



May 17th, 2021

Dear NALSA Family and IPLP Community,

On behalf of the new Executive Board, we would like to jointly thank you all for investing your faith in the platforms that each of us brought forth by voting us into leadership. We are beyond grateful for the opportunity to serve this community as a coalition of Indigenous law students and allies. We would moreover like to acknowledge the previous E-Board for their unwavering dedication to the NALSA community. Even faced with pandemic conditions, they managed to foster exceptional momentum and goodwill – a dynamism that we will capture in our activism as we focus on praxis in achieving our ends.

Our theme for the upcoming year is Indigenous Pride and Sovereignty. We plan on cultivating an environment on campus in which Indigenous students can express ourselves more authentically without fear. Our programming will highlight contemporary issues that Native Nations encounter in exercising our sovereignty alongside more intimate conversations about what it means to be a legal and political Indian in the evolving relationship between the United States of America and the sovereign nations within American jurisdiction. We are fortunate enough to witness a renaissance of pride and visibility for Indigenous peoples as we reclaim our sovereignty and decolonize the power structures that intersect with all aspects of our political existences. The Indigenous narrative has been characterized as one of survival against all of the odds. Each one of us is a survivor. Now we have been blessed with the privilege of being here to seize a present in which we can thrive. Our administration will prioritize creating a space for these important conversations to occur.

We would like to conclude by expressing our gratitude to the community. Our E-Board is dedicated to serving each and every one of you. Please reach out to us along the way if you have any questions or would like to learn more about how you can help our mission. Lastly, we thank the Tohono O’odham Nation and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, on whose ancestral lands we have been gifted the opportunity to expand our knowledge of the law. We look forward to engendering a year of growth, celebration, and community building while we transition back to in-person learning.

Sincerely,

The 2021 NALSA Executive Board

Hayden Godfrey | President
Jeneva R. Kame Parks | Vice President
Analisa Skeen | Secretary
Julia Aguilera | Treasurer
Rebecca Caro Cohen | Public Relations