

UCSB NAGPRA Campus Committee Minutes
September 9, 2022

Attendees:

Gerardo Aldana
Mike Miller
Alyssa Saavedra

Members Present:

Jon Daehnke
Vincent Gomez
Cristina Gonzales
Gregory Johnson
Nakia Zavalla

Members Absent:

Stuart Tyson Smith

Agenda Topics:

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer: Nakia Zavalla
2. Introduce new member, Vincent Gomez (Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians): All
3. Review and approve August meeting notes: All
4. General Repository Updates: Gerardo/Laurie
5. Accession 605 Decision: Gerardo and Mike
6. State Audit Updates: Mike
7. Fall Listening Session Content: All
8. Upcoming Tasks and Milestones: Mike
9. Other Discussion Topics: All
10. Closing:

Summary of Items:

1. Nakia Zavalla opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Everyone in the meeting introduced themselves and their NAGPRA related affiliations. Vincent Gomez, the newest UCSB NAGPRA Campus Committee Member from the Santa Ynez Band, shared that he was a Navy veteran, served as a cultural monitor and is on the Elder's council.
3. Meeting minutes from August 12th were approved.
4. Gerardo Aldana shared that the summaries in the inventories are getting ready and that they are on the first round of consultations of the new collections. Campus Committee and Tribal members will begin the consultation process on new collections beginning on October 6. Gerardo shared that we have a collection from San Clemenita that was a part of a field school that UCLA ran under the US Navy. He shared that when excavated, everything stayed at UCLA except the human remains which went to UCSB. The

remains were added to UCSB's ossuary. The Navy is repatriating them and UCLA is repatriating them. Wendy Teeter is taking the lead from the UCLA side.

5. Paul Varela was listed as the most likely descendant (MLD) of the human remains found on a Ventura site and labeled as Accession 605. There were questions about who had possession of Accession 605 after Varela passed. While at the NAGPRA Workshop in Sacramento, Gerardo shared that he informally consulted with tribes and that they informed him that Accession 605 lies outside of CalNAGPRA. Melanie O'brien was at the conference as well, and shared with Gerardo that federal NAGPRA sets the foundation for CalNAGPRA and should be treated as such.
6. Mike shared that the auditors are really focused on Mike's background around repatriation or lack thereof. The auditors asked for the budget. Mike shared that we received feedback from UCOP around historical resource allocation and procedure.
7. As for the Fall listening session on October 6th, Mike shares that we will not only discuss reburial but other concerns the tribes may have. Nakia suggests that we tour potential burial sites during the listening session and Cristina Gonzales brought up maintaining confidentiality. Gerardo suggested we use Mosher Hall as the starting point of the meeting as it overlooks the mountains.
8. Nakia brought up how UC staff are funded to support CalNAGPRA, and that the tribes are not. She shared that the tribes may not have the funds to find locations for reburial so universities may need to hold on to the remains longer, and that they have to be reburied in an approved location. She shared that ancestors going to the islands would have to go in the freezer or somewhere cold to keep them preserved and prevent insects from getting to them. Nakia shared that the tribes have volunteers who have a hard time balancing their work with CalNAGPRA due to the inflexibility of some universities, such as Cal Berkeley, with their time constraints. Nakia shares the importance of giving the tribes a platform to speak and share their stories.
9. Nakia shared that the Quabajai tribe introduced themselves as the Coastal Ban at the NAGPRA Workshop in Sacramento, and that they claimed that UCSB had some of their ancestors and questioned why they were not consulted in the repatriation efforts. Gerardo shared with the committee that their records do dictate that there is a Quabajai organization that does own some of the remains held by UCSB. Greg cautions committee members that the university focuses on itself and will look out for itself while this group will look out for the more specialized groups. Jon Daehnke said that while legal council has tried to cancel repatriation in the past, we cannot ignore federal law, and that we want to make sure we are following the applicable laws to move repatriation forward.
10. Greg started the motion to adjourn. All present committee members followed the motion.

Meeting Adjourned