



# 14th ANNUAL NAIITS SYMPOSIUM

## UNDRIP: Right Relationships, Right Relatedness



June 1 - 3, 2017 Portland Seminary, OR



## Invitation for Proposals

### NAIITS: An Indigenous Learning Community

### 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium

Co-hosted by

**Portland Seminary, Portland, OR**

*(formerly, George Fox Evangelical Seminary)*

## UNDRIP: Right Relationships, Right Relatedness

### Focus:

For many years now NAIITS has been exploring topics of interest and concern to a wide variety of people engaged within the Native North American and wider Indigenous community. At each symposium there have been clear articulations of the landscape in which we found ourselves, as well as some very cutting edge insights about how we might more effectively engage with Indigenous people and their communities.

Ten years ago the United Nations General Assembly adopted the report of a committee of women and men who had laboured many years to articulate the issues of Indigenous people around the world and codify them in a declaration of their rights as pre-existent peoples of particular lands and places. It is known as the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Our task in this symposium is to inquire into how the majority church and the wider community (government, churches, NGO's etc..) have engaged the UN declaration concerning Indigenous rights and protections and to investigate Indigenous perspectives concerning these rights.

Specifically, we invite people who desire to present a paper or panel on one of the following themes to submit an abstract of no more than 300 words outlining their intention and methods of both research and presentation and submit to NAIITS for consideration.

### Scope of Topics:

NAIITS invites proposals from scholars, practitioners, and other interested peoples for papers that address contemporary issues related to the creation and/or implementation of the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Our focus will be on overall health and well being with respect to human beings and land, human beings and politics, human beings and the rest of the creation of which we are a part. Of particular interest will be those topics and presentations that describe a holistic approach.

Particular attention should be paid to the interplay of theology and practice with respect to the educational environment, the practical issues of content and context, and the need for flexibility in delivery methodologies. Papers that utilize any of a broad range of research and presentation methodologies will be considered. Submissions should address one or more of the following topic areas as noted above:

- The ethics of implementing or failing to implement the UNDRIP;
- Ways in which the UNDRIP can or will contribute to restored human relationships;
- Ways in which the implementation of the UNDRIP will contribute to right relatedness and right relationship with the land;
- The implications of the UNDRIP to theology;
- Other ways in which the implementation of the UNDRIP contributes to the health and well being of Indigenous peoples.
- The implications of the UNDRIP on the spirituality of those Indigenous people who are followers of the Jesus Way.

Papers should strive to demonstrate how traditional understandings within Indigenous contexts and cultural perspectives might be strengthened, or how new ideas and practices might be implemented to further the goals of Native ministry and the advance of Native people in life, service, and their spiritual journey with Jesus. Papers could also address themselves to both traditional and more contemporary ideas related to cultural and religious contextualization.

#### **NAIITS ([www.naiits.com](http://www.naiits.com))**

- Is one of three divisions of Indigenous Pathways (IP), a non-sectarian, non-profit charity devoted to ministry with and within the Indigenous context;
- Is the educational division of the IP family dedicated to encouraging the Indigenous community to develop and articulate Indigenous perspectives on Christian theology and mission practice;
- Seeks to facilitate the creation of a written theological foundation for a) the visioning of new mission paradigms to reach Indigenous peoples with the Gospel; and, b) the contextualization of the Gospel in Indigenous communities;
- Encourages the development and implementation of Indigenous learning styles and “world views” as we encourage the development of a body of written work;
- Seeks to develop theological partnerships with other cultural communities of Christian faith which will ensure the voice of Christ is heard in all ways, seeking biblical faithfulness in all things;
- Addresses scriptural, theological, ethical and missiological issues from Indigenous perspectives in concert with those of other ethnicities who would speak into this context;
- Is committed to genuine dialogue with the historical traditions of Christianity and values the written and living resources encompassed in these traditions.

#### **The Symposium**

The purpose of the symposium is to facilitate open dialogue about various aspects of biblical and theological contextualization in Indigenous thought, history, and experience. Symposium planners hope that participants will bring together academic and practical approaches to the issues being addressed in the symposium.

### Submission Guidelines

Submissions must include a brief personal bio and both an abstract of not more than 150 words and a proposal for the type of presentation intended of not more than 1000 words. The proposal must include a clear statement of your ideas and, if a scholarly presentation, enough of a context to show that you are aware of the basic issues and literature of the field. The proposal is the document on which submissions will be evaluated and selected. Abstracts and bios provided for selected submissions will be used in advertisements and symposium materials. Selected papers will be allotted 40 minutes for presentation. NAIITS may, at its sole discretion, invite or offer respondents for the papers.

### Submission of Papers

Papers should be both theoretically solid and simultaneously practical. Submissions will be evaluated in light of their potential to contribute to the Symposium. To encourage dialogue we welcome submissions from various perspectives, from Indigenous presenters as well as those from supportive non-Indigenous presenters. Scholarly *papers must adhere to Turabian Seventh Edition; in Times Roman 12 pt. font; have complete footnotes and Works Cited. Papers may be distributed to selected respondents and will be published in the NAIITS Journal. Finished papers must be submitted by April 15, 2017.*

**The deadline for submissions of proposals for papers is midnight February 28, 2017.** Please submit electronically to: **NAIITS Symposium Coordinator at [symposium@naiits.com](mailto:symposium@naiits.com)**