



Mission

To alleviate the unequal burden of cancer among Native Americans of the Southwest through research, training, and community outreach programs in collaboration with the communities we serve.

In this issue:

- Caporaso contribution to NCI Data Science blog
- NACP Writing Accountability Groups Celebrate Milestone
- Tohono O'odham Cancer Prevention Program
- More Spring 2022 NAU & UA Graduates

The Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention (NACP) is a partnership of Native American communities, Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona Cancer Center, and the National Cancer Institute to address cancer health disparities in Native Americans.

Greetings!

Summer is here! Some NACP students have graduated and moved on to their next adventure. Faculty members are leading summer training programs while NACP research efforts continue. Everyone has worked on our annual report to the National Cancer Institute. We hope your summer reading includes this issue - touching on research efforts, a partnership with Native community members and training successes.

Jani Ingram

Francine Gachupin

Jason Wilder

Margaret Briebl

Caporaso contribution to NCI Data Science blog



Dr. Greg Caporaso at NAU contributed as guest blogger to the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Data Science blog. The blog post, titled *Wrangling Data for Microbiome Research — Focus on QIIME 2*, describes the unique link between the microbiome and the development, detection, and treatment of cancer. Microbiome is the term that we use to describe all the microorganisms that live within or our bodies. Much of our current understanding of the microbiome's role in cancer can be attributed to advances in DNA sequencing and data science. Caporaso and his team have led the development of the QIIME 2 microbiome bioinformatics

platform, an NCI-supported software tool that has been instrumental in developing our understanding of the microbiome and its relation to cancer and other human disease. The blog post can be found at:

<https://datascience.cancer.gov/news-events/blog/wrangling-data-microbiome-research-focus-qiime-2>.

NACP Writing Accountability Groups Celebrate Milestone



The weekly Writing Accountability Groups (WAGs) that meet on Tuesday and Friday achieved 100 weeks of meetings during the week of May 23, 2022. The objective of the WAGs is to provide a structured accountability activity for NACP Core and Research Leaders to increase their writing productivity. The WAGs are facilitated by the NACP Principal Investigators. Those who attend the WAGs work on manuscripts and grants related to their NACP work as well as other writing projects. The attendance at the WAGs has been outstanding with many members of the NACP family attending on a regular basis. In the recent NACP Program Steering Committee meeting, the increase in productivity in publications and grant submissions was applauded. NACP credits the WAGs for playing an important role in our writing productivity.



Tohono O'odham Cancer Prevention Program



The Tohono O'odham Cancer Prevention Program is a tribally funded program within the Department of Health and Human Services. The Cancer Program was closed from 2018-2020 prior to Ann Garcia joining as the program coordinator and restarting the services. To help the Tohono O'odham Tribe and community learn more about available cancer resources and to become familiar with other tribal programs, Ms. Garcia serves on the NACP Community Advisory Board (CAB). Ms. Garcia and Community Health Representatives (CHRs) work together to educate community members about cancer. Some community members don't speak fluent English, but Ms. Garcia acts as a liaison between a CHR and community members. The materials that the CHRs disseminate to clients are developed and provided by Ms. Garcia.

Both Dr. Tara Chico-Jarillo, the Executive Director for the Tohono O'odham Department of Health and Human Services and Ms. Garcia emphasized having solid relationships with partnerships, such as NACP, as an essential key strategy for tribes who do not have federal funding to support their cancer related services. One of the primary challenges that the Tohono O'odham program faces is its small operational funds, limiting staff and activities. The future vision is to eventually expand the department's cancer services and focus on more prevention resources.

For more additional information here is the link to their website:

<http://www.tonation-nsn.gov/health-human-services/community-health-services/cancer-prevention-program/>

More Spring 2022 NAU & UA Graduates



Henry Mann Jr, NAU

Navajo

BS – Health Science, Public Health & Biology

Mentors: Carol Goldtooth, MPH & Dr. Nicky Teufel-Shone



Jonathan Credo, UA

Navajo

PhD – Clinical Translational Sciences

Mentors: Drs. Margaret Briebl, Francine Gachupin & Jani Ingram

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UA: <https://cancercenter.arizona.edu/researchers/collaborative-research/nacp>

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