



The NIH Tribal Health Research Office welcomes you to join us in honoring

# National Native American Heritage Month

Thursday, November 9, 2017

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Main NIH Campus, Building 1, Wilson Hall, Room 360

Special Guest

**Erik J. Sorensen, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry, Princeton University**

Dr. Erik J. Sorensen is the *Arthur Allen Patchett Professor in Organic Chemistry* in the Department of Chemistry at Princeton University and *Perennial Distinguished Guest Professor* in the School of Pharmaceutical Science and Technology at Tianjin University. He received his Ph.D. degree in Chemistry in 1995 from the University of California, San Diego.

Dr. Sorensen's lecture will cover his research in organic chemistry synthesis and the challenges of increasing Native American participation in chemistry. Further, he will describe his career path from the Onondaga Nation, in central New York State, to his current position as Professor in the Department of Chemistry at Princeton University. In addition to describing aspects of his laboratory's continued interest in the theme of 'nature-inspired chemical synthesis,' he will share his thoughts about the challenges of recruiting Native American students into academic positions at research intensive universities. The severe underrepresentation of Native Americans in academic departments in the STEM fields suggests that this is still a very hard problem to overcome. Dr. Sorensen will conclude with a few recommendations and discussion that could help the NIH with the goal of increasing Native American participation in health research.

Following Dr. Sorensen's presentation, meet the Tribal Health Research Office team and enjoy food and refreshments.

Videocast link: <https://videocast.nih.gov/live.asp?live=26435>



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