

About AILDI

AILDI is part of the Teaching, Learning and Sociocultural Studies Department within the College of Education at The University of Arizona. It was founded in 1978 with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Cited by the U.S. Department of Education as one of ten outstanding programs for minority teacher preparation, AILDI continues to be the standard-bearer for Indigenous language education. More detailed information about the history and creation of AILDI can be found at aildi.arizona.edu.

As a result of our work, we envision that the larger society will know that language revitalization is critical to sustain and reinforce Indigenous linguistic, cultural, and spiritual health and identity.

Staff

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The University of Arizona Supporters

College of Education, Department of Teaching, Learning and Sociocultural Studies
Linguistics Department
American Indian Studies Department
Graduate College

Critical Training
Purposeful Research
Transformative Teaching
Collaborative Partnerships



American Indian Language Development Institute

The University of Arizona
Annual Report Fiscal Year
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

*Over 40 Years of Commitment to
Indigenous Language Education*





Transformative Teaching • Critical Training • Collaborative Partnerships • Purposeful Research



The American Indian Language Development Institute's (AILDI) mission

is to provide critical training to strengthen efforts to revitalize and promote the use of Indigenous languages across generations. This is accomplished by engaging educators, schools, Indigenous communities and policy makers nationally and internationally through outreach, transformative teaching, purposeful research and collaborative partnerships.

Summer Institute
June 6 -July 7, 2022, 18 participants, representing 13 Tribal Nations
Theme: Centering Our Indigenous Language Learners

Curriculum and Faculty Linguistics for Native American Communities

Samantha Prins, Ph.D. student in Linguistics at the University of Arizona

Re-claiming Our Indigenous Super Powers: Reinstating the Original Vision Through Unapologetic Action in Our Language Work

Virtual Immersion: Language Cultivation in Virtual Spaces

Sheilah Nicholas, (Hopi) Ph.D., Professor, Teaching, Learning & Sociocultural Studies Department, The University of Arizona

Centering Indigenous Language and Culture Education in Times of Rapid Change

Vanessa Anthony-Stevens, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Social & Cultural Studies, Department of Curriculum & Instruction, University of Idaho

Workshop Series

13 workshops, 49 participants, 16 Tribal Nations

Gila River Education Department, Professional Development Workshops
November 5, 19; December 3, 17, 2021 & February 4, 18; March 4, 18, 2022

Instructors: Stan Rodriguez (Kumeyaay), Ed.D, Sheilah Nicholas, (Hopi) Ph.D., Professor, Teaching, Learning and Sociocultural Studies Department, The University of Arizona

Language Vitality Survey Methods,
March 25-26, 2022 University of Illinois – Urbana Champaign, Anthropology & American Indian Studies department

Instructors: Cordella Moses (San Carlos Apache), Marilyn Reed (Navajo), Tyler Peterson, Assistant Professor, English (Linguistics) department, Arizona State University

Nevada Department of Education, Office of Inclusive Education, Indian Education, Professional Development Workshops,
March 22, 29, April 12, 19; May 3, 2022

Instructor: Sheilah Nicholas, (Hopi) Ph.D., Professor, Teaching, Learning

and Sociocultural Studies Department, The University of Arizona

Language Culture & Ecology, On-line Workshop, June 15-17, 2022

Instructor: Teresa Newberry, Ph.D, Chair, Science and Health Programs & Faculty Biology & Natural Resources, Tohono O'odham Community College

Outreach, Special Projects and Presentations

Collaborative Language Planning Project, (CLPP) University of Montana and Chief Dull Knife College. AILDI is a collaborator on this NSF funded grant. (BCS-1800820; BCS 1800617) The multi-year project is creating a network of support for Montana tribal college language instructors and activists. A new NSF grant (BCS-2037470) will strengthen the environment for collaborative research in Indigenous science and language.

AILDI and CoLang June 12-17, 2022, University of Montana, Missoula, MT

Co-Lang is an international institute for language activists, teachers, linguists and students from language communities and academia to obtain hands-on skills in language documentation and revitalization. Co-Lang 2022 focused on Indigenous languages

and communities and AILDI assisted with planning for the program by sponsoring the following sessions and instructors:

Master-Apprentice Program – Instructors: Stan Rodriguez (Kumeyaay), Ed.D, Priscilla Ortiz (Kumeyaay), Melissa Hill (Kumeyaay) and *Survey Methods –* Instructors: Cordella Moses (San Carlos Apache), Marilyn Reed (Navajo), Tyler Peterson, Assistant Professor, English (Linguistics) department, Arizona State University

International Mother Language Day, February 21

International Mother Language Day (IMLD) celebrated annually on February 21 was designated by UNESCO in 2000. IMLD promotes the preservation and protection of all languages. This year AILDI hosted three events in commemoration of the day. On Friday, February 18th, AILDI staff and volunteers from the Master of Arts Program in Native American Languages and Linguistics (NAMA) and the Linguistics department set up a promotional booth on the University Mall. On Monday, February 21st, a new sign in front of the Communication building was unveiled. This new sign is the first to feature the Tohono O'odham language on a permanent fixture. The installation is part of a campus-wide endeavor to include

translations from all of the tribal languages in Arizona. Later in the day, a panel of NAMA students) spoke about their experiences with language work in their heritage language.

Ken Hale Memorial Lecture

Every two years, AILDI recognizes the work of individuals dedicated to Indigenous language revitalization. The Ken Hale Memorial Lecture was established to honor the legacy of noted linguist Ken Hale, whose lifework was dedicated to documenting and revitalizing endangered languages. He also served as a mentor to tribal linguists, inspiring many to enter the field of linguistics. AILDI's most beloved alumna, Dr. Virginia Beavert (Yakama) received the award. Due to the COVID pandemic and in deference to Dr. Beavert's health and safety, the lecture typically given by award recipients was not held this year.

