



NAGPRA Progress and Accountability at UC Riverside – August 2025 Update

Over the past 4 years, the UCR NAGPRA Program has worked with tribal partners, community members, and the UCR NAGPRA Oversight Committee to repatriate Native American cultural objects and Ancestors housed at UCR. Through this work, it has become apparent that transparency, accountability, and inclusivity are key factors in moving repatriation forward. Thanks to the guidance and active engagement of the UCR NAGPRA Oversight Committee and our tribal partners, UCR has been able to increase consultation and repatriation rates. As members of our community who have supported the UCR NAGPRA Program in this work, we would like to share an update with you on the progress we have made and the anticipated work ahead.

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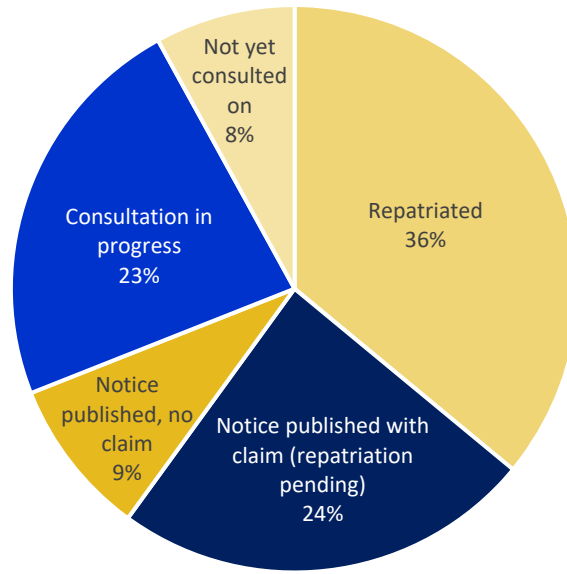
UCR NAGPRA Program Staff

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I. Current Status

Collections Repatriation Status Breakdown



	Collections*		Ancestral Remains (MNI)**		Funerary Objects		Objects of Cultural Patrimony		Unidentified items***	
TOTAL (#):	197		54		180,050		48,067		9703	
Status	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1. Repatriated	71	36%	33	61%	74,604	41%	34,564	72%	N/A	
2. Federal Notice Published /Claim Received (repatriation pending)	48	24%	10	19%	40111	23%	7142	14%	N/A	
3. Federal Notice Published/No Claim Received	17	9%	9	17%	65335	36%	340	1%	N/A	
4. Consultation in Progress	45	23%	2	3%	0	0%	6021	13%	0	0%
5. Not yet consulted on	16	8%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	9703	100%

For information on specific collections or repatriations, please visit UCR’s NAGPRA Program’s inventory list on our website: <https://nagpra.ucr.edu/ucr-nagpra-inventories>

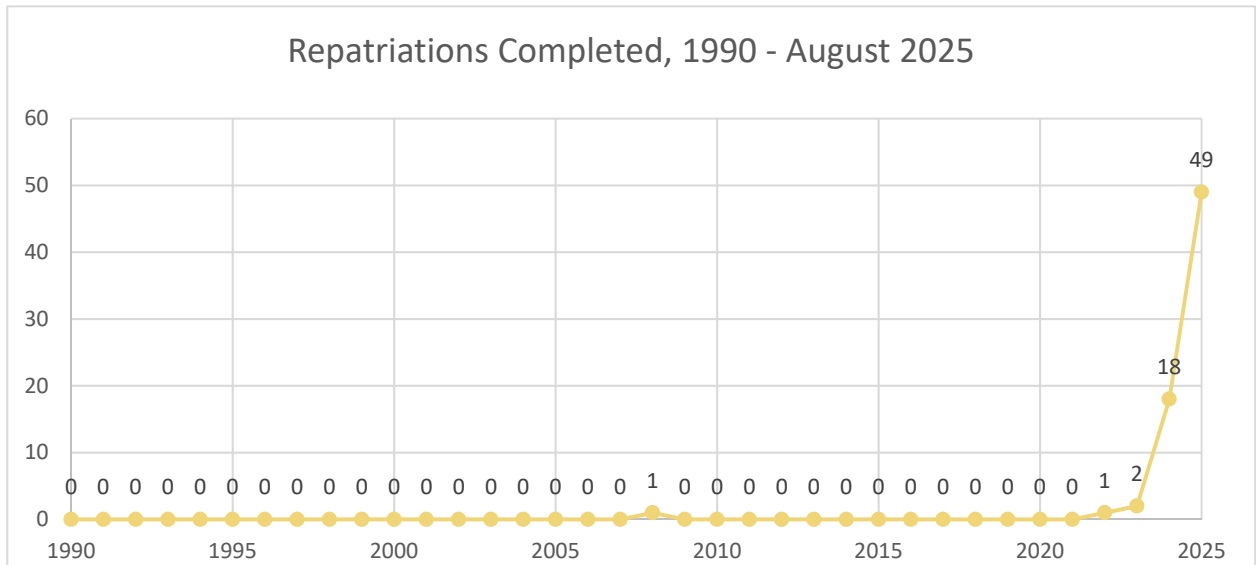
*Collections house human remains, cultural objects, and funerary objects. This column represents the total number of accessions (archaeological collections) housed at UCR. The columns to the right detail the breakdown of what is housed within the collections (e.g. one collection may house more than one ancestor and hundreds of funerary objects).

**MNI – Minimum Number of Individuals, or the minimum number of ancestors housed in a collection

***Needs tribal consultation to identify object type (i.e. Funerary, Cultural, etc.)

II. Repatriation Timeline

The data chart below displays repatriations (collections repatriated) by the UCR NAPGRA program from the passage of NAGPRA in 1990 through August 18, 2025. **UCR completed 67 repatriations in the last twenty months (2024 and beginning of 2025) compared to only four repatriations in 1990-2023.** The dramatic increase in repatriation rate is a result of dedicated funding and staffing for the UCR NAGPRA Program. The hiring of UCR’s first full-time repatriation coordinator in 2022 allowed for a much-needed focus on consultation and repatriation efforts.



III. Program Changes and Updates

- In July of 2025, University Librarian and Chancellor’s Designee for NAGPRA, Steven Mandeville-Gamble retired. He has been succeeded by **Interim Chancellor’s Designee Tiffany Moxham**, who primarily serves as UCR’s Deputy University Librarian and AUL for Content and Discovery. Tiffany plans to hand-off responsibilities as Chancellor’s Designee to the new University Librarian when they begin in September.
- The UCR NAGPRA Program has officially **relisted a full-time position for the NAGPRA Program Specialist**. This position will work with the Repatriation Coordinator with a specific focus on UCR’s radiocarbon laboratory collections.
- **A partnership between UCR’s NAGPRA Program and the UCR Natural Reserves System (<https://ucnrns.ucr.edu/>) began in May with the goal of working with tribal partners to provide land for reburial if needed.** In July, UCR’s Repatriation Coordinator took a trip with tribal partners to the Boyd Deep Canyon Desert Research Center in Indian Wells to review potential areas for reburial. The Boyd Center has also been working to build relationships with local tribes with the goal of creating land use access agreements for tribes. Discussions with the Box Springs Reserve, Emerson Oaks, and the Motte Rimrock Reserves are planned to begin in September.



Photo from UCR NAGPRA Program’s trip with tribal partners to the Boyd Deep Canyon Desert Research Center in July 2025