

TWANAT AWARD - Howard Arnett, Esq.

Howard joined Karnopp Petersen in 1980, after working as a legal services attorney on the Navajo Indian Reservation in Arizona following law school. He has concentrated his practice in the area of Federal Indian law, especially with representation of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon as well as other tribes, on matters involving treaty rights, tribal sovereignty, tribal law development, government-to-government relations, and gaming. Howard has additional expertise in civil litigation and appellate practice.

Howard is active in Oregon's statewide legal community. He has served as a member of the Oregon State Board of Bar Examiners, the Bar Examiners' Review Board, and as a past member of the Executive Committee of the Appellate Practice, Indian Law and Legal Services sections of the Oregon State Bar. He also served as Lawyer's Representative to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference. Howard served as President of the Oregon Law Foundation Board for 2013 and currently serves as the statewide Co-Chair of the Lawyers' Campaign for Equal Justice and is a member of the CEJ Board. Howard also is an adjunct professor at the University of Oregon School of Law. He teaches the survey course on American Indian Law as well as advanced seminars on Tribal Law and Tribal Courts, Contemporary Issues in American Indian Law and Comparative Law of Indigenous Peoples. Previously, he was an adjunct professor at the Lewis & Clark Law School teaching the survey course and advanced seminars on Federal Indian Law.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT - Dr. Virginia Beavert, Yakama Nation Elder, Sahaptin Language Teacher, University of Oregon.

Virginia Beavert, a member of the Yakama Nation, is a highly respected teacher and fluent speaker of her language, Yakima Sahaptin. Virginia has worked throughout her life to teach and preserve her Native language. She has been the Washington State Indian Educator of the Year, and in 2004 was honored by the Indigenous Language Institute for her lifetime of work on language revitalization. She was a key planner of the Yakama exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian and has served on numerous committees and planning councils related to the documentation and preservation of Native languages.

In 2004, Virginia was the recipient of an NEH Faculty Research Award for work on a Yakima Sahaptin Lexicography. She has received numerous fellowships, including awards from the Smithsonian Institute, Dartmouth College, and the Washington State Arts Commission. She has written and published several articles about Yakima language and culture. Virginia is the co-author of the *Yakima Sahaptin Dictionary* with Dr. Sharon Hargus of the University of Washington, and on a grammar of Sahaptin with Joana Jansen of the University of Oregon. She is a 2007 recipient of the Ken Hale Prize, awarded by the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, and in 2008, was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from the University of Oregon for her significant contribution to the cultural development of Oregon and society as a whole. Virginia was awarded the University of Oregon Doctoral Research Fellowship, the highest honor for graduate study at UO. She earned her Ph.D. in Linguistics in 2012. Her most recent book is: [The Gift of Knowledge / Tnúwit Átawish Nch'inch'imamí: Reflections on Sahaptin Ways.](#)

SPEAKER Phillip Cash Cash, PhD., Weyí·letpu· (Cayuse), Ni·mí·pu· (Nez Perce) Linguist and Anthropologist.

Phillip Cash Cash, PhD is a fluent younger speaker of Ni-mi-pu-tímt (the Nez Perce language), a severely endangered language spoken in the Indigenous Southern Plateau cultural region of the Pacific Northwest. He recently completed his double doctorate in the Joint Program in Linguistics and Anthropology at the University of Arizona. His research advocacy focuses on endangered language documentation with a key interest on understanding the links between language and culture. He currently serves on the board of the Endangered Language Fund (ELF) and the Native Voices Endowment (NVE). He also has extensive experience in repatriation documentation research and training, museum-based ethnographic research, cultural resource management, and rock-art documentation.

Institutions with which he has been employed or has carried out field-related investigations, training, and university-level teaching include Repatriation Office of the National Museum of Natural History (SI), Battelle's Pacific Northwest National Laboratories (PNNL), United States Forest Service (USDA-FS), Western Archaeological Conservation Center (Tucson, AZ), CoLang: Institute of Collaborative Language Research (Linguistic Society of America), and the American Indian Language Development Institute (University of Arizona). A recent co-authored volume of his on Indigenous placenames entitled Čáw pawá láakni 'They are not forgotten': Sahaptian Place Names Atlas of the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla (2015) was bestowed a national honors award by the Harvard Project's Honoring Contributions in the Governance of American Indian Nations and the National Congress of American Indians in 2016. Phillip is also a traditional Plateau medicine singer, healer, artist, and writer.