RICHARD NICHOLS

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TRIBAL AFFILIATION: Santa Clara Indian Pueblo

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Graduate School of Education
        Cambridge, MA -- graduate work 1979-80
University of Colorado, Anthropology, Psychology, BA
        Boulder, CO

EXPERIENCE

2006 to present   Colyer Nichols, Inc. (CNI), President and Senior Associate. CNI is essentially the corporate evolution of Richard Nichols and Associates, a sole proprietorship (see below). The corporation is a majority American Indian owned and managed. As **Project Director or Principal Investigator** for several CNI projects, oversees contract operations and implementation and monitoring compliance with funding agency requirements. Currently, responsibilities include oversight of several CNI projects focused primarily on program planning, evaluation and social policy analysis in several areas, including the following:

- A NM Indian Affairs Department (IAD) commissioned study of best practices in State-Tribal consultation. Phase I of the two-phased project examined the status of implementation of pilot State-Tribal consultation plans in response to Governor Richardson's Executive Order 2005-004, Statewide Adoption of Pilot Tribal Consultation Plans. Phase II of the study was aimed at identifying effective strategies for State-Tribal consultations and collaborations from a tribal perspective. The study was completed in June 2009.

- Co-principal investigator of the first and second phases of a National Science Foundation-funded project administered by the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) to develop a training curriculum on Indigenous Evaluation of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education in Indian Country. This project has resulted in the development of a curriculum for teaching evaluation, responsive to Native communities and perspectives, to tribal college staff and other professionals involved in STEM education. Through November 2009, Mr. Nichols was involved in conducting several regional training Institutes on AIHEC's Indigenous Evaluation Framework. Started in 2004, this project ended February 2010.

- Training to Indian education grantees of the NM Public Education Department on use of the Indigenous Evaluation Framework – Summer 2008.

- Evaluations of two American Indian teacher education projects under the aegis of the Institute for American Indian Education, University of New Mexico's College of Education. One was a one-year project funded by the NM Department of Higher Education, and the other was a two-year project funded by the Indian Education Division of the NM Public Education Department. The purposes of the projects are to increase the number of American Indian teachers in the state and to improve the quality of instruction provided by teachers in New Mexico public schools. The evaluation of the NMHED-funded project was completed in December 2007; the evaluation of the NMPED-funded project was completed in June 2009.

- Under subcontract with Mekinek Consulting, Seattle, WA, assistance to various agencies, tribal colleges and other entities in evaluation of NSF and Bureau of Indian Education projects.

- Ongoing professional services to Santa Clara Pueblo in planning and evaluation of various tribal programs in forestry and environmental protection, criminal and juvenile justice, education and social services, and cultural and language revitalization.

- An analysis of the functions of the national Native American program of the American Friends Service Committee with planning recommendations for enhancing the national leadership role of the program and identification of potential funding resources for the program.

2000 - 2006   Richard Nichols & Associates (RNA), Sole Proprietor and Senior Research Analyst.
Responsibilities include project administration, program evaluation design, training, policy research and analysis, program planning, and development. As **Project Director or Principal Investigator** for several RNA projects, oversaw project operations and implementation and monitored compliance with funding agency requirements. Many of these contracts related to program evaluation or include evaluation components. Responsibilities included overseeing several RNA projects focused primarily on evaluation-related work in several areas, including the following:
- An analysis of the operational responsibilities and fiscal capacity of the Indian Education Division (IED) of the NM Public Education Department (PED) with recommendations for how the operations and authority of the IED may be improved through enhanced status within PED.
- An evaluation of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society's *Pathways Program* — a mentoring program involving American Indian high school and college students and professionals in the sciences.
- An evaluation of the planning for the Institute of American Indian Arts' (IAIA) *Achien Lifelong Learning Center* (LLC). Funded by a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, this project involved (a) evaluating the LLC's facilities/technology planning, educational programming plans, business and marketing plans, and development/fundraising plans; and (b) developing an evaluation plan for the first two years of the LLC operations.
- An evaluation of the pilot-test of the Tribal Tourism Toolkit in three American Indian and Alaska Native communities. Under contract with NATHPO, RNA evaluated how this NATHPO-developed toolkit was used and adapted by these very disparate communities to encourage cultural and eco-tourism on their reservations.
- An analysis of tribal consultation conducted by the U.S. Department of the Army regarding sacred sites located on Army military installations.

Other RNA projects included (a) technical assistance in strategic planning and development of a Recruitment Plan for the Institute of American Indian Arts; (b) technical assistance in strategic planning to the board of the American Indian Education Foundation; (c) the final evaluation of the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges' *Learning Anytime Anywhere (LAAP) Program*, a distance education initiative to develop and share upper-division courses leading to a Baccalaureate degree among six ND tribal colleges.

In May 2003, RNA concluded the <u>Cluster Evaluation of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Native American Higher Education Initiative (NAHEI)</u>. As Project Director, coordinated a team of several academic consultants in assessing the impact of the $54million NAHEI on 33 tribal colleges and universities who were grantees. For BIA/Office of Indian Education Programs, RNA completed a BIA Special Education Coordinated Services Plan which is legislatively mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Amendments of 1997. For Ft. Peck Community College, conducted a functional and organizational analysis of the Ft. Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes' Tribal Court System. As ongoing Principal Investigator, completed evaluation studies in two diverse areas: (a) the final impact evaluation of NSF's Tribal College Rural Systemic Initiative, and (b) a NIJ evaluation of the Tribal Strategies Against Violence (TSAV) Initiative, a DOJ demonstration project.

1982 - 2000   ORBIS Associates, Corporate Vice-President and Senior Research Analyst. Responsibilities included project administration, program evaluation design, training, policy research and analysis, program planning, and development. Served as Vice-President and Secretary on the ORBIS Board of Directors.

1980-1982   Native American Research Institute, Senior Researcher. As Evaluation Specialist on USED contract, provided training and technical assistance to over 200 public schools with Indian students in the 25 states east of the Mississippi River

1974-79   American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC), Director of Institutional Planning and Evaluation.

MEMBERSHIPS

American Evaluation Association (founding program chair of the Indigenous Evaluation Topical Interest Group)
National Indian Education Association