Dear members of the Emory community,

We welcome the Emory University community to find more resources and statements at https://scholarblogs.emory.edu/nae. The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion has sponsored the Native American and Indigenous Students Initiative, the Michael C. Carlos Museum, and the Nation for Oklahoma tribal nations and other parts of Indian Country to ensure that Indigenous voices and contributions are part of our intellectual practices every day, not just on National Indigenous Peoples’ Day. We want the important social justice momentum that is developing across our nation to extend to our campus and as our university acknowledges its own difficult histories, we believe it is important to ensure that Indigenous voices and contributions are part of our intellectual practices every day, not just on National Indigenous Peoples’ Day. Here at Emory, we have a commitment to decolonize and to work towards a better future for all peoples. 

The Creek Nation for Oklahoma tribal nations and other parts of Indian Country was one of the Mvskoke/Muscogee and Ani’yunwi’ya (Cherokee) peoples dispossessed by the US government from the Mvskoke/Muscogee Creek Nation in 1821, through the Treaty of 1821. As a result of this treaty, approximately 25% of the forcibly displaced Indigenous people died in route. The Second Treaty of 1823 was signed, which took people from Georgia and the Southeast. The ultimate removals were not designed for them, and one that they are working to decolonize for the enrichment and flourishing of us Indigenous Peoples -- and especially our Native students -- in succeeding in an education system that was not designed for them, and one that they are working to decolonize for the enrichment and flourishing of us Indigenous Peoples -- and especially our Native students -- in succeeding in an education system that was not designed for them, and one that they are working to decolonize for the enrichment and flourishing of us Indigenous Peoples -- and especially our Native students -- in succeeding in an education system that was not designed for them, and one that they are working to decolonize for the enrichment and flourishing of us Indigenous Peoples -- and especially our Native students -- in succeeding in an education system that was not designed for them, and one that they are working to decolonize for the enrichment and flourishing of us.

We recognize the Creek Nation for Oklahoma tribal nations and other parts of Indian Country. In celebration of this observance, on Monday, October 12, at 4 p.m. (via Zoom) Professor of English Craig Womack will discuss his book “Who is America?” which explores the intersections of race, history, and identity in America. To register for this event, please visit https://scholarblogs.emory.edu/nae. 

Please join us in celebrating and recognizing Indigenous Peoples’ Day. On October 12, we will join communities throughout the nation to recognize Indigenous Peoples’ Day and honor the resilience, history, traditions, and cultures of Indigenous and Native American peoples. It is important to recognize that this powerful uprising to dismantle systemic racism has supported Indigenous peoples and their work to decolonize. Indigenous peoples are at the forefront of the climate crisis, and it is essential to understand how climate change impacts Indigenous peoples and their lands. The second Monday of October recognizes the invaluable contributions made by Indigenous nations, peoples, and communities. Some significant wins include the name change of the NFL DC football team, and the #RedFermer movement to change the name of the NFL DC football team. Indigenous voices. Their work is defining a new legacy at Emory — one that empowers those whose talents and gifts were overlooked and marginalized for generations. We are deeply appreciative of the work of the Creek Nation for Oklahoma tribal nations and other parts of Indian Country.

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