

4. Our progress to date in completing the project objectives.

Our overall objective is to increase the accessibility of our inventory database while also moving forward with the repatriation of the more substantial collections already identified under the FY 2000 Documentation Grant. Our progress toward meeting our specific objectives are as follows:

I. Our first objective is to create a digital database of the museum inventories received under the FY 2000 Documentation grant. We hired a Delaware tribal member, Levi Randoll, to serve as our Tribal Liaison. One of his primary responsibilities is to create the digital database. To date, Randoll has purchased the database software, familiarized himself with the software with the help of a hired technical consultant and is entering museum records into the database. The digital database now contains approximately 3,650 inventoried items from 16 of the 75 museums from whom we have received records.

II. Our second objective is to arrange for the Delaware Tribe NAGPRA Director and the Tribal Liaison to travel to the State Museums of New Jersey and New York for a NAGPRA consultation. Work conducted under the FY 2000 NAGPRA Documentation grant found that the inventories from the State Museums of New Jersey and New York contain a substantive collection of Delaware human remains. The NAGPRA Project Director has been in email and phone contact with Lisa Anderson (New York State Museum) and Lorraine Williams (New Jersey State Museum) to arrange a suitable date for consultation. Representatives from the Delaware Nation and the Stockbridge-Munsee have also been made aware of our attempts to make consultation arrangements. We have invited both tribes to be involved in our consultation process. Our first consultation with the New York State Museum is scheduled and will take place from May 15-18, 2005. No dates have been set for a consultation with the New Jersey State Museum but our plan is to schedule a consultation at some point in July of 2005.

III. We have completed our third objective, which was to arrange for and conduct and Intertribal Summit with authorized representatives from the Delaware Nation and the Stockbridge-Munsee. We hosted an intertribal summit with representatives from the Delaware Nation and the Stockbridge-Munsee to discuss the disposition of culturally unidentifiable human remains at the New York and New Jersey State Museums. The summit was held at the Delaware Community Center in Bartlesville, OK from October 1-3, 2004. Representatives from the Delaware Nation and the Stockbridge-Munsee were able to attend as well as representatives and community members from the Delaware Tribe. Important decisions were reached at the three day summit that stemmed from our discussions of culturally unidentifiable human remains. We drafted the beginnings of an intertribal policy that set forth guidelines for defining a funerary object, a protocol for the preferred care of collections and a resolution to share information about located museum collections. We also created a procedure for how to conduct shared reburials and composed strategies for dealing with the reburial of rare funerary objects. No formal decision was reached about the disposition of culturally unidentifiable objects because we all agreed that more research was needed before we can make an informed claim. While we appreciate the information already obtained about the remains that is based on rigorous archaeological investigation, we also felt that more could be learned from a descriptive, first hand account of the 20th century Delaware funerary practices. We further agreed at the Summit that the Delaware Tribe would seek NAGPRA funding to create this descriptive account of Delaware funeral practices. To ensure that our dialogue developed at the Summit continues, the Delaware Tribe is also hosting monthly conference calls on the first Monday of each month with the Delaware Nation and Stockbridge-Munsee representatives. Different issues are discussed during each call but overall the conference calls are facilitating the free-flow of information on our shared documentation and repatriation projects.

IV. Our fourth objective is to arrange for the Delaware Tribe NAGPRA Director and Tribal Liaison to receive training in techniques for documenting the cultural affiliation of Delaware cultural objects. We initially proposed to attend the NAGPRA seminars held in Washington, D.C. but the popularity of these seminars has left us without an available seat. We are therefore pursuing other possibilities such as future National Park Service training courses or those offered by other agencies and private companies. No dates have been scheduled, but we are tentatively planning to attend a NAGPRA seminar hosted by the Falmouth Institute in late September.

5. Products completed to date

No products have been completed to date

6. Products currently underway

I. Intertribal NAGPRA Policy developed as part of the Bartlesville, OK intertribal summit: A draft version of an intertribal NAGPRA Policy has been created and has been circulated for approval. The NAGPRA Policy includes our position on the definition of a funerary object, our guidelines for the care of human remains while in storage, and agreement to share information amongst the three tribes. The NAGPRA Policy also includes our position on reburial, the protocol for reburial and an added consideration on the reburial of valuable funerary objects. A final version has yet to be completed as it awaits the signatures of each tribal representative.

II. Comprehensive report describing all consultation meetings and the intertribal summit, including a summary of results: A report has already been drafted summarizing the completed intertribal summit. This includes an account of the planning behind the summit, a description of the event, who was in attendance, what topics were discussed and who was in attendance. A summary of our consultation meetings has not been drafted as we have yet to travel to the State Museums of New York and New Jersey. We anticipate drafting the summary at some point in August 2005 after our consultations are complete.

III. Copy of data entry screens for the inventory database: Our inventory database is in progress. We have acquired the software and the Tribal Liaison has undergone the training necessary to be able to create the database and enter the various inventories. Our digital inventory is on a Filemaker Pro 7 platform and includes over 3,650 entries from approximately 16 museums. While we have many more inventories to include in our database, we are confident that it is only matter of time before we complete the project. We anticipate having a completed database by the end of the grant period.

7. Products that have not yet been initiated

All products have been initiated.

8. Difficulties encountered in completing the grant objectives.

I. No difficulties encountered in the creation of a digital database of the museum inventories received under the FY 2000 Documentation grant. Data entry is time consuming and will simply require the entire grant period to complete.

II. The only difficulties encountered while arranging for the Delaware Tribe NAGPRA Director and the Tribal Liason to travel to the State Museums of New Jersey and New York for a NAGPRA consultation was in our attempts to coordinate with other tribes. We had hoped to find a time when all three Delaware tribes could travel to each museum. Unfortunately, such a date seemed impossible to find. We ultimately decided to set our own consultation dates with the understanding that each tribe will consult with each museum when they are available.

III. No difficulties were encountered while completing our third objective, which was to arrange for and conduct and Intertribal Summit with authorized representatives from the Delaware Nation and the Stockbridge-Munsee.

IV. We have encountered some difficulties while completing our fourth objective, which is to arrange for the Delaware Tribe NAGPRA Director and Tribal Liaison to receive training in techniques for documenting the cultural affiliation of Delaware cultural objects. We initially proposed to attend the NAGPRA seminars held in Washington, D.C. but the popularity of these seminars has left us without an available seat. We are therefore pursuing other possibilities such as future National Park Service training courses or those offered by other agencies and private companies. No dates have been scheduled, but we are tentatively planning to attend a NAGPRA seminar hosted by the Falmouth Institute in late September.