

Federal Preservation Institute
National Park Service

National Park Service News Release
**National Park Service Director Selects
NAGPRA Manager**

WASHINGTON, D.C.—National Park Service (NPS) Director Fran Mainella announced the selection of Dr. Sherry Hutt as the Program Manager for national implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

“It is a tremendous public benefit when we have the opportunity to select someone for federal service who is so well prepared by knowledge and expertise for the job,” said Mainella. “I am very pleased to have Dr. Hutt at the helm of NAGPRA and I look forward to her counsel on related issues.”

In assuming the Program Manager position, Dr. Hutt will focus on developing and implementing a business improvement process for improved program functioning, delivery, compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and for building customer confidence and support for this nationally-important federal program. She will also represent the NPS on the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation’s Archeology Task Force.

Dr. Hutt is an internationally recognized expert on cultural property laws, including NAGPRA. She is widely published on the administration of NAGPRA and has provided training to Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, museums, and federal agencies. She holds both a J.D. degree and a Ph.D. Dr. Hutt retired from the Arizona Superior Court in 2002 after 17 years of judicial service, and is currently on the faculty of the Graduate School of Public Policy at George Mason University.

Dr. Hutt has been assigned under provisions of the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) that provides for the temporary assignment of personnel for two years between the federal government and state and local governments, colleges and universities, Indian tribal governments, federally-funded research and development centers, and other eligible organizations.

The National NAGPRA Program is responsible for a wide range of responsibilities delegated under NAGPRA to the Secretary of the Interior, including promulgation of regulations, providing staff support to a Secretarial review committee, managing publication of Federal Register notices to facilitate repatriation of cultural items from museums and federal agency collections, administration of a grants program, assessment of civil penalties, and providing technical assistance and training to Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, museums, federal agencies, and the public at large.

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