

November is National American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month

BACKGROUND:

"National American Indian Heritage Month" had its origins in 1986 when Congress passed Pub. L. 99-471 which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week of November 23-30, 1986 as "American Indian Week." President Reagan issued Presidential Proclamation 5577 in November 1986 proclaiming the first American Indian Week. In 1990 Congress passed Pub. L. 101-343 which authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the month of November 1990 as "National American Indian Heritage Month." Since 1990, Presidents have continued to dedicate this month to American Indian Heritage. For More Information: www.aianheritagemonth.org/

2012 THEME: Serving Our People, Serving Our Nations Native Visions for Future Generations

American Indian Profile: Sandra Begay-Campbell

Sandra Begay-Campbell is a Principal Member of the Technical Staff at Sandia National Laboratories and is a former Regent (Trustee) for the University of New Mexico. Sandra leads Sandia's technical efforts to assist Native American tribes with their renewable energy developments.



Sandra received a Bachelor of Science - Civil Engineering degree from the University of New Mexico. She worked at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories before she earned a Master of Science - Structural Engineering degree from Stanford University.

Sandra is a recent recipient of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society's Life-time Achievement Award; the University of New Mexico's 2007 Zia Alumnus Award; the 2005 UNM School of Engineering Distinguished Alumnus Award and the Stanford University 2000 Multicultural Alumni of the Year Award.

She was also selected as a recipient of the Governor's Award for Outstanding Women from the New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women.

Sandra is recognized in a book profiling women engineers, "Changing Our World: True Stories of Women Engineers." She is included in the chapter "Women in Power", which describes her effort to provide electricity through solar panels and other alternative energy solutions to hundreds of remote tribal members on the Navajo Reservation.

