General Meeting

September 21, 2021

Start: 5:31p

End: 5:50p

***Dr. Lara Nolder came to speak at 6:00p and spoke until 7:00p

NOTES FROM HER TALK BELOW

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Sam Vice President of GEMS, GA in MST program, works at the Putnam
 - o Rebecca Secretary of GEMS, works at Iowa 80 Trucking Museum
 - o Rachel SGA Rep of GEMS,GA at Putnam
 - o Abby Treasurer of GEMS, GA at Family Museum, works at the Putnam
- Schedule for the Semester
 - Tuesday September 21 General Meeting 1 and Guest Speaker Dr. Lara Nolder (Iowa State Archaeologist's Office) - 5:30p
 - Sunday October 3 Iowa Museum Association Virtual Conference
 - o Tuesday October 19 General Meeting 2 5:30p
 - o Mon.-Fri. November 1-5 Association of Midwest Museums Virtual Conference
 - o Tuesday November 16 General Meeting 3 5:30p
 - o Tuesday December 7 General Meeting 4 (Final General Meeting of Semester) 5:30p
- More events in the works panel of speakers anticipated for the spring
- See Rebecca if you don't have the sign-up sheet for the Association of Midwest Museums
- Election for President
 - o Guidelines for President
 - See photo below for list
 - Nominees
 - Kayla
 - Tate
 - Results: Kayla is elected president (9-6)
- Contact GEMS (gems@wiu.edu) with any questions and let an officer know if you aren't part of the Facebook group but would like to join

VESTED RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. Coordinates all activities of the organization.
 - 2. Liaison to WIU-QC community.
 - 3. Official representative of organization.
 - Calls regular and special meetings, including officer meetings and member meetings.
 - 5. Presides at meetings.
 - 6. Prepares agenda for meetings.
 - 7. Ensures that GEMS activities meet bylaw and University requirements.
 - 8. Coordinates with the GEMS advisor.

Dr. Lara Nolder Talk

- Dr. Lara Nolder is the Bioarchaeology Director for the Office of the State Archaeologist
- NAGPRA ties into state laws
- Every state has their own burial code and lowa's was a model for NAGPRA
- Three missions of the OSA Bioarchaeology Program
 - Research
 - Ensure through data collection and reporting
 - o Education and Stewardship
 - o Protection
 - NAGPRA compliance
 - Consultation on and enforcement of lowa laws protecting ancient human remains (>150 years old)
- Critical Feature
 - All human remains (not just Native American remains) are protected regardless of antiquity or affiliation
 - Code of Iowa Sections
 - Chapter 263B7-9
 - Administrative Rules 685-11.1
 - **5231.316**
 - **716.5**
- Code of Iowa 263B.7
 - State Archaeologist has primary responsibility for investigating, preserving, and retaining discoveries of ancient human remains
 - Definition of ancient
 - Non-ancient (<150 years old) remains fall under the authority of the Iowa Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Statistics
 - Archaeological and osteological documentation and written reports filed with IDPH required
- Code of Iowa 263B.8
 - Establishment of a cemetery for reburial of ancient remains
 - Four cemeteries have been established
 - Non-disclosed locations
 - Discreet reburials

- Try to get remains reburied as close to origin as possible
- Code of Iowa 263B.9
 - State Archaeologist has authority
- Administrative Code 685-11.1
 - OSA is the appropriate agency to contact regarding discovery of human physical remains believed to be over 150 years old
 - OSA should be notified of the location of areas believed to represent ancient burial grounds
 - No testing that involves excavation is ever conducted to ____ a burial site
 - Geophysical surveys are often conducted to determine site boundaries
 - 1" soil prodigy is sometimes used to determine whether a mound is a natural land formation or prehistorically constructed
 - OSA shall maintain records of all known suspected ancient burial sites in the state
 - I-sites
 - Bioarchaeology Program files
 - OSA has authority to coordinate activities pertaining to ancient burial grounds to foster protection and preservation
 - 685-11.1 (5) OSA does **not** have fiscal responsibility for these activities
- Code of IOwa 523I.316
 - Serious misdemeanor to fail to report the finding of human remains without lawful authority
 - Maximum penalty: imprisonment not to exceed two years plus fine of \$500-5000
- OSA Indian Advisory Council
 - All work related to Native American human remains and burial sites coordinated with IAC and affiliated tribes
 - Regularly scheduled meetings and informal consultations
 - Five individuals who are Native on council
 - Get feedback on everything the office is doing
 - Discriminatory practice in the past
 - European bodies sent to cemetery while Native bodies were sent to university for study
- A brief history of NAGPRA
 - Legislation stemmed from unequal treatment of Native American human remains
 - Eurocentric views that science was superior to Native American culture and knowledge
 - 1986-1990 many bills were put before Congress to develop legislation for repatriation
 - AS early as 1976 state-level attempts were made
 - American Indian Movement
 - lowa Code was developed
 - Two influential events led to the passage of NAGPRA
 - National Museum of the American Indian established precedent for national law by giving the Smithsonian repatriation authority
 - 2 year-long effort by museums and tribes at the Heard Museum in Arizona
 - o November 16, 1990
 - First deadlines: 1993 and 1995
- Immediate Concerns with the Passage of NAGPRA
 - o Museums feared they would be emptied of invaluable collections
 - Research would be prohibited
 - What about remains for which cultural affiliation is indeterminable?
- NAGPRA
 - A process by which museums and federal agencies return human remains and cultural objects to the appropriate Native American tribes
 - The process for museums and federal agencies:
 - Consultation
 - Assess collections for human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, objects of cultural patrimony
 - Document and determine cultural affiliation if possible

- Notices of Inventory Completion (NIC) and Summaries
- PUblication in the Federal Register
- Repatriation
- Requires consultation with tribes to
 - Determine the cultural affiliation of human remains and cultural objects
 - Cultural objects: funerary objects, sacred objects, objects of cultural patrimony
 - Determine the proper treatment of human remains and objects until repatriation can occur
 - Organize reputation and/or reburial the transfer of control to tribes
- The Importance of Consultation
 - Built into NAGPRA to foster communication between museums/federal agencies and tribes
 - NAGPRA represents the first time that the government and Non-Indian institutions had to consider what is sacred from the perspective of Native Americans
 - Re-arranged power dynamics
 - Has led to a better understanding of collections overall and better relationships among anthropologists, archaeologists museums, and tribes
 - Science and cultural sensitivity do not have to be mutually exclusive
 - The key to the future of bioarchaeology is communication and preservation