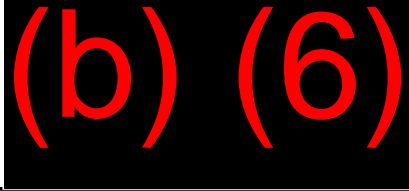


**Ann Marie Bledsoe Downes**



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***Education:***

Arizona State University  
Wayne State College

Law  
Social Sciences Education

J.D. (b) (6)  
B.A.E. [redacted]

***Employment:***

**Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law Arizona State University – Professor of Practice and Director of Indian Gaming and Tribal Self-Governance Programs**

August 2019 – Present

- Development of programming and curriculum for newly established Indian Gaming and Tribal Self-Governance Programs
- Recruitment and retention of students including MLS, LL.M., and J.D. students
- Oversee conference planning related to subject matter areas
- Manage program budgets
- Coordinate partnerships with tribal governments and tribal organizations
- Teach a minimum of 6 credit hours in the Indian Gaming & Tribal Self-Governance or Indian Legal Program curriculum
- Organize and seek guidance from Advisory Committees related to all programs in the Indian Legal Program

**Ho-Chunk, Inc. – Executive Vice President, Community Impact and Engagement**

May 2017 – Present

- Corporate officer (Secretary) responsible for management and governance of the parent corporation and multiple subsidiaries with a total of over 1,200 employees and an annual budget of over 350 million dollars
- Establish and lead the Community Impact and Engagement division at Ho-Chunk, Inc.
- Assist with annual planning efforts for the corporation
- Serve on the executive team, help manage assets of the company, and set short and long-term goals and objectives for the company
- Coordinate and implement community-wide events and initiatives with the purpose of positively impacting the Winnebago community and providing information to Winnebago tribal members
- Create new programs and initiatives that are responsive to tribal member needs with a focus on the five priority areas of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska; Education, Youth, Housing, Jobs, and Elders
- Company liaison to the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska Tribal Council
- Chair and member of corporate committees, including but not limited to, compliance, employee engagement, and legal and legislative

- Oversee corporate programs centered on education, scholarships and internships, and workforce development

**Department of Interior, Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs - Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Economic Development**

August 2014 – January 2016

- Assisted with advising the Secretary of the Interior on Indian Affairs policy issues, communicating policy to and oversight of the programs within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs (AS-IA), the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education
- Assisted the Assistant Secretary with tribal consultations, supported the Assistant Secretary as the Department official for intra- and interdepartmental coordination and liaison within the Executive Branch on Indian matters
- Provided direct management over the Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development and the Office of Self-Governance
- Lead the effort to implement Executive Order 13647 establishing the White House Council on Native American Affairs
- Served as the Department of Interior lead on President Obama’s 2014 and 2015 White House Tribal Nations Conferences.
- Provided oversight and management to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Climate Resilience Program including the approximately 10-million-dollar Tribal Climate Resilience grant program
- Represented the Department and AS-IA at conferences, tribal advisory meetings, and other national and international forums including the United Nations

**Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Education – Acting Director**

March 2016 – November 2016

- Responsible for the management and oversight of 183 elementary, secondary, residential, and peripheral dormitories across 23 states. One hundred thirty schools are tribally controlled under P.L. 93-638 Indian Self-Determination Contracts or P.L. 100-297 Tribally Controlled Grants. Fifty-three schools are operated by BIE. The BIE also oversees two post-secondary schools: Haskell Indian Nations University and Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute.
- Served as the lead on the implementation of the Secretarial Order 3334 and the Blueprint for Reform which proposed a comprehensive reform of the BIE system.
- Provided oversight and direction for the successful execution of an annual budget of approximately nine hundred million dollars.

**Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Indian Legal Program (ILP) - Interim Executive Director**

December 2013 – August 2014

- Lead all recruitment and retention efforts of law students interested in the ILP
- Administer financial aid for students affiliated with the ILP and manage the Indian Law Certificate and curriculum requirements
- Complete grant applications and provide research and support on grants including grant reports

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- Develop and implement ILP budget
- Coordinate all conference and symposia on topics related to Indian Law
- Evaluate all ILP staff including hiring and termination
- Develop long and short-term goals for the ILP guaranteeing those goals strategically aligned with overall goals of University
- Serve as the liaison between the ILP and faculty, advisors, administrators and staff from both the university and external agencies including tribal governments

### **Little Priest Tribal College – Interim President**

May 2013 – July 2013

- Responsible for day-to-day administration of the College
- Implement all Board of Trustee’s policies
- Coordinate construction of new classroom building
- Assist in the search for a permanent President for the institution

### **Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Indian Legal Program (ILP) – Faculty Associate**

October 2012 – May 2014

- Co-teach courses in Federal Advocacy for the Tribal Client and Contemporary Issues in Tribal Economic Development as part of the “Traveling Classroom” in the Indian Legal Program
- Presenter and instructor for trainings conducted by the ILP and the American Indian Policy Institute at ASU. Topics taught include Fundamentals of Federal Indian Policy, Basics of Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction in Indian Country, Tribal Economic Development and Fundamentals of Tribal Sovereignty

### **National Native American Bar Association (NNABA) - Executive Director**

October 2012 – March 2013

- Coordinated the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs and services that support the mission including website development and maintenance, membership list, dues collection, social media, development of membership benefits
- Organized Board meetings, NNABA annual meeting and establish meeting agendas
- Developed annual budget, and make financial decisions consistent with the budget as approved by the Board
- Lead all fundraising efforts and coordinate the Board’s involvement in fundraising as well as supervise the implementation of fundraising plans and policies approved by the Board
- Provided regular, timely internal financial statements to the Board of directors that compare performance to budget and to the previous year or other benchmark
- Conducted multiyear financial analysis, review trends, and engage the Board in discussions about financial stability and sustainability, including the development of adequate operating reserves
- Built positive relationships with partner organizations policymakers, media, and legal community
- Represented the organization by participating in key associations and organizations, serving on committees and advisory groups, and speaking in public settings

**Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Indian Legal Program (ILP) - Interim Executive Director**

October 2011 – October 2012

- Led all recruitment and retention efforts of law students interested in the Indian Legal Program
- Administered financial aid for students affiliated with the ILP and managed the Indian Law Certificate and curriculum requirements
- Completed grant applications, provided research and support on grants and grant reports
- Developed and implemented ILP budget
- Coordinated all conference and symposia on topics related to Indian Law
- Evaluated all ILP staff including hiring and termination
- Developed long and short-term goals for the ILP guaranteeing those goals strategically aligned with overall goals of University
- Served as the liaison between the ILP and faculty, advisors, administrators and staff from both the university and external agencies including tribal governments

**Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law - Director of Graduate and Academic Programs, Indian Legal Program**

August 2005 – May 2010

- Responsible for the implementation of the LL.M. in Tribal Policy Law, and Government curriculum and the Masters of Legal Studies with an emphasis in Indian Law curriculum
- Led all recruitment and retention of students enrolled in both degree programs
- Secured funding to provide scholarships to students in both programs
- Coordinated implementation of the Indian Law Certificate program
- Co-Instructor with Professor Robert Clinton for Advanced Legal Writing and Research in Indian Law course
- Identified and secured grant funding for implementation of ILP goals and objectives
- Assisted in the creation of a new Tribal Economic Development program

**State of Arizona, Governor Janet Napolitano - Policy Advisor for Tribal Affairs**

September 2003 – September 2004

- Served as the liaison between the Governor's office and the Tribal Nations of Arizona
- Provided updates on tribal-state relations to the Governor, Chiefs of Staff, Cabinet and other Policy Advisors
- Coordinated and scheduled visits by Governor to and with Tribes of Arizona
- Development of talking points, speeches and materials for press releases relative to visits with Tribes
- Organized and led quarterly "tribal summits" between Governor Napolitano and tribal leadership on a wide array of issues of concern identified by tribal leadership
- Established regular, consistent and ongoing communication with tribal leadership on issues related to tribal-state relations
- Created a coalition of tribal policy advisors from State of Arizona agencies and coordinated regular meetings to encourage communication and collaboration

## **Little Priest Tribal College – President**

June 2000 – September 2003

- Responsible for day-to-day administration of the College
- Implemented all Board of Trustee's policies
- Prepared and administered College's annual budget
- Led all public relations efforts and served as spokesperson for the College
- Maintained all certifications and activities related to accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission including completion of a Self-Study and successful accreditation review resulting in ten years of continued accreditation
- Created and implemented an endowment for the College
- Developed and administered programs to carry out the mission and goals of the College

## **Hoopa Valley Tribe – Commissioner, Hoopa Valley Tribal Gaming Commission**

December 1996 – April 1998

- Held the at-large community position as established by Hoopa Valley Tribal Code
- Reviewed employment applications of applicants for employment at the Hoopa Valley Tribe's Lucky Bear Casino to determine whether applicants may be licensed for employment pursuant to Tribal and Federal law
- Reviewed Casino policies and procedures to guarantee they were effective, efficient and in accordance with applicable Tribal and Federal law

### ***Community Activities:***

Ho-Chunk, Inc Board of Directors – Director, 2008 – 2014

Little Priest Tribal College Board of Trustees – Member, 2012 –2014

White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities Advisory Board – Member, 2002-2005

Institute of American Indian Arts Board of Trustees – Trustee, 2017 – Present

Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System Board of Directors – Secretary, May 2018-Present

American Indian Graduate Center Board of Directors – Member, February 2019 – Present

### ***Tribal Affiliation***

Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

### ***Bar Admissions***

California