

April 1, 2011
Albuquerque, NM

Fellow Area 2 NALSA Members:

My name is Samantha Azure and I am currently a 1L at the University of New Mexico School of Law in Albuquerque, NM. The following is my candidate statement for the position of Area 2 Representative on the incoming 2011-2012 National NALSA Board.

I decided to run for the position of Area 2 Representative in the upcoming year after hearing about the steps and direction the current Board has taken the national organization in order to promote the organization nationally and locally. As a potential Representative, I look forward to the opportunity to reach out to other students. We are in such a unique position as students to not only come together as an academic community, but as active members of our own tribal nations and Indian Country as a whole. Area 2 is not a large area geographically, but I believe that we are strong in the resources that we as students bring to the table and I would love to help facilitate our efforts to grow and develop as students and student members of home communities over the upcoming year.

Home for me is Poplar, MT on the Ft. Peck Sioux & Assiniboine Reservation of northeastern Montana. Before attending law school here at the Univ. of New Mexico, I earned a dual undergraduate degree from Stanford University in American Studies & Native American Studies. During my undergraduate career I was an involved member of the Native community. I served as Co-Chair of the Stanford American Indian Organization, sat as a member of the Students of Color Coalition, the Native American Community Center Advisory Board, sat as a committee member on the largest student run annual powwow in the country—Stanford Powwow, and worked to institute Lakota language classes for credit on campus. Since starting law school I have been lucky enough to serve as one of our local chapter's NALSA 1L Representatives and sit as a member of the Indian Law Certificate Program Committee. I look forward to serving as Area 2's incoming Representative and continuing to support and build our legal community throughout our three states.

Pilámaya na tokša aké,

Samantha Azure

Univ. of New Mexico School of Law