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As the only librarian in the Delaney Southwest Research Library and Archives, I manage all areas in this special Library, and I provide research assistance to students, faculty, staff and many others who come to use the library's book, periodical and media collections.

The Center of Southwest Studies is called the "jewel of Fort Lewis College" because it houses a museum, a research library and archival repository. We host a number of special events throughout the year, many which highlight exhibit openings, guest lectures and cultural programs. For the last three years, the Center has provided internship and work-study experiences for Native students in the library, museum and archives. If you are interested in a cool place to work, please come by and see me!

Every winter term, I teach a section of LIB150: Academic Library Research, a one-credit required course. Research and information has transformed tremendously with the Internet and technology; and, this course provides students with critical thinking and searching skills necessary to navigate online catalogs and databases. In addition, I teach special research methods for Southwest and American Indian Studies classes. It is in these classes that I get to meet many Native students which is a great thing because then students learn they have a contact in the library when they need help, and I am always willing to spend individual time with students. It is always a good feeling to know that I have helped students to locate the exact information they need, whether it is for academic or personal use.

I am an alumna of Fort Lewis College in Southwest Studies, and I am proud of my alma mater and its role in Native American education. One of my research interests is Native American children's literature. I have presented and held workshops for librarians on selecting children and young adult books. As a mother and librarian, it is important to instill the love of reading of quality books, especially when it comes accurate portrayal of Native people and life ways.

I came of age in the 1970s and was deeply influenced by the Indian movement in events across the country and in my Navajo community of Shiprock, New Mexico. Chief Manuelito, who signed the Navajo Treaty of 1868 was my great-grandfather on my mother's side, one of his most famous statements said "the ladder to success was through education." While he spoke those words in the face of defeat, today those words are most meaningful as we succeed in this era of Indian self-determination. Please consider Fort Lewis College as your choice to continue on the ladder!