**Internship Focus:** Connecting and Illuminating Native American Names in the Social Networks and Archival Context (SNAC) research tool

**Collaborating Institutions/Academic Departments:**
- Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library
- Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of the American Indian

**Advisors:**
- Ned Blackhawk, Professor of History and American Studies, Yale University
- Mark Custer, Metadata Coordinator, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library
- Emily Moazami, Assistant Head Archivist, National Museum of the American Indian

**Internship type:** Graduate or Undergraduate

**Internship Description:**

Graduate and undergraduate students are invited to apply for a summer internship to work on a collaborative project between the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI), and the Social Networks and Archival Context (SNAC) Cooperative ([http://snaccooperative.org](http://snaccooperative.org)).

The successful candidate will work closely with archival collections, reference materials, and staff at the Smithsonian and Yale, starting at NMAI and concluding at the Beinecke. The intern will also receive a two-day SNAC training, which will be led by staff from the National Archives and Records Administration agency. Once trained as an official SNAC editor, the student will work on a predefined list of names of Native American people and organizations, whose collections are held at the Beinecke and NMAI, by adding descriptions and connections about those names directly to the SNAC Cooperative’s Research Tool.

One of SNAC’s primary goals is to address the difficulty of discovering and locating historical records that are usually dispersed and always incomplete. SNAC is addressing this problem by pulling together the descriptions of people and organizations that are part of the archival record into a centralized research tool. Given that these descriptions represent networks – networks of relationships amongst physical resources as well as other people and organizations – the SNAC Cooperative refers to each name not as a single entity but instead as a “constellation.” The goal of this internship is to enrich a predefined cluster of constellation records within SNAC that are either currently undescribed and unconnected, or worse, not represented at all.
The predefined cluster of names will include Native American chiefs, painters, writers, advocacy groups, and boarding schools. To turn these descriptions into fully realized constellation records, the project intern will create new records and enhance existing records with biographical notes, structured data, and links to other constellations. The intern will utilize primary source and reference materials to encode and associate their descriptions with detailed citation information within SNAC.

Preference will be given to applicants currently studying or with a background in Native American Studies.

**Internship Learning Objectives:**

1. Understand the nature of dispersed archival records;
2. Develop primary-source research skills;
3. Gain experience writing comprehensive historical and biographical notes;
4. Gain experience working in SNAC, while also identifying efficient workflows.

**Length:** 8 weeks in summer, 2019

**Stipend:** $5,200, plus $300 for travel

**To apply:** Please send an email to yale.si@yale.edu, including “Native Constellations internship” in the subject line of the email, with the following attachments:

- a cover letter describing your interest in the internship
- a transcript of your academic record (unofficial transcripts acceptable)
- two letters of recommendation

**Application deadline:** April 12, 2019