Northwestern University study is focused on helping tribes be more resilient

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Staff Reporter

One of the many interesting presentations at the Seventh Generations Inter-Tribal Leadership Summit Innovation in Education seminar from Wednesday Oct. 11-13, at Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe University (LCOOU) was an aggregation from Northwestern University outside of Chicago: "Sustainability of Ojibwe Nations across Generations.

Presenting were Dr. Kim Marlon Suiseeya, Ph.D., and doctoral candidate Jordan Gurneau, a St. Croix mem­

ber studying civil and envi­

ronmental engineering, and Maggie O’Connell, a gradu­

ate student from Northwestern University studying chemical engineer­

ing. Also presenting was Raj Sankaran, a computer expert from Argonne National Laboratory.

The team is working under a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), with funding from Argonne National Laboratory (GLlliWC) asking if some people have data, but we lack the data to go into courts and assert treaty rights. The Ojibwe elders shared

and threats that this is Tribal member he was raised

their relationship with the

community members try-

to get the most attention

process, I’ll try to explain

In the study one includes the

"And we learned a lot more about treaty rights and the extent to which different treaty rights are affirmed or eroded," she said. We started looking at the fact that then climate change, even if treaty rights were fulfilled, climate change is going to impact how those treaty rights can be asserted, can be exercised. And so if you notice, climate threats in the Great Lakes have, which I think many folks are aware of, it’s increased frequency of extreme weather events. Like we heard this morning, the forest fire in Snoh­

All of the data should be col­

lected for the collective ben­

efit where tribes have the

authority to control those
data; that those data are han­

dled responsibly and that there are particular ethics that guide all the relationships that are involved in the research, so we as a collective who are doing all the research are committed to this tribal-­

ly-drivenclassroomresearch approach," she said.

Finally she noted several key research outputs including a sensor network to collect environmental data, online, web-based platform to provide access to data and tools, training on using cyber-in­

frastructure, research opportuni­

ties with tribal colleges and curricular development with tribal colleges and K-12 schools.