**Welcome New Faculty Member Michael Lane**

*“The framework of tribal self governance must be viewed in the context of the values of the specific People to be a true expression of an Indigenous Nation exercising self government. This fundamental distinction can be traced back to the legal history. The foundational laws regarding interactions with Indigenous Peoples were developed under theories of natural law. The contemporary state practice is conducted under positivist law, with a nod toward developing human rights standards. Only through continued advocacy for the legal recognition of inherent rights will the nation-states be challenged on their self management agenda*”.

 - Michael lane

 Evergreen’s MPA Program extends an excited WELCOME to new faculty member, **AND 1988 Evergreen** Alumni, Michael Lane,Menominee Nation. Michael has been a “boots on the ground” advocate for Indigenous Peoples and self- governance for 29 years. Michael is currently obtaining hisPhD, in Indigenous Studies with **Trent University**. He obtained his Masters in Indigenous Studies, with First Class Honors at **Te Whare Wananga o Awanuiarangi,** New Zealand. Histhesis topic involved: Indigenous Peoples Self Government, Tribal Sovereignty, Early Treaty Making, Aboriginal Title/Discovery Doctrine, Legal History of Self Government (Canada, New Zealand, and United States).Michael also attended **Arizona State University College of Law**, in 1994 with a specialty in Federal Indian Law, Juris Doctor.

Michael has worked as a legal researcher, advocate and policy advisor, for nearly 20 years, with the *Springs From Earth* organization where he focuses on representing various tribal interests in the United States, Canada and New Zealand (including resource development, prevention issues, environmental protection, environmental indicators, resource consents, representation and jurisdictional issues); engaged on issues of self- government (structures, strategic plans, etc.). Acting as an advocate for individuals in dealing with agencies, Michael found himself immersed in research and writing on American Indian Legal History, drafting Policies and Procedures Manuals and Trust Deeds, developing a number of Charitable Trusts and even representing a sacred site protection case in the Environment Court and High Court of New Zealand. Michael also participates as a speaker, presenter, etc. at various forums, conferences, workshops and radio shows.

Michael is no stranger to working on a campus either. From his early work with the Evergreen Indian Center in the late eighties and his Graduate Assistantship with the American Indian Institute of Arizona State University as an American Indian student retention program coordinator, Michael has found himself involved with the student population. More recently, Michael has presented as a lecturer at theAboriginal Law and Advocacy Program of Confederation College.

Michael’s “boots” have also hit the ground in the literal sense as a regular walker in the five month, across America, **Longest Walk**, to Alcatraz in support of long- time imprisoned activist, Leonard Peltier. Michael and his family have completed the walk several times.

At Evergreen, we ask our MPA population to use their heads, hearts and minds to put into practice the changes they would like to see in the world. Michael has proven to be a living, breathing vessel for positive change. With actions and conviction, Michael is working to improve the lives of his community. We are thrilled to learn from him and again we extend a warm welcome to Michael and his family as they settle into the beautiful Pacific Northwest.