

**Manley Alan Begay, Jr., Ed.D.**  
Professor (tenured)  
Department of Applied Indigenous Studies and  
Department of Politics and International Affairs,  
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and  
W. A. Franke College of Business  
Northern Arizona University

### Academic Field

**Indigenous Nation-Building:** Economic Development, Leadership, and Governance

**Education:** Curriculum Development, Teaching, and Learning

**Dine' Studies:** Navajo History, Navajo Philosophy, and Navajo Culture

### Current Professional Interests

My major specialization lies at the heart of issues pertaining to Indigenous Nation-Building: Sovereignty, Governance, Culture, Leadership, Education, and Economic Development. My recent work includes executive education sessions and research, with and relevant to First Nations and organizations in Canada and Native nations and organizations in the United States. I also pursue interests in expanding my work and research to include the Navajo Nation, Aborigines in Australia, and Maoris in Aotearoa (New Zealand). Further, I have professional interests in putting theory into practice regarding issues of Indigenous education, Navajo history and philosophy, and development.

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Manley A. Begay, Jr. is a tenured Professor in the Department of Applied Indigenous Studies (AIS) and Department of Politics and International Affairs at the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff (NAU). Professor Begay is also an affiliate faculty member of the W. A. Franke College of Business at NAU. He is also, director of the Tribal Leadership Initiative in the Office of Native American Initiative at NAU. Professor Begay joined the NAU faculty in fall of 2014. At NAU, he has primary responsibility for teaching about Indigenous Nation-Building and Navajo History and Philosophy, and directing the Tribal Leadership Initiative.

Beginning in 1997, he has also been co-director (with Professors Joseph Kalt and Stephen Cornell) of the award-winning Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Since 1987, the Harvard Project has worked for and with Indigenous governments, enterprises, organizations, and communities world-wide providing research, advisory services and executive education on issues of nation-building and economic development.

Starting in 2000, he was both associate social scientist and senior lecturer in the American Indian Studies Program (AISP) at The University of Arizona (UofA). Professor Begay also served as affiliate faculty member of the Institute for Environment and Society at The University of Arizona. In the AISP, he was primarily responsible for teaching the graduate and undergraduate courses in Indigenous Nation-Building, Dine' History and Philosophy, Curriculum Development, and Indigenous Education. He also sat on doctoral committees for graduate students from New Zealand, across the United States, Australia, and Canada. Further, at the UofA, Professor Begay has served as the founding director (2000-2009) of the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy (NNI) of the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, NNI founding faculty chair (2009-2011), and NNI faculty associate (2011-2012). As director at the NNI, he had the overall responsibility of administration, research, fund-raising, and management of the organization.

While at Harvard University, Professor Begay has been an instructor (1994-1998) and lecturer (1998-2000) at the Harvard Graduate School of Education in the Administration, Planning, and Social Policy

and Learning and Teaching areas. He was also a member of the Faculty Advisory Council of the Harvard University Native American Program (1995-2000), an interfaculty initiative of Harvard University promoting research, teaching, and outreach on Native American affairs. In 2011, he returned to Harvard University to serve as distinguished senior scholar at the Harvard University Native American Program.

While at the Northern Arizona University, Professor Begay serves as a member of the: 1) Chairman, Board of Directors of the Naat'áanii Development Corporation of the Navajo Nation, Window Rock, AZ; 2) Council of Economic Advisers, Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice-President, Window Rock, AZ; 3) Vice-Chairman, Navajo Nation Judicial Conduct Commission, Navajo Nation Judicial Branch, Window Rock, AZ; 4) Indigenous Advisory Council, Mayor of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada; 5) Board of Trustees, Fielding Graduate University, Santa Barbara, CA; 6) Board of Directors, Restoring Harmony, Inc., Window Rock, AZ; 7) Affiliated Native Peoples and Organizations, Center for Indigenous Peoples Studies, California State University, San Bernardino; 8) Advisory Board; Yellow Eagle Alliance for Rural Cancer Patients, Massachusetts, Indiana, Nevada, Utah; 9) Policy Adviser, Dine' Hataalii Association (formerly Navajo Medicine Men Association), Navajo Nation; 10) Internal Advisory Committee, Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention, University of Arizona and Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff/Tucson, AZ.

He most recently served on the: 1) Navajo Nation Lower Colorado River Water Negotiation Team, Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice-President, Window Rock, AZ; 2) Council of Economic Advisers, Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice-President, Window Rock, AZ; 3) Board of Trustees, National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; 4) Arizona Humanities Council, Tucson, AZ; 5) Native American Initiative Advisory Team, Office of the Vice-President of Native Affairs, University of Arizona; 6) Grant Committee, Native American Research and Training Center, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ; 7) Board of Directors, Policy Consensus Initiative, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon; and 8) Native Network, U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, Tucson, AZ.

Professor Begay is recognized nationally and internationally as one of the primary planners and designers of the now-accepted theory of how Indigenous nations and communities build nations that work - Indigenous Nation-Building. In the course of his academic and consulting career, Professor Begay has extensively researched, published, and lectured widely on the development of Indigenous communities and their resources. He has served as a member of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal People, Canada's high-level, federal review of its policies with regard to its Indigenous communities and economic development; International Advisory Committee for the Indigenous Community Governance Research Project for Reconciliation Australia, Australia's top international research effort for the advancement of Indigenous people; Aboriginal Program Advisory Committee (Co-Chair) of the Aboriginal Leadership and Self-Government Program at The Banff Centre for Management in Banff, Alberta, Canada; and has lectured in-person at Warsaw University in Warsaw, Poland; with the U.S. Embassy Speaker's Program in Mexico; Australian Ambassador's Lecture Series in Washington, D.C.; 2<sup>nd</sup> Narrm Oration of the Murrup Barak Melbourne Institute for Indigenous Development at the University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia, and University of Jordan at Amman, Jordan *via* digital video conference. Furthermore, his research and consulting experience has focused on projects about and for Native nations in the promotion of strong and effective institutions of governance and leadership.

Professor Begay has also worked as a consultant for federal, state, and local agencies and Indigenous governments and organizations, curriculum development specialist and researcher for Indigenous colleges and universities, and reviewer for several major publishing and film companies. He has testified in writing and/or orally as an expert on numerous occasions regarding Indigenous community economic development, Indigenous resources, Indigenous nation-building, and related matters before the United States Senate, in Inter-American Court of Human Rights, before United States administrative bodies and state courts, before the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa, and before the Australian House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs. This work has included expert testimony regarding the

challenges and triumphs of Indigenous development, Indigenous resources, Indian Child Welfare Act, and nation-building of Indigenous communities. He also headed the groundbreaking research work on governance reform for the First Nations University of Canada in Saskatchewan, Canada.

Currently, Professor Begay serves as co-investigator for a National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, *“Tó’Litso, The Water is Yellow: Investigating Short-Term Exposure and Risk Perception of Navajo Communities to the Gold King Mine Toxic Spill,”* which is a partnership between Navajo Nation Community Health Representatives Program, the University of Arizona and Northern Arizona University with a total budget of \$434,028, and the University of Arizona Foundation Agnese Nelms Haury Program in Environment and Social Justice Challenge Grant, *“K’é bee da’ahiiniitq: Strength through the Diné (Navajo) clan system to respond to the Gold King Mine Spill,”* which is a partnership between University of Arizona, Northern Arizona University, Fort Lewis College, Dine’ College, Navajo Nation Community Health Representatives Program, Diné Citizens Against Ruining our Environment (Diné C.A.R.E.): *Tó Bee Nihí Dziil*, with a total budget of \$600,000. Furthermore, he is lead consultant in assisting: 1) the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe of Needles, CA in establishing a stand-alone pre-Kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Mojave language immersion and culture and academic-focused elementary school; 2) the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in its work with the Tribes of Owens Valley, and 3) other projects related to business planning, government reform, and economic development. He most recently assisted with the Idaho State University in launching the Tribal Learning Center - a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) focused academic program, and the File Hills Qu’Appelle Tribal Council of Saskatchewan in their government reform effort.

As well, Professor Begay has presented on a variety of topics from leadership to Indigenous nation-building and from curriculum development to pedagogy and from historical and contemporary Native American issues to Indigenous philosophy to education at numerous colleges and universities, private and public high schools, national and international conferences, institutes, and symposia. He has worked closely with Native nations in the United States, First Nations and Bands in Canada, Aborigines in Australia, Native peoples in Mexico, and Maoris in Aotearoa (New Zealand).

He has also served as a member of, among others, the: 1) Fulbright Program as Senior Specialist to Curtin University of Technology, Centre for Aboriginal Studies and Southwest Aboriginal Land and Sea Council in Perth, Western Australia, Australia; 2) Board of Directors, Four Times Foundation, Red Lodge, Montana; 3) Permanent Trust Fund Work Group on the Establishment of a Plan for the Expenditure of the Permanent Fund of the Navajo Nation; 4) Native American Sports Council Curriculum Development Committee, Sports Warrior Challenge Program in Colorado Springs, Colorado; 5) White House Corps to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa; 6) National Advisory Board for the Alfonso Ortiz Center for Intercultural Studies in the Department of Anthropology and the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque; 7) Board of Directors of The Medical Foundation of Boston, Massachusetts; 8) Board of Trustees of the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.; 9) Faculty Advisory Board of the Harvard Native American Program at Harvard University; and 10) Board of Directors of Tuba City Wellness Center at the Navajo Nation.

Prior to working with the Northern Arizona University, University of Arizona, Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, Harvard University, and Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy, he was a principal and assistant principal on the Navajo Nation and high school teacher on the White Mountain Apache Reservation.

In 2015, Dr. Begay was a recipient of the Arizona American Indian Excellence in Leadership Award and named Man of the Year by the Phoenix Indian Center of Phoenix, Arizona.

Professor Begay is considered as the first Navajo to graduate from Harvard University with a doctorate.

### Education

Professor Begay earned his: 1) A.A. from Navajo Community College in 1975; 2) B.A. in Education from The University of Arizona in 1977; 3) M.Ed. in 1984 and Ed. Spec. in 1985 in Educational Administration from Brigham Young University; 4) M.Ed. in 1989 from Harvard Graduate School of Education, Harvard University; and 5) doctorate at Harvard Graduate School of Education, Harvard University in 1997. His doctoral dissertation was titled: *Leading By Choice, Not Chance: Leadership Education for Native Chief Executives of American Indian Nations.*

### Personal Data

**Born:** Fort Defiance, Navajo Nation (AZ)

**Raised at:** Wheatfields, Navajo Nation (AZ) via Tuba City, Navajo Nation (AZ)

**Maternal Clan:** *Ma'ii Deesgiizhinii* (Coyote Pass - Jemez Clan) **Paternal Clan:** *Taachii'nii* (Red Running into the Water People). **Maternal Grandfather's Clan:** *Lok'aa dine'e* (Reed People) **Paternal Grandfather's Clan:** *Todichi'ii'nii* (Bitter Water)

**Married to Carol Goldtooth:** Two Children and Three Grandchildren