

# Native American Repatriation Review Committee Resolution Encouraging Researchers to Consult with Tribes

Many Native American tribes believe that the disturbance or handling of human remains or funerary objects by researchers is harmful to their community. The NMNH does not require researchers to obtain permission from descendant communities in order to study the human remains or funerary objects that have not yet been formally culturally affiliated with a tribe. However, the Repatriation Review Committee encourages researchers to consult about their research with tribes that may be descendant.

Such consultation is not only appropriate, but also may lead to collaborative work that can be of broad benefit. This process can be initiated by contacting tribal leaders or Tribal Historic Preservation Officers.

[Adopted unanimously by the Repatriation Review Committee on December 1, 2017.]

Bonnie Newsom, Chair

Darlene Miller, Vice Chair

Walt Lara Sr.

George Milner

Vincas P. Steponaitis

Ian Thompson

Shelby Tisdale