Dear Editors of The Midden:

Thank you for asking me to respond to David Lewis' letter from the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Tribe of Oregon. We recently presented our research in an all day symposium at the 60th Annual Northwest Anthropological Conference at WSU, Pullman, Washington, and had a follow-up Panel Discussion, with invitation to the three tribes who share ceded lands and co-management of this site. The Grand Ronde had their Cultural Protection Specialist, Eirik Thorsgard, represent them on the panel. Eirik explained their publication concern during his public presentation, and I personally apologized and could only say "I blew it!" Really nothing else I can say—and would like to apologize here as well.

I would recommend that everyone carefully read Mr. Lewis' letter and recognize the Grand Ronde lessons here. I am sorry I blew it, and will be much more aware of these perspectives in future work with them and the other two Tribes with ceded lands and with authority at the Sauvie Island site.

I must add that Eirik Thorsgard also emphasized on the panel that the project represented a "great deal of collaborative efforts between Tribal Cultural Resources Specialists and Archaeologists and this speed bump in our relationship should not reflect our overall team efforts to properly protect and evaluate one of the most significant Heritage Sites in our ceded lands."

Thanks,

Dale R. Croes
Head, Anthropology
South Puget Sound Community College
Olympia, Washington, USA

Dear Readership,

In response to the letter from David Lewis, Cultural Manager for the Grand Ronde Tribe of Oregon, the Editors of The Midden and ASBC Executive Committee have revisited and clarified our publishing guidelines and protocols. We expect all contributors to The Midden to have received the permission from all relevant parties or individuals regarding the publication of archaeological information and photographs.

The ASBC shares the Grand Ronde’s concern for how archaeological information may be shared and presented by researchers, particularly from the cultural perspectives of descendant communities. Please know that the ASBC will post our publishing guidelines for submissions in a future issue and on the website to reflect this updated policy.

The Editors