

THE SIMON ORTIZ AND LABRIOLA CENTER LECTURE  
ON INDIGENOUS LAND, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY

# ‘Mapping’ Indigenous Futures: Creating a Native Voice in Higher Education

*Kathryn Shanley, PhD*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2010 7:00 P.M.

Heard Museum, Steele Auditorium (2301 N Central Ave) | [www.heard.org](http://www.heard.org) | Phoenix, Arizona

Photo/courtesy of the Heard Museum, Phoenix, Arizona

*Free of charge and open to the public.*



Photo/courtesy Kathryn Shanley

**Kathryn Shanley** teaches in Native American Studies at the University of Montana and serves as Special Assistant to the Provost for Native American and Indigenous Education. An enrolled member of the Ft. Peck Assiniboiné (Nakoda) Tribe, Dr. Shanley grew up on the reservation. Her research interests include the work of James Welch (the Blackfeet/Gros Ventre writer), gender issues in Indigenous studies, Native American religious autobiography, and Indigenous knowledge-based theory. She is the University of Montana project director for a collaboration with the Sami Studies Center at the University of Tromsø, Norway, and also collaborates with faculty in Maori Studies at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Dr. Shanley

serves as the Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowship regional liaison and on boards for National Academy of Sciences Fellowships; the executive committee of the Modern Language Association, Division of American Indian Literatures; and (for eight years) the American Indian Graduate Center. Recognition of her leadership extends to her inclusion in *Notable Native Americans* and the *Dictionary of American Indian Women*. Before coming to the University of Montana in 1999 to become the first chair of Native American Studies, Dr. Shanley previously held positions at Cornell University and the University of Washington. As chair of NAS at UM, she worked for seven years to raise funds for a new Native American Center, which was dedicated in May 2010.

“IN OUR EVERYDAY SPEECH we frequently employ the metaphor of “mapping” to frame our ways of thinking about everything from how we’re going to spend the day to how we imagine our future lives. When used in the context of Indigenous peoples’ rights, “mapping” represents both an abstract notion of full peoplehood and the boundaries of their literal homelands—the political control of which frequently remains contested. With the United Nations’ vote to recognize the Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples on September 17, 2007, Indigenous peoples around the world made their way onto the metaphorical “map” of human rights. In this talk, I will explore how emerging Indigenous educational and literary models provide new foundations for Indigenous continuance, as well as provide ways of being heard and seen.

—KATHRYN SHANLEY

*The Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community at Arizona State University brings notable scholars and speakers to Arizona for public lectures twice per year. These speakers address topics and issues across disciplines in the arts, humanities, sciences, and politics. Underscoring Indigenous American experiences and perspectives, this series seeks to create and celebrate knowledge that evolves from an Indigenous worldview that is inclusive and that is applicable to all walks of life.*

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