More than Mascots! Less than Citizens? American Indians Talk: Why Isn’t the U.S. Listening?

In a galaxy long, long ago and far, far away – which is to say, the United States of America in 1970 – fabulous Indigenous intellectual Vine Deloria, Jr. wrote a book titled *We Talk, You Listen*. If current debates over the name of a subpar NFL team are any indication, the U.S. did not get the message. Why is that? Why is willful ignorance about American Indian realities so deeply entrenched and passionately defended? Key answers are embedded in early 20th century federal court cases and legislation, including the 1924 Indian Citizenship Act. Tracing the history of U.S. debates over the status of Native people – are we aliens? wards? citizens? all of the above? – illuminates the challenges and opportunities that surviving, thriving Native peoples pose to U.S. society. This report on research-in-progress builds on my earlier research on schooling Native Americans, and contributes to current conversations about equity and equality.

**Thursday, November 16, 2017**
**4:00pm – 5:30pm, Annenberg Hall, Room 303**

Prof. Lomawaima earned graduate degrees (M.A./1980 and Ph.D./1987) in anthropology from Stanford University, where she was a Ford Fellow and a Dorothy Danforth Compton fellow. From 1988 to 1994, she was a member of the faculty in the Anthropology Dept./American Indian Studies Center at University of Washington, Seattle, where she received a University Distinguished Teaching Award in 1991. In 1994, she joined the faculty at the University of Arizona, American Indian Studies Program. In 2014, she left UA to join the faculty of the School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University.