

The following comments written by
Sonia Marrone, MA (PhD candidate, UND Department of Psychology, May 2009)

Acceptance of Allen Allery Research Award

It is my great honor to accept the Alan J. Allery Award for American Indian Graduate Student Health Researcher of the Year. Dr. Allery represented excellence in American Indian health research at the University of North Dakota. His legacy and vision for developing scholarly activity and mentoring American Indian graduate students will continue to be honored through this award and I am humbled to be a part of this legacy by receiving this special award.

I have been fortunate to receive excellent training in American Indian research while pursuing my PhD in clinical psychology and have benefited greatly from the mentorship of the faculty at UND who are committed to American Indian health research. I would like to especially thank Dr. Jacques Gray and Dr. Jennifer Muehlenkamp for their mentorship and teachings. I would also like to thank all of the staff at American Indian Student Services who are an exceptional group of individuals who inspired me every day with their passion and commitment to the success of American Indian students at UND. I intend to honor the spirit of this award and the memory of Dr. Allery by further developing research initiatives focusing on American Indian health and will continue working with my colleagues and mentors at UND throughout my career.

Bio for Sonia Marrone

Sonia Marrone is a Ph.D. candidate in clinical psychology at the University of North Dakota. She is currently completing her pre-doctoral internship at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, NC. She completed her Bachelor of Arts (Honors) degree at the University of Winnipeg in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Her research interests include health promotion and disease prevention as well as health disparities among American Indians. She is of Métis descent with ancestors from the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and was born and raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba.