

The Klausner Memorial AISES Grant

This grant offered by the United Native Americans organization of Nokia (aka LUNA) provides funds to assist student members of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) in their travel to and attendance at the National AISES Conference. Started in 2021, this memorial grant is in honor of Larry and Gwen Klausner, who were both dedicated members of LUNA. They spent many years of their own volunteer time building and supporting the LUNA organization and helping Native American employees of Lucent Technologies, Alcatel-Lucent and Nokia. Larry was a Mississippi Choctaw and proud of his heritage. He and Gwen were also strong supporters of AISES, whose mission is focused on substantially increasing the representation of Indigenous peoples of North America and the Pacific Islands in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) studies and careers. Besides Larry and Gwen's full-time jobs and involvement in other organizations, they always seemed to find the time to volunteer for LUNA activities and projects and attended many of the national AISES conferences to represent LUNA. Even after retirement, there was always a willingness to step in and support the organization. They served LUNA on local chapter and national boards and as officers. Many lives were touched by these two beautiful people and we will not forget them.