
HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF
NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

A close-up photograph of two hands holding a large quantity of acorns. The acorns are light brown with darker, textured caps. The hands are positioned at the top and bottom edges of the frame, with the acorns filling the center. The background is dark and out of focus.

**FOOD
SOVEREIGNTY
LAB &
CULTURAL
WORKSPACE**

ABOUT THE PROJECT

A student initiative, to strengthen relationships for food sovereignty within our communities.

The purpose of the Native American Studies Food Sovereignty Lab and Cultural Workspace (NAS LAB) is to provide Native and non-Native students, faculty, staff, and community members the opportunity for hands-on learning about sustainable agriculture and Traditional Ecological Knowledge.

This facility will integrate the values of ecological sustainability, bio-cultural sovereignty of Indigenous peoples, interconnectedness of life, and community involvement in efforts to develop reverence for food sovereignty.

This space will help to strengthen the bond between our local community, Indigenous Nations, and students here at Humboldt State University.

The NAS LAB will work directly with local members of the community and local tribes to include traditional Indigenous practices of sustainable harvesting and food preparation and preservation. This space will also focus on developing curriculum, internships, research opportunities, workshops, and programs.

This lab would also set aside hours for community activities and meetings, including workshops on sustainable harvesting practices and cultural revival of local Indigenous traditions.

HSU will be the only campus in the CSU system to have a “Food Sovereignty Lab and Cultural Work Space.”

We envision opportunities to bring in visiting researchers, community leaders, Indigenous scientists and cultural artists to work closely with students, faculty and staff.

This permanent collaborative space will nurture proactive conversations regarding food sovereignty and security, boost Indigenous presenters by offering opportunities for activity labs, and creating a space for topics such as basket weaving, food sovereignty, dam removal, and other prominent issues to be addressed in a safe and respectful manner.



WHERE WE ARE NOW

We are fundraising to meet our goal of \$250,000 to begin remodel of the Lab space.

We are focusing on planning and development of the NAS LAB which includes: outreach, strategic planning, budgeting, fundraising, location remodel, equipment installation; policy and resolution writing and adoptions; internship and research plans and the official opening of the Food Sovereignty Lab & Cultural Workshop space at HSU.

This year we developed the **Food Sovereignty Lab Steering Committee** which is the primary advisory committee for the planning and development of the NAS LAB. As we prepare for the implementation of this cutting edge lab at HSU, we want to do this with the guidance and support of community members, scholars and organizations that can help us to develop informed, decolonized, leading approaches to food sovereignty and Traditional Ecological Knowledge.

In 2021, we will launch our fundraising campaign by reaching out to Tribal Nations and organizations across the country to support the NAS LAB.

We currently employ 1 research assistant and within the next year, plan to employ up to two RAs.

In November of 2020 we launched the 'Food Sovereignty Speaker Series' to engage and excite the community on the development of the NAS LAB. Our speaker series stimulates interdisciplinary collaboration around issues related to food sovereignty, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, community health, and Indigenous cultural practices. The Speakers Series has provided an opportunity to learn from leading Indigenous scholars about best practice in Food Sovereignty research and project implementation. The series is hosted online and recorded.

We are partnering with *The Range* production company to make a short (5 minute) video which will be hosted on our YouTube Channel. The final product will be video highlighting the Speaker Series and Development of the Food Sovereignty Lab based on qualitative interviews, speakers series, outreach to community members, community discussions, visits with national and international programs that is an in-depth discussion of the best practices in Food Sovereignty for higher education and beyond. This will inspire and demonstrate to other programs how they can move forward with their own labs and can also help to inspire future farmers, gardeners and community practitioners.

\$1,199,975

TOTAL ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR THE NEXT 3 YEARS

Year 1: Strategic planning

Year 2: Remodel

Year 3: Implementation

ESTIMATED REMODEL:

\$247, 566.87

INTERNSHIP AND RESEARCH ASSISANT PROGRAM:

\$70,000.00

The Food Sovereignty Lab would serve more than just a space for student education. This Lab would give our community an opportunity to experience the vibrancy and modern existence of Indigenous Peoples and cultures in our local area. Similar to other places of learning that are shared with the community, such as the HSU Marine Biology Lab, the art galleries, and community forest- the Food Sovereignty Lab would be a place to share events and programming with the broader community. This permanent collaborative space will nurture proactive conversations regarding food sovereignty and security and inspire active participation in writing policy to reform our food systems.

Behavioral & Social Science Building

The Lab/Center will be located in the Behavioral and Social Sciences Building complex on the HSU Campus in Arcata, CA. The building has two areas: one that includes the Native American Forum; lobby; lecture hall; and the proposed site for the Lab. The BSS building also includes a five-story tall building that includes several departments including the Native American Studies Department and the Goudi'ni Gallery (a Native American art gallery).

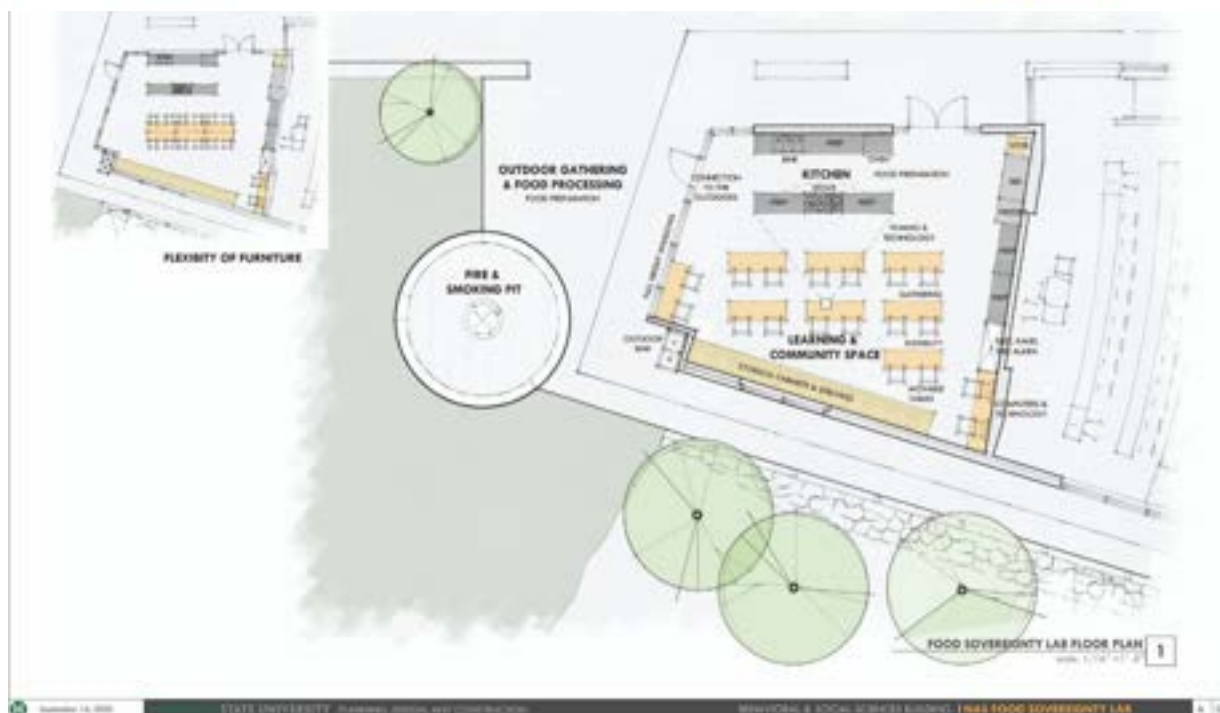
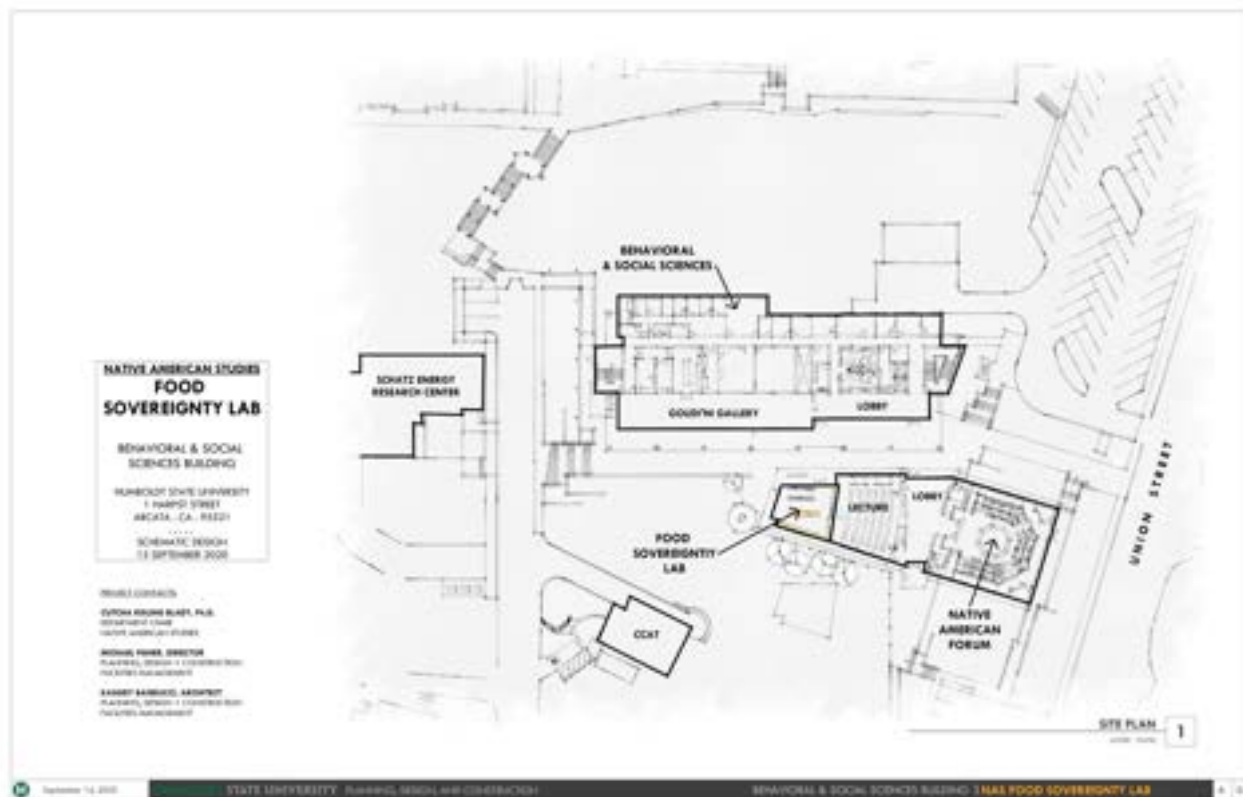


The photo on the left is the BSS five-story building. The first floor includes the Goudi'ni gallery. There is an ADA accessible parking lot located south of the building and it connects via ramps to the main access area of each of the buildings.

The above photos is a rendering of the completed complex to show the location of the Native American Forum and the BSS Building. Attached to the forum is the space that will be utilized for the Lab/Center.



The Native American Forum is designed to look like a traditional Native American plank house which was utilized by tribes in this region. It is a public gathering space that features many Native focused programs. The round opening at the front mimics the round doors that were utilized as part of this traditional Native architecture. The building is surrounded by Native plants from the North Coast region.



*Current condition of BSS 168.
Future Food Sovereignty Lab &
Workspace*



GIVE

Any amount that can be provided helps us to reach our \$250,000 goal for remodel.

SECURED FUNDING

\$80,000 from
Humboldt Energy Independence Fund
\$30,000 from the
Humboldt Area Foundation
\$4,000 in Individual donations

We need to raise **\$136,000**
more for the first phase of lab
implementation. We are also hoping for
introductions to various funders/
organizations or others who might be
interested in learning more about our lab.

CONTACT

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**REMODEL
COMING
FALL 2021**

DONATE

Donate to NAS:

<https://alumni.humboldt.edu/giving/NAS>

Send in a check:

*You may send a check made out to
the HSU Advancement
Foundation, with NAS Trust
A6608 in the memo line.*

Gift Processing Center
SBS 285

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