

Alum Discusses Language Revitalization With Faculty and Staff

Alumni Adrian John and his co-worker Brandon Whiteeagle paid CMN a visit on Wednesday, July 6, 2011 to speak about the importance of language classes. Adrian began classes at the College of the Muscogee Nation in Fall 2008 and graduated in the Spring of 2010. He now attends East Central University in Ada, OK still focusing on Native American Studies. As well as continuing his education, Adrian is employed at the Language Department for Chickasaw Nation.



During his return, Adrian stressed the importance of language revitalization. He mentioned that it was ultimately his dad who sparked his interest in the study of language. John states, "As a kid, my dad would always try and teach us Chickasaw but we would



Adrian John, Left and Brandon Whiteeagle, Right.

laugh and never pay attention. He finally just gave up trying to teach us because he thought we would never learn." It wasn't until recently that Adrian realized how important it is to keep the language alive. Working for Chickasaw Nation, provides him with opportunities to work with others engaged in language revitalization. Adrian says, "Good luck to current and future students of CMN. If I can do it, you can too. And always remember to never let it [language] die."