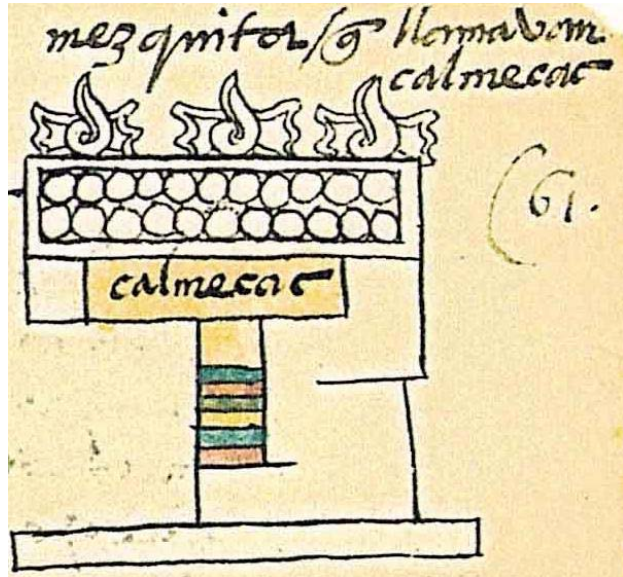


# Centuries of interruption and a history rejoined

Wampanoag grad to be Harvard's first since 1665



Tiffany Smalley at Harvard beneath a portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck, her Wampanoag predecessor. (Esdras M Suarez/ Globe Staff)

By Brian McGrory  
Globe Columnist / May 11, 2011



During the late 1960s, the college attrition rate for American Indian students attending mainstream colleges and universities was 75% and up to 90% for some tribes (Fuchs and Havighurst 1973; Stein 1999; Phillips 2003).

In the words of Navajo Nation Chairman Raymond Nakai, responding to a BIA official's remark about whether Navajos were "ready" to administer their own college, Chairman Nakai stated,

"We are not asking your permission, but rather telling you what we are going to do" (Iverson 2002; Clark 2009).





**Research for capacity building:**  
Health of the land & people

**Vocational & post secondary education:**  
Research then action by local expertise

**Outreach & extension:**  
Local expertise provides services & education

**Indigenous nation-building:**  
Local economies strengthened,  
leadership-relationship  
Policy development

**Tribal Colleges**  
Culture  
Language  
Community  
Nation  
Land  
**Tribal Colleges**

