### Our Identity, Our Path

Pamala M. Silas Jordan L. Gurneau



Northwestern

### Introduce yourselves

#### Jordan Gurneau

St. Croix Chippewa Red Lake Chippewa





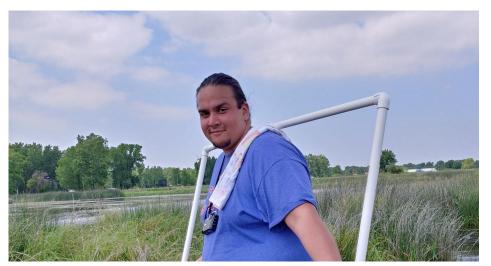
### My STEM Career

- Associates degree from City Colleges of Chicago
- Bachelors of Science, environmental science Northeastern Illinois University
- Currently Northwestern University PhD environmental engineering





# Which picture is from '18 and '19





## Story



#### Pamala Silas

## Menominee Nation Oneida Nation







#### **Tribal Sovereignty**

Tribal sovereignty refers to the fact that each tribe has the inherent right to govern itself.



Council chambers of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde in Oregon.

Photo from Grand Ronde We All Belong

#### **Understanding Native People**

Diversity in tribal representation

74% residing in urban areas

Unique methods of outreach and messaging, systems of support and role modeling

Critical that the organization be culturally competent

#### **Important Values To Al/AN**

Humility and service to others are very highly valued

Responsibilities to family and community are paramount

Team work is more important than self-promotion or boasting

Strong connection to history and the past

Cultural "multiplicity" is prevalent

Respect for Elders is deep

Military Service is honored

#### **History And Trust: Yesterday Impacts Today**

Very unique political status – not just race or cultural

**Treaties** 

Forced Relocation

**Boarding School** 

Separation and forced assimilation

Religious Freedom

1960s civil rights movements

Health, class, and education issues of today

Sovereignty issues

#### What about now?

#### **Traditional** Western Science Native · part to whole **Knowledge Systems** Common holistic · limited to evidence and Ground explanation within physical · includes physical and Organizing world metaphysical world linked to Principles moral code · emphasis on understanding · universe is unified how · emphasis on practical · body of knowledge stable application of skills and but subject to modification knowledge Habits of Mind · honesty, inquisitiveness · trust for inherited wisdom perseverance skepticism respect for all things · open-mindedness Skills and Procedures · tools expand scale of · empirical observation in · practical experimentation direct and indirect observanatural settings · qualitative oral record tion and measurement pattern recognition · local verification · hypothesis falsification • verification through repetition communication of metaphor · global verification · inference and prediction and story connected to life, · quantitative written record values, and proper behavior Knowledge · communication of procedures, evidence and · plant and animal behavior, cycles, theory habitat needs, interdependence · properties of objects and materials · position and motion of · discipline-based objects • integrated and applied to · cycles and changes in · micro and macro theory daily living and traditional earth and sky (e.g., cell biology and physiolsubsistence practices ogy, atomic theory, plate tectonics, etc.) · mathematical models

Kawagley and Barnhardt, 2005, p.16

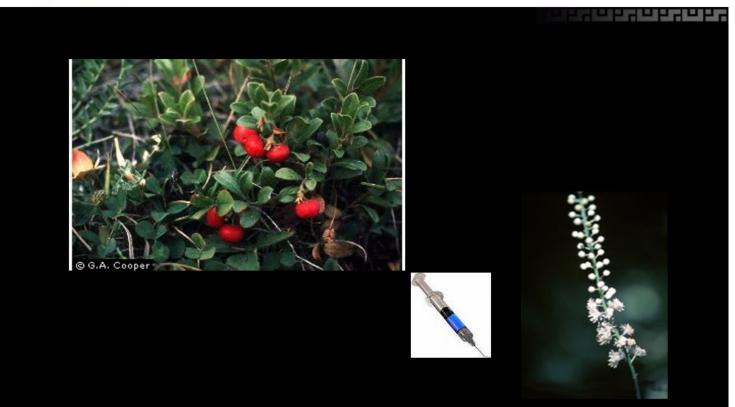
















#### AISES 2016 Professional of the Year - Karletta Chief, Ph.D



18

#### Discussion

Thank you for Listening and Sharing Miigwetch!
Waewaenin!