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Wokini Initiative: The New Beginnings Newsletter

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3-2022

### The New Beginnings Newsletter, March 2022

Wokini Initiative

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# THE NEW BEGINNINGS NEWSLETTER



SOUTH DAKOTA  
STATE UNIVERSITY

**WOKINI  
INITIATIVE**  
A NEW BEGINNING  
South Dakota State University®



## **SDSU-Hosted AISES Conference a Success**

### **Regional Chapters Come Together in Brookings**

The SDSU chapter of the American Indian Sciences and Education Society (AISES) brought together its counterparts in South Dakota and neighboring states for the annual regional conference, which takes place every spring. This year's gathering took place March 18-20.

The keynote speaker was Joseph C. Robertson, PhD, Founder and Chief Data Scientist of Mato Ohitika Analytics, LLC. With strong ties to AISES and SDSU, Robertson described the growth of the chapter since 2012, and he shared about his specialization and dissertation on Native data sovereignty. The host chapter also led participants on interactive tours of campus labs over the weekend conference, which bore the theme "We Are Tomorrow" this year.

Marisa Hare (Flandreau/Yankton/Oglala/Arikara), College of Education and Human Sciences is a longtime AISES member and former chapter president. She sees AISES getting stronger over the years, "When I first got here in 2014 I didn't know a lot about AISES and I wasn't interested in STEM. Nowadays AISES does outreach with high schools like Flandreau Indian School, they facilitate experiments with high school science classes."

The mission of AISES is to promote indigenous presence and leadership in STEM through support of Native American students pursuing degrees in the fields of Science, Math, Engineering and Technology from the pre-college years into the professional life.

One highlight of the recent regional conference was a session called "After Graduation". Hare, a senior, said this informal session featured panelists from varied paths to higher education and was reflective of the opportunities and detours that Native American students may encounter on the path to success. "It was cool to see how their lives have differed and what options there are for me, too."

[Learn about AISES](#)

[Learn about AISC](#)



## Beverley Warne, NANEC Mentor, Honored by SD State Legislature

In a joint chamber commemoration, Oglala Lakota elder Beverly Warne was honored at the Statehouse on March 7. [The proclamation](#) highlighted Warne's outstanding service as a nurse educator and mentor in South Dakota and Arizona. Warne contributed to the founding of SDSU's own Native American Nursing Education Center (NANEC) and is a mentor there. She also directed the American Indian Students United for Nursing program and the Indian Health Service Scholarship program at Arizona State University, instructing and mentoring, her unique perspective and special experience has impacted the life and career of countless medical professionals. As a civic actor she leads the Rapid City Community Conversations group, an initiative combating racism through transformative conversations and relationship building.

The proclamation was introduced by Representative Peri Pourier and Senator Red Dawn Foster, both Oglala Lakota and representing District 27.

Beverly Warne will be making a special visit to the SDSU Brookings campus April 11-13, where she will be Elder-in-Residence at the American Indian Student Center and spending time with students and Wokini Initiative partners, sharing her wisdom, ideas and encouragement.

We are proud of you, Bev!

[Read about NANEC](#)

[Read about Wokini](#)

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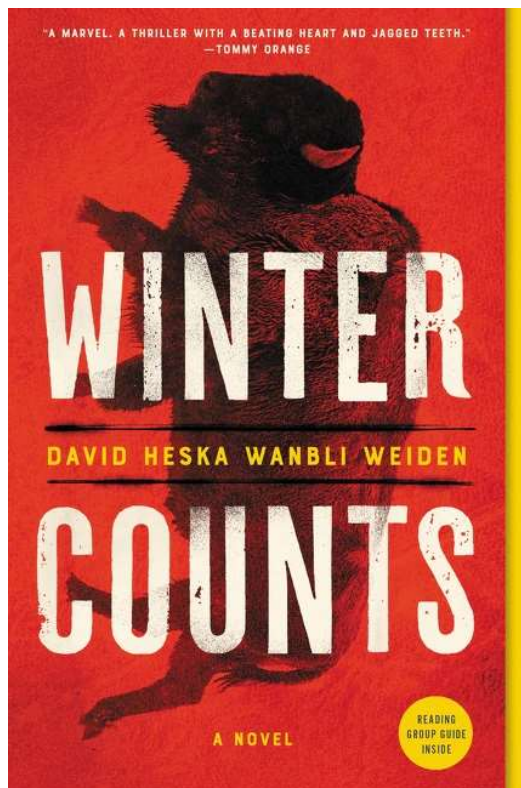
### Upcoming Events

- AISES Meetings: Every Tuesday, 7:00 PM, AISC Lounge
- AISA Meetings: Every Tuesday, 5:00 PM, AISC Lounge
- Wahanpi Wednesday: March 23, April 13 & 27, May 4, AISC

- AISC Popcorn Fridays: Every Friday, All Day, AISC Lounge
- Wokini Scholars Meeting, April 19, 7:00 PM, AISC Classroom
- Philosophy of the Lakota Bow & Arrow with Joseph Marshall, 5:00 - 7:00 PM, AISC Classroom
  - March 30 - 31
  - April 20 - 21
- J.White Exhibition, February 25 - April 4, Brookings Arts Council
- Jerry Fogg Exhibition Native Soul Art: 11 Degrees of Tatanka, November 24, 2021 - April 14, 2022, South Dakota Art Museum
- AISA Annual Wacipi, April 9 - 10, 2022, Frost Arena
  - Grand entry: April 9 at 1pm and 7pm, April 10 at 1pm
  - Admission is free
  - Free community meal Saturday evening
  - Contact [selena.olvera@sdstate.edu](mailto:selena.olvera@sdstate.edu) for more information
- Elder-in-Residence - Beverly Warne, April 11 - 13, AISC
- Joseph Marshall Keynote & Workshop Presentation, April 21, Woster Celebration Hall
- Native Graduate Honoring Ceremony, May 6, AISC

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## Book of the Month



This year's Siouxland Libraries One Book is the award-winning first novel of David Heska Wanbli Weiden (Rosebud Sioux Tribe). The crime-fiction thriller follows Virgil Wounded House, a hired vigilante, as he traces the the flow lethal drugs coming onto the Rosebud Reservation as his work becomes distressingly personal. Siouxland Libraries One Book programming throughout the month of April the 2022 include an author talk with Weiden at the Orpheum Theatre on the 21st. For more information visit the [Siouxland Libraries website](https://www.siouxlandlibraries.org/).

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## Dakota Word of the Month

wétu | to be spring

## Lakota Word of the Month

yuónihaj | to honor (somebody)

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## Tanyáŋ Yahí: Welcome, Valeria Wicker!

The Wokini Initiative and SDSU welcome [Valeria Wicker](#), who started in March as the Program Coordinator in the Office of Wokini and Tribal Relations.

Valeria's work focuses on promoting capacity, knowledge and understanding among SDSU faculty and staff in Oceti Sakowin history and culture.

[Read about Valeria](#)

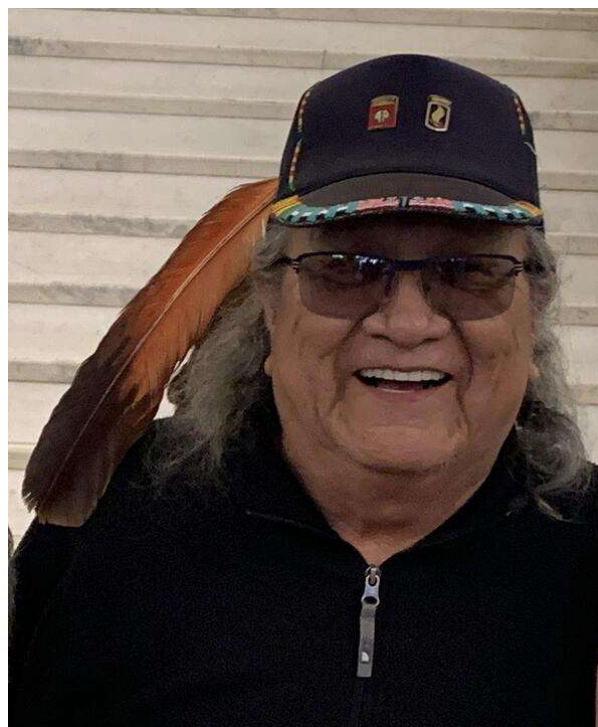
[Read about Wokini](#)

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## Wohanpi na Wounspe

### NANEC Hosting Tim Bad Heart Bull for Lunch and Learn

Join the Native American Nursing Education Center for our upcoming Soup & Learn speaker--Tom Bad Heart Bull, MPA, Vietnam Veteran. Mr. Bad Heart Bull will be presenting "**Cultural Understanding in Health Care.**" He will also focus on PTSD and will provide the group with information that will enhance the understanding of health care issues affecting Native American Veterans.



He will offer the students and faculty explanations of Lakota Cultural practices they may encounter in the hospital setting as well in Hospice. Mr. Bad Heart Bull is locally known as a language and cultural bearer and respected for his knowledge of the cultural practices. His presentation will be this Friday, March 25th. Lunch starts at 11:30am MT and the presentation begins at noon MT.

Please [RSVP to Barbara Ogaard](#) for a food count. The presentation will be offered in hybrid format in-person at SDSU NANEC (1220 Mt. Rushmore Rd. Ste. 2) or via Zoom.

Zoom info:

[Meeting URL](#)

Meeting ID: 958 0055 0068



Wokini Initiative, South Dakota State University, Morrill Hall 119, Brookings, SD 57007, 605-688-4030

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