



AIR Newsletter

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SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Special points of interest:

- Fear and education
- AIR office in Escondido
- Last meeting of the semester



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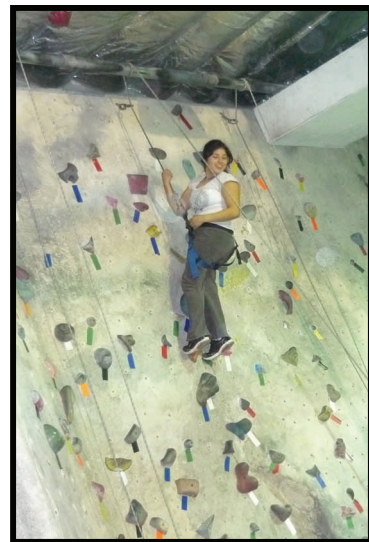
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Learning for Success

AIR Jr. overcomes FEAR!!!!

Fear, you can experience it when you see a scary movie or even when you take a test. Fear is all about the unknown and there is no bigger unknown than college. College is something that very few American Indians ever experience and the reason may be, that it is a great “unknown” for our community. We believe we must face our unknowns in life and perhaps we can move forward to greater future as individuals and as a community if we conquer our fear. This is where our first experience on overcoming fears comes in. We took something that everyone has fears about: “*heights and depending on others to help you succeed*”.

Within our rock climbing exercise the idea is overcome the fear of heights and depending on others. There is fear in both parts here. Fear in climbing and depending on another for your safety, and the fear of having the responsibility for the safety of another while they are 60 feet and can fall at any moment. By the mere fact you can climb (in which all did) then you can overcome anything if you put yourself into it. Higher education is also a fear (although not of life and death) but more a fear of failing and leaving your safe zone towards individually doing something (obtaining a degree). In college you depend on yourself for your classes, finances, social interaction, and obtaining good grades. Within higher education there are so many variables that failure is always a strong possibility but the rewards are so great. Therefore, we hope the students made the correlation of conquering fears through this exercise and (perhaps) can apply such and ideal to higher education). SO, we offered this exercise to examine fears and see where we land (no pun-intended). It also is a fun thing to do and that too, is part of our program model.





AMERICAN INDIAN RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS

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"Our mission is the promotion and success of American Indians within education."



AIR Office in Escondido

The AIR Program will have our main office stationed in Escondido, CA, at the California Indian Legal Service Building. There we will have the majority of our files stationed and the office will act as our physical address. Although the picture looks bare (above) we plan to utilize the office for our program and tutorials (should we have students in need of such services). The Escondido Office address will be posted on our website within the next month. Thank you to CILS, for allowing us to have our office stationed there.



Last Meeting of the Semester

We conclude this semester with three programs: AIR Sr., AIR Jr. and AIR Tutorial. This is a dramatic increase from just running one program as we have had for so many years. We are very grateful that we have had this opportunity to serve our community for so many years and increase our programs to serve even more.

Our last meeting of the semester is coming up and we hope those that participated within our program were able to take something away from this, that may give you motivation to pursue higher education. Again, we feel that everyone within our program has the ability to succeed within higher education, it just takes great dedication and persistence.

As for this semester in AIR Sr. we took on a movie type of scene to enhance our research that we accomplished within our program. Our film projects may not win any academy awards (as we only have 6 hours to make this movie) but our project took us through research, history, stereotypes, and some fun exercises. All this on the campuses of SDSU and USD. In all the program gave us everything that we wanted to give to our student participants and we hope it was fun!

As for AIR Jr., this program had a little trouble starting out but we went on and got back on track. Our approach was to give our younger participants and opportunity to just feel and become a part of the higher educational atmosphere and ease them into the ideals of higher education. Hence, we gave them tours of the college campuses, workshops on what they should know on higher education, and exercises on overcoming fears that may prevent them from pursuing things (including higher education) and overcoming those fears. Finally, our tutorial program still continues in servicing those students looking for academic help.

Overall, we are thankful that we are able to do this for our community and hope that you students took something away from this semester that will help you in your pursuit of higher education.



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