

THE CENTER FOR INDIGENOUS LAW, GOVERNANCE & CITIZENSHIP  
AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW



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THE 5TH ANNUAL HAUDENOSAUNEE CONFERENCE

“MOVING BEYOND ID CARD INDIANS: THE SEARCH FOR NATIVE CITIZENRY”

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NOVEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2008

Grant Auditorium  
Syracuse University

&

NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2008

Goldstein Student Center  
Syracuse University

Prior to colonization, citizenship was a much simpler question. Indigenous nations exercised their own citizenship laws with little dispute as to what constituted citizenship. Over 500 years later, assimilationist governmental policies have invaded our communities, causing us to question - who is an Indian? Is carrying a tribal identification card enough? Or a card from the federal government? Or does citizenship envision much more, such as a contribution to one's community by participating in governance and/or cultural events? And who has the authority to make that determination?

Today Indigenous nations continually struggle with the citizenship issue and the Haudenosaunee are no different. But our issues may be more complex. What does it mean to be Haudenosaunee vs. being a Mohawk or Seneca? Does citizenry in a one of the Six Nations automatically grant one citizenship as Haudenosaunee? And what happens when an international boundary divides your territory and you're required to have an internationally accepted id card simply to visit your family?

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Haudenosaunee Conference is an opportunity for Haudenosaunee scholars and people to discuss the various layers of citizenship. Topics will include defining Haudenosaunee and nation citizenship; citizenship decision makers; the federal government's impact indigenous citizenship; a historic view of citizenship; the people's role in defining citizenship; and the citizen role's in a nation.

*Draft Agenda*

(10/08/08)

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*November 14, 2008*  
Grant Auditorium  
E.I. White Building, College of Law

5:00 p.m. Reception

6:00 p.m. Movie - TBA

*November 15, 2008*  
Goldstein Student Center, South Campus

8:00 - 8:30 Registration

8:30 - 8:45 a.m. *Welcoming Remarks*  
Robert Odawi Porter (Seneca), Professor of Law and Director of the  
Center for Indigenous Law, Governance & Citizenship

8:45 - 9:45 a.m. *Constructions of Modes of Identity: General Perspectives from Native America  
and the Mainstream*  
Michael Taylor (Seneca), PhD, Assistant Professor Anthropology and Native  
American Studies, Colgate University

9:45 - 10:45 a.m. *Using a Core Values Paradigm to Define the Citizen's Role in a Nation:  
Personal Account of Role and Role Strain as a Seneca and Scientist*  
Tassy Parker (Seneca), PhD, RN, Assistant Professor of Family and Community  
Medicine and Nursing; Associate Director, Research and Development, Center  
for Native American Health; and Assistant Dean, Office of Diversity, University  
of New Mexico - School of Medicine.

10:45 – 11:00 a.m. Break

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- 11:00 – 12:00 noon.     *Understanding the Haudenosaunee Identity through Iroquois Cosmology Part II: Moving Beyond Card-Carrying Iroquois Indian Identity*  
Kevin White (Akwesasne Mohawk), PhD, Assistant Professor of Native American & American Studies at SUNY Oswego
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.       LUNCH
- 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.        *Haudenosaunee Citizenship through the Lens of an Anti-Indian Sovereignty Movement: Discourses of Equality, Assimilation, and Oppression*  
Meghan Y. McCune, Doctoral Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Michigan State University
- 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.        *Require What You Want to Produce: Indigenous Citizenship Criteria*  
Scott Lyons (Leech Lake Ojibwe), PhD, Assistant Professor of English, Syracuse University
- 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.        Break
- 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.        *Critical Issues to the Haudenosaunee People and Nations - An Update on Sales Tax and Border Crossing*  
Robert Odawi Porter (Seneca), Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Indigenous Law, Governance & Citizenship
- 4:30 p.m.                Closing Remarks