

The Peoples of the World Foundation

Educatio gratia Commutationis

2004 Annual Report

Assignments

In 2004 we undertook two assignments. The first was with the Cherokee Native American Indians. We began this assignment working with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in the state of North Carolina. This assignment will continue into 2005, when it will be published on our web site.

Our second assignment was undertaken in the Brazilian Amazon basin. This was an initial “fact finding” assignment in anticipation of more follow-up assignments over the next few years.

We had planned to work in Brazil with various indigenous groups predicted to be adversely impacted by the construction of a natural gas pipeline, proposed by Petrobrás, connecting the Urucu gas fields to the State capital of Rôndonia, Porto Velho. Based on our findings from this initial assignment, we placed our future assignments in Brazil on hold pending future developments. The report on this assignment is available at <http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/assignments/brazil.jsp>.

Scholarships

In 2004 we awarded five educational scholarships, fulfilling the first part of our mission statement — “education for indigenous peoples.” These scholarships were awarded to members of the Aeta indigenous group in the Philippines. These

scholarships will allow these five scholars to continue their education in 2005.

Publications

Fulfilling the second part of our mission statement — “education about indigenous peoples,” we published the following content in 2004.

The Chewa. Our advisor Amy Gough contributed this article based on time she spent volunteering in Southern Africa. The article is available at <http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/hosted/chewa>.

The Crow. Our advisor Alberto Arzoz contributed this article based on time he spent among the Crow Native American Indians. The article is available at <http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/hosted/crow>.

Educational Resources

Our World Wide Web site continued to help fulfill the second part of our mission statement — “education about indigenous peoples.” The site had over 250,000 page views in 2004. Our materials – photo-ethnographic essays and audio-visual slideshows were used by K-12 and higher educational institutions in most of the English-speaking world.

Projects and Programs

In 2004 we began a major new initiative, the *Indigenous Peoples Discussion Forum*

(<http://forums.peoplesoftheworld.org>). This web-based forum is open to all. It is aimed at promoting discussion of news, views and issues affecting the World's indigenous peoples.

We also began a new program in 2004, the *Adopt a School Challenge Program*. This program unites students from indigenous communities around the world with their peers in Western schools and colleges. A fundraising, sponsorship and cultural exchange program, it aims to benefit both indigenous scholars (directly through the raising of funds) and indigenous and Western students through the establishment of cultural ties appreciable by each. Our sponsorship of this program includes the establishment of a challenge grant fund to match donations raised by participating Western schools.

Governance

In 2004 we appointed the following individuals to our boards.

Board of Directors. Michelle A. Thomas. Ms. Thomas is our Outreach Coordinator.

Board of Advisors. Alberto Arzoz.

Their respective biographies are available at <http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/board.jsp> and <http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/advisors.jsp>.

Donations and Finances¹

While we received generous corporate donations in 2004, our primary source of funding continued to come from the donations of private citizens. On behalf of our 2004 scholars, we extend our grateful

¹ Financial data appearing in this report have not been audited.

thanks to all our corporate and individual donors.

Income	\$ 5250
Expenses	(\$ 5166)
Balance	\$ 84

In addition to financial contributions, we wish to acknowledge the contributions of our Directors, Advisors and numerous others who contributed in unseen forms through time, air miles donations, vehicle mileage, expertise, resources and sacrifices to make 2004 such a successful year for the Foundation.

Plans for 2005

2004 was a very successful year for the Foundation! In only our first full fiscal year operating under non-profit status we were able to fulfill our primary mission to provide education for indigenous peoples.

We begin 2005 with very ambitious plans! We will conclude and publish our assignment, begun in 2004, with the Cherokee Native American Indians.

We will enlist more people — advisors and/or directors — to help us achieve our mission statements in 2005.

We will undertake one or more assignments in Central and/or South America. Our short list of destinations for 2005 is Belize, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and the Yucatan peninsula of Mexico.

We will further promote our Indigenous Peoples Discussion Forum to become the primary World Wide Web community portal for the exchange of information regarding contemporary indigenous affairs on the Internet.

Being our third year of operation under non-profit status, 2005 opens up further avenues of funding sources to the Foundation. We will apply for equipment, research, scholarship, operating and travel grants to appropriate grant-awarding bodies.