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## **Press Release** (28 February 2016)

American University of Sovereign Nations (AUSN) is honored to announce the appointment of Professor Wendsler Nosie Sr., former Chairman, San Carlos Apache Nation, as AUSN Professor in the Practice of Indigenous Knowledge. Professor Nosie is a current Council member of the Tribal Council.

Professor Nosie has been active both nationally, and internationally, in the development of a revival of indigenous knowledge and traditions into daily life of people, both Apache and from other ethnicities and indigenous tribes. He is leader of Apache Stronghold movement, and is actively involved in movements to protect sacred lands, including Mount Graham and Oak Flat. He is appointed because of his leadership in applying Indigenous knowledge traditions. In particular he has promoted a theocentric and ecocentric vision of the responsibilities of human beings living in nature, and promotes a long-term vision of social and economic development for the health of all. At AUSN he will be teaching in a range of Masters and Doctoral program courses, such as Indigenous Traditions and Bioethics, Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Public Health Care, International Development and Sustainability, Environmental Ethics, Sustainable Innovations, and others.

AUSN was established in March 2013, and was licenced by Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education to offer graduate degree programs in April 2014. AUSN is on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community land in Scottsdale, Arizona. Prof. Nosie has been a source of wisdom for AUSN students and faculty since 2014, in workshops at AUSN, San Carlos Apache Memorial and in Oak Flat. AUSN in accordance with Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution and the policies of Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education promotes the freedom of expression of all faculty and students.

AUSN is the first University on U.S. Sovereign land to offer a Ph.D. degree. The Ph.D. degree in Bioethics, Sustainability and Global Public Health, AUSN also offers Postgraduate Certificates, and has the first graduates from a Masters in Public Health (MPH) program on sovereign land in U.S. history. The President of AUSN, Darryl Macer, grew up in Aotearoa/New Zealand and was UNESCO Regional Advisor for Asia and the Pacific for a decade before cofounding AUSN as a global university in the US. The Vice-President, Govindan Parayil, came to AUSN from his position as Vice-Rector of United Nations University, and is a citizen of India. The 80 faculty and over 100 students come from over 30 countries of the world, and offer classes and intensive workshops all around the world. Professor Nosie has proven himself as an inspiring leader and source of wisdom, and AUSN will also provide him with an opportunity to further document, and share, his wisdom to enhance the cohesion between the inter-related fields of practice, research and policy-making.