000, other: \$ _____

Are you an Alumni? ☐ yes ☐ no What year? _____

\$ _____ payment enclosed or \$ _____ balance to be paid over a period of _____ years.

Payments on my/our pledge will be made beginning: ____/____/____ Therefore, payments on my/our pledge will be made:

☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-Annually ☐ Annually ☐ Others (Dates): _____

Please charge my gift to my credit card: ☐ AMEX ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover

Account Number _____ CVV Code _____ Expiration Date ____/____/____

Name as it appears on card: _____ Signature(s): _____

Date: ____/____/____

How do you prefer to be recognized? _____ or I/we prefer to remain anonymous.

Would you like info on planned giving? ☐ yes ☐ no

If you are employed by a matching gift company, please contact the company about a matching gift form and send it along with your gift to the college.

Checks should be made payable to: Bacone College Office of Development / 2299 Old Bacone Rd. / Muskogee, OK 74403

Thank You!! Bacone College is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible as prescribed by law. We do not consider this pledge to be legally binding.