Chief Manuelito Awards Banquet scheduled for July 25 at Rehoboth High; New statistician hired by Navajo Scholarship Office to compile data

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – The Navajo Nation Scholarship Office reports that there are currently 481 Chief Manuelito recipients funded through the Navajo Nation Scholarship program.

The Chief Manuelito Scholarship provides scholarships to high-achieving Navajo students who maintain a 3.0 GPA during their undergraduate coursework.

According to the 2008 spring awards, there are 3 alumni, 107 seniors, 154 juniors, 152 sophomores and 65 freshmen (Graph 3).

The majority of the students – 233 – are from Arizona followed by New Mexico with 175, and Utah with 27.

Chief Manuelito majors include 36 nursing students, 33 biology students, 32 elementary education students, 23 business administration students, and 15 psychology students (Graph 4).

The University of New Mexico has the most Chief Manuelito recipients with 66, followed by Arizona State University with 63 students and Northern Arizona University with 55 students (Graph 5).

University of New Mexico had one Chief Manuelito graduate and Arizona State University had five Chief Manuelito graduates for spring 2008.

In other news, the 2008 Chief Manuelito Scholarship awards ceremony will be held on July 25 at Rehoboth High School.

Ms. Tammy L. Benally, a statistical research analyst, was recently hired by the Navajo Scholarship Office. This will significantly enhance the ability of the office to study and produce student data.

Ms. Benally has a BS degree in mathematics from Oklahoma University. She is from Cove, Ariz.

"It certainly helps to employ a real statistician that knows the statistical research and statistical formulas to prepare and interpret the data," said Navajo Scholarship Office Director Rose Graham. "Tammy was one of those college-educated young Navajo turned down for similar jobs as 'not qualified' who is more than qualified."

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