

NORTHERN
ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY



RESPECT AND RECIPROCITY: ADOPTION OF THE *PROTOCOLS FOR NATIVE AMERICAN ARCHIVAL MATERIALS* AT CLINE LIBRARY

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NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY/CLINE LIBRARY

- NAU Is a publicly funded state agency
 - Cannot impede access to state property unless state/federal legislation says so
- Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives (SCA) houses many sensitive materials
- MOU with the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office; collaborative partnerships with others
- Endorse/actively adopt several recommendations in the *Protocols*
- SCA Archivists constantly balance professional ethics with community needs



Ella Deal with Grandchild, 1988. Courtesy of John Running Collection; Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives. NAU.PH.2013.4.1.5.8.165

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS: ACCESS/USE

- SAA: Archivists actively promote open and equitable access to the records in their care within the context of their institutions' missions and their intended user groups
- ACA: Archivists arrange and describe all records in their custody in order to facilitate the fullest possible access to and use of their records
- *Protocols*: ...[collaboratively consider] whether some materials should be available for access only with prior community review and approval (p. 11)

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS: DESCRIPTION

- SAA: [Archivists] facilitate the continuing accessibility and intelligibility of archival materials in all formats
- ACA: Archivists arrange and describe all records in their custody in order to facilitate the fullest possible access to and use of their records (same verbiage from access/use)
- *Protocols*: Encourage culturally affiliated communities to provide context from their perspective (p. 14)



Gordon Tootoosis, 1984. Courtesy of John Running Collection; Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives.
NAU.PH.2013.4.1.1.14.143

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS: CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

- SAA: Archivists promote the respectful use of culturally sensitive materials in their care by encouraging researchers to consult with communities of origin, recognizing that privacy has both legal and cultural dimensions
- ACA: Archivists make every attempt possible to respect the privacy of the individuals who created or are the subjects of records, especially those who had no voice in the disposition of the records
- *Protocols*: [Archivists] consult with culturally affiliated community representatives to identify those materials that are culturally sensitive and develop procedures for access to and use of those materials (p. 12)

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS: DEROGATORY LANGUAGE

- SAA: Archivists may not willfully alter, manipulate, or destroy data or records to conceal facts or distort evidence
- ACA: Archivists endeavour to protect the intellectual and physical integrity of the records in their care
- *Protocols*: Add explanations of derogatory words to original titles (e.g. title created by xxxx in xxxx year) or remove offensive terms from original titles and provide substitute language... (p. 15)



Klee Benally, 2000. Courtesy of John Running Collection;
Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives.
NAU.PH.2013.4.1.10.0.63

CASE STUDY: WORKING WITH THE HOPI



Hopi Rainbow Dancer, 1976. Courtesy of John Running Collection; Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives. NAU.PH.2013.4.1.7.25.45

- MOU details reciprocal relationship between NAU/Cline Library and the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office (HCPO)
- SCA provides physical space for HCPO archival materials
- HCPO curates their own collections and provides online access to material through SCA's content management system
- HCPO Archivist provides consultation role with SCA collections
- NSF grant-funded Hopi Place Names project to be disseminated through Cline Library

OTHER PROJECTS...

- Host digital images from (and curated by) the Navajo Nation Museum
- Enhanced lexicon with terms from the *National Indian Law Library*
- Introduction of a 'traditional knowledge' field in content management system
- Disposition of Anthropologist's collection in collaboration with representatives of the Hualapai Tribe
 - **Current land ownership**
 - **Agencies of ownership**
 - **Tribal affiliation**



Rex Bizahaloni, 1998. Courtesy of John Running Collection; Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives. NAU.PH.2013.4.1.5.5A.6

NEXT STEPS – ARCHIVATOPIA?

- NAU/Cline Library continue to sign MOUs with other communities
- Cline Library/SCA take a mentorship role with other public and private non-Indigenous archival repositories
- SAA's Native American Archives Roundtable (NAAR) and ACA's Special Interest Section on Aboriginal Archives (SISSA) collaborate on mutually-beneficial documents
 - Create further educational opportunities about the *Protocols* to the ACA membership
 - ACA SISSA to endorse the *Protocols* and advocate for them to ACA leadership
 - SAA NAAR to contribute to future revisions of the Aboriginal Archives Guide and provide reference to it for community-based archives
 - Work with l'Association des Archivistes du Québec on appropriate French-language translation of both documents