

**Dr. Natalie Welch, PhD/MBA, Assistant Professor at Linfield College, Native American Affairs Advocate**

*Natalie is an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, grew up on the Qualla Boundary in North Carolina, has done extensive research on Native American athletes and Cherokee stickball. She also hosts The Creative Native podcast that features Native American athletes and advocates.*

*Natalie has professional experience with Nike's Native initiative, Nike N7 and the advertising agency Wieden+Kennedy. She graduated with her doctorate degree in Sport Management at the University of Tennessee in May 2019. The same institution she started the Native American Student Association for as an undergraduate in 2005. She obtained her MBA and Master's in Sport Business at the University of Central Florida as a member of the prestigious DeVos Sport Business program and graduate assistant for the TIDES Institute.*

*In August 2019, Natalie became the first Sport Management faculty member at Linfield College. She teaches sport management courses in the business department and looks to work with the Native community to promote Native athletes and Native issues on campus and in the greater community.*