

1999 Fall Board of Directors Meeting

Allegheny Room
Biltmore Hotel
Oklahoma City, OK

MINUTES

Thursday, October 20 – Friday, October 21, 1999

- I. **Call to Order.** Dr. David Gipp called to order the 1999 Fall Board of Directors Meeting. He indicated that there would be several changes to the printed agenda.
- II. **Roll Call.** The roll was called by AIHEC Executive Director, Ms. Veronica Gonzales.

Members Present

Bay Mills Community College
Candeska Cikana Community College
College of Menominee Nation
Crownpoint Institute of Technology
D-Q University
Diné College
Dull Knife Memorial College
Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
Fort Belknap College
Fort Berthold Community College
Fort Peck Community College
Haskell Indian Nations University
Institute of American Indian Arts
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College
Leech Lake Tribal College
Little Priest Tribal College
Northwest Indian College
Oglala Lakota College
Red Crow Community College
Salish Kootenai College
Si Tanka College
Sinte Gleska University
Sisseton Wahpeton Community College
Sitting Bull College
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute
Stone Child College
Turtle Mountain Community College
United Tribes Technical College
White Earth Tribal and Community College

Members Present by Proxy

Nebraska Indian Community College

Members Absent

Blackfeet Community College
Little Big Horn College

Thirty schools were present. Two schools were absent. A proxy was received from Nebraska Indian Community College granting Diné College its voting rights for the purpose of this meeting.

A QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED.

III. Technology Report

Mr. Tom Davis, chair of the Technology Committee, gave a report. He referred members to the web site <http://www.bmcc.org/Alliance> for information about the technology initiative. The discussion included information about software development.

During a lunch meeting Mr. Dan Adkins made a presentation on the University of Michigan's Kellogg Grant and the University's intentions in helping the Tribal Colleges.

MOTION: Dr. Robert Lorence moved that the proposed digital library and use of Kellogg funds by University of Michigan be endorsed and that the AIHEC Technology Committee be designated as the appropriate committee to monitor the project.

SECONDED: The motion was seconded by Mr. James Tutt.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

IV. Secretary's report

In the absence of Secretary McNeil, the minutes from the 1999 summer board of directors meeting were presented by Dr. Gipp.

Mr. Shortbull recommended that in the future minutes be sent out in advance of the meetings for review by the membership.

MOTION: Mr. Tom Shortbull moved that the minutes of the 1999 summer board meeting be approved with any necessary technical corrections.

SECOND: Dr. Joe McDonald seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

V. Discussion with Bureau Officials

Mr. Joe Christie, Acting Director of Indian Education Programs at the Bureau of Indian Affairs, discussed the budgetary process of the BIA. He invited AIHEC to send two representatives to take part in the OIEP budget process as voting contributors.

Mr. Christie discussed the inadequate funding levels for the Tribal Colleges and the need for a unified budgetary message. Mr. Christie proposed a competitive grant that would help offset funding for the remedial programming (CPR). This program would target students in accredited coursework.

Mr. Christie requested that all clearinghouse data be timely and accessible to BIA so that all interested parties are using the same and most current data. Lack of data, or conflicting data, can often be the reason for reduced Federal funding.

MOTION: Dr. Jim Shanley moved that AIHEC approve two members to participate in the OIEP Budget Formulation Committee.

SECOND: Mr. Ed Parisian seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: Dr. Shanley moved that the Executive Committee be empowered to work with the BIA on the CPR program.
SECOND: Mr. Tutt seconded the motion.
OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: Mr. Briggs moved that a BIA liaison be appointed to work with the AIHEC membership.
SECOND: Dr. Martha McLeod seconded the motion.
OUTCOME: The motion **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Gipp suggested that a meeting take place with Mr. Christie and the AIHEC staff to discuss the future process.

VI. Legislative Report

Ms. Sara Garland, Legislative Advisor, and Veronica Gonzales presented the legislative report on the status of the FY 2000 Interior appropriations bill. They detailed the legislative history and the resulting AIHEC strategy concerning the House and Senate numbers. They also discussed the possible outcomes for the bill and how they may affect the Tribal Colleges.

They indicated that the membership must look at the Tribal Colleges' account location in the Department of Interior budget and how they can maximize their political potential. Ms. Garland suggested that perhaps additional core funding support could come from the Department of Education. She said she believed that the Tribal Colleges must look at and evaluate both current and alternative funding sources.

MOTION: Dr. McDonald moved that the staff of AIHEC do a preliminary study on moving the Tribal College account to another Department.
SECOND: Mr. Wallace Coffey seconded the motion.
OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Meg Goetz reported on the status of the FY 2000 Agriculture Appropriations bill. She stated that there is a \$1 million increase for extension funding, an additional \$1,552,000 for equity funds, and an additional \$4.6 million payment into the endowment fund. Additionally, the new research program was appropriated at \$500,000.

Ms. Goetz also circulated a letter addressed to Undersecretary Miley Gonzales requesting that Mr. John Phillips of Si Tanka College be named a USDA liaison with the colleges.

MOTION: Mr. Davis moved that AIHEC create a task force that will focus on new legislative possibilities and explore new programs at USDA.
SECOND: Dr. McLeod seconded the motion.

Mr. Briggs stated that the members of the leadership group with USDA should be included in the membership of the new task force. The membership of the new task force would include: Dr. Joe McDonald, Mr. Steve Galbavy, Dr. T. L. Traversie, Dr. Tommy Lewis, Dr. Verna Fowler, Dr. Robert Lorence, Mr. Jack Briggs, Dr. Carty Monette and Ms. Elizabeth Yellowbird Demaray.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Gonzales reported on the status of the education appropriation process. She reported that most likely the bill would be included in an omnibus appropriations bill, and that it was likely to include additional funding for Title III and teacher education.

Ms. Goetz reported on the status of the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. She also discussed AIHEC strategy for addressing concerns in the legislation.

VII. Priorities for the Tribal Colleges

Ms. Gonzales led the discussion to review the legislative priorities for the next congressional session. All priorities from last year carried over with the addition of facilities. For agriculture, the group consensus was to focus more on capacity building grants rather than extension grants. Dr. Shanley stated that there should also be a focus on rural development programming and that a wide range of funding possibilities could emerge from that focus.

MOTION: Mr. Tutt moved to accept the legislative priorities as read

SECOND: Dr. Lewis seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

VIII. Executive Order

Ms. Gonzales and various presidents discussed a number of on-going and proposed Executive Order projects. Ms. Gonzales also announced that a letter was being circulated asking Secretary of Education Richard Riley to reassign the WHITCU office from the Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) to the Office of Post Secondary Education (OPE).

MOTION: Mr. Delmar Free moved that the letter to Secretary Riley regarding moving the WHITCU office from OVAE to OPE be approved by the membership.

SECOND: Dr. Lorence seconded this motion to endorse letter as read.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: Dr. Lorence moved that the AIHEC Board of Directors authorize the Executive Director to submit a letter to the Secretary of Commerce designating the Northwest Indian College as the lead institution to develop a National Indian Center for Oceanic, Atmospheric for Environmental Sciences.

SECOND: Briggs seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

IX. Future Meetings

Ms. Gonzales requested that the group schedule Board meetings for the next two years. She also announced that the Winter Board meeting will take place February 5-10, 2000 in Washington, DC.

Dr. Elgin announced that the Spring Meeting will be held at the Albuquerque Convention Center April 1-5, 2000 in Albuquerque, NM. There was also discussion about scheduling the AIHEC basketball tournament in conjunction with the Knowledge Bowl. Mr. Rick Williams of AICF stated that the College Fund has concerns about coupling the

basketball tournament with the Knowledge Bowl due to past behavioral problems with the basketball teams.

MOTION: Dr. Traversie moved that the AIHEC National Basketball Tournament be allowed to join the Spring 2000 AIHEC Conference.

SECOND: The motion was seconded by Dr. Shanley.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by voice vote.

The group agreed that the 2000 Fall Board Meeting should be held immediately prior to the NIEA meeting in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Dr. Shanley informed the group that next year's NIEA convention will be held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota (October 28-Nov. 1).

Dr. Lewis recommended Flagstaff, Arizona for the Presidents Summer Retreat in 2000 which was accepted as AIHEC's next site.

It was agreed that Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College would host the Spring 2001 Meeting in April.

X. Treasurers Report

Dr. Shanley presented the Treasurer's Report with Mr. Paul Eve, Director of Business and Finance. He indicated that in the last two years AIHEC had operated within its recommended budget. Mr. Eve called for a motion that the FY 2000 budget be accepted by the membership.

MOTION: Dr. Otis moved to approve the budget as presented.

SECOND: Dr. Lewis seconded the motion to approve the budget.

OUTCOME: The motion **AGREED** to by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Eve encouraged members to review the financial report. He indicated that AIHEC has roughly a \$1 million dollar reserve.

MOTION: Dr. Otis moved that AIHEC financial reports be approved.

SECOND: Dr. Lewis seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by a unanimous voice vote.

XI. Research Report

Ms. Alisa Cunningham from the Institute for Higher Education Policy reported on the status of the Research and Database Initiative. She also reported on the Alliance for Equity in Higher Education. She announced that HACU would be holding its annual meeting soon and that the convention will include an Alliance session. Ms. Cunningham added that future activities of the Alliance will include the development of two policy papers and planning a national conference to be held sometime next year. Dr. Shanley suggested that AIHEC should try to schedule the Alliance's Annual Conference in conjunction with the AIHEC Summer meeting.

XII. Grants Management Report

Mr. Robert Chiago reported that AIHEC was still formulating its role a grants manager. He indicated that there were several programs currently being managed by the central office, including a satellite program with Northwest Indian College. He also discussed an internship program through DHHS that is currently being managed by American

University. Finally, he announced that AIHEC was serving as the principal investigator for a capacity building grant.

XIII. Recess

Dr. Gipp recessed meeting at 5:28 p.m. until Friday, October 22, 1999.

XIV. Reconvene Board of Directors Meeting

The meeting was reconvened at 8:58 a.m. Friday, October 22, 1999 by Dr. Gipp. Additional changes were made to the agenda.

XV. The Reconsideration of the Distribution of College Fund Scholarships

At the request of the Executive Committee, reconsideration of the distribution of College Fund scholarships was being placed before the Board. Dr. Gipp offered the following language for consideration.

American Indian College Fund annual scholarship funding to be distributed equitably up to \$100,000 per institution. Funding above \$100,000 would be distributed by formula according to full-time Indian Student Count.

Dr. Gipp also stated that the Executive Committee recommended the following caveat to any new proposal.

Distribution for new members will be frozen until other issues are resolved. This freeze would be in effect for no more than two years.

MOTION: Dr. Lewis moved that the issue of scholarship funds be opened for discussion.
SECOND: Dr. Traversie seconded the motion.
MOTION: Stating that he felt that all colleges should be present in order to move forward with the discussion, Mr. Parisan moved to table the discussion.
SECOND: Dr. Traversie seconded the motion to table the discussion.
OUTCOME: The motion was **REJECTED** by a roll call vote with 22 members voting against the measure and 4 members voting in favor of it.

Discussion on the original motion to reconsider continued.

OUTCOME: The motion to reconsider was **AGREED** to by a roll call vote with 11 members voting against the motion and 17 voting in favor of the motion.

MOTION: Dr. Shanley moved that AIHEC recommend to AICF that the scholarship be capped at 100,000 per institution; that any distribution over that be based on ISC and that the issue be revisited in two years.

AMEND: Dr. Shanley then amended the motion to read: revisited in three years.

SECOND: Dr. Otis seconded the motion.

WITHDREW: After a point of order from the chair, Dr. Shanley withdrew his motion and the question reverted to the original motion that AIHEC recommend to AICF that the scholarship be capped at \$100,000 and that any distribution over that be based on ISC and that the issue be revisited in two years

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to after a roll call vote during which 21 schools voted in favor of the motion and 5 schools voted against it.

MOTION: Because the formula approach to scholarship distribution was adopted, Mr. McNeil moved that within two years the AIHEC Board of Directors revisit the dues structure to ensure dues equity for those with lower ISCs and that a dues floor of \$9-10,000 be established.

SECOND: Dr. Otis seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: Mr. McNeil moved that the recommendation of the Executive Committee, that AICF funds not be distributed to new colleges for a period of up to two years until these issues have been resolved, be accepted.

SECOND: Dr. Lewis seconded the motion.

AMEND: Mr. McNeil amended his motion to include that new colleges would be eligible for AICF funds based on their accreditation status.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

XVI. AICF Board of Directors.

Dr. Gipp announced that the Tribal Colleges needed to select new board representatives for the AICF. Mr. McNeil is the only board member that is eligible for reappointment because he will be an immediate past president of the AICF Board.

MOTION: Mr. Briggs moved that Mr. McNeil be reappointed to the AICF board.

SECOND: Mr. Parisan seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by voice vote.

Dr. Gipp opened the floor for nominations for the four remaining positions on the AICF board. Dr. Traversie was nominated by Mr. McNeil. Dr. Carty Monette was nominated by Dr. McDonald. Mr. Erich Longie was nominated by Dr. Lewis, and Dr. Karen Swisher was nominated by Dr. Lewis.

MOTION: Mr. Wallace Coffey moved that nominations be closed and those nominated be elected by acclimation.

SECOND: Mr. Parisan seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

XVII. Election of AIHEC Executive Officers

Dr. Gipp announced the election of the executive officers. He briefly reviewed the responsibilities of each executive position. Dr. Gipp opened the floor for nominations.

NOMINATION: Dr. McDonald nominated Dr. Gipp for President

MOTION: Mr. Briggs moved to close the nominations and elect Dr. Gipp by acclimation.

SECOND: Dr. McDonald seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

NOMINATION: Dr. McDonald nominated Dr. Pease-Pretty On Top for the position of Vice President.

OUTCOME: Dr. Pease-Pretty on Top was elected Vice President by unanimous voice vote.

NOMINATION: Dr. Shanley nominated Mr. Shortbull for the position of Secretary. Dr. McDonald nominated Mr. McNeil for the position. Mr. Shortbull withdrew his nomination.

OUTCOME: Mr. McNeil was elected Secretary by unanimous voice vote.

NOMINATION: Mr. Shortbull nominated Mr. Tutt for the position of Treasurer. Ms. Reesa Davis nominated Dr. Shanley for the position.

OUTCOME: Dr. Shanley was elected Treasurer by secret ballot.

NOMINATION: Dr. Shanley nominated Mr. Tutt for the position of Member-at-Large. Ms. Veronica Slotkin nominated Mr. Briggs for the position.

OUTCOME: Mr. Tutt was elected Member-at-Large by secret ballot.

XVIII. American Indian College Fund Report

Mr. Rick Williams reported on the recent activities of the American Indian College Fund. He gave detailed information concerning several large grants and gifts that the College Fund received recently.

He also discussed the Gates Scholarships. Members of the Board asserted that the Gates Scholarship grant potentially expands AICF's mission. AICF was discouraged from accepting funds that expand its mission to support student attending main stream schools.

He indicated that he was restructuring AICF office in order to forge a better relationship with AIHEC. He stated that he has included a plan that will assign one person to focus on that relationship.

MOTION: Dr. McDonald moved that AIHEC commend the AICF staff, specifically Mr. Williams and Ms. Barbara Bratone, for their efforts in the Big Campaign and their work with the College Fund.

SECOND: Dr. Shanley seconded the motion. Dr. Shanley also suggested that the commendations be in the form of a plaque.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: Mr. Coffey moved that Ms. Wilma Mankiller and Ms. Valorie Johnson also be commended for their work.

SECOND: Dr. Otis seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Gipp also reviewed a motion from last year that dealt with eligibility of White Earth for scholarships from AICF. Dr. Gipp requested that Mr. McNeil review this issue as a member of the Executive Committee and as an attorney, and report back to the Executive Committee.

XIX. Tribal College Journal

Ms. Marjane Ambler thanked the AIHEC members for their support. She announced that the Journal is reaching more people, and that a database has been established to handle subscriptions. She announced that invoices for the upcoming year's subscription will be mailed soon and subscription changes should be made at that time.

Ms. Ambler also asked the group to elect a representative for a position on the Journal's advisory board, and she briefly detailed the responsibilities for the three-year termed position.

NOMINATION: Mr. Briggs nominated Dr. Verna Fowler.

OUTCOME: A voice vote approved the nomination.

She also announced that she needed information from schools that were founded in 1974, as the Journal is putting together a project on schools reaching their 25th anniversary.

XX. Cultural Learning Center Project Report

Mr. McNeil announced that the contract with Ms. Gail Bruce will end at the end of the year, and that AIHEC will assume control of the project.

Dr. Bordeaux questioned the Executive Committee in their decision to end the working relationship with Ms. Bruce. Dr. Gipp stated that the Executive Committee wanted more funds to be spent on the actual building projects and less on the administration of the project. He acknowledged that Ms. Bruce had done good work, but the Executive Committee favored a quicker resolution to the project.

MOTION: Dr. Elgin moved that AIHEC negotiate with Ms. Bruce to finish the project.

SECOND: Dr. Bordeaux seconded motion and added an amendment that AIHEC entertain a document detailing Ms. Bruce's personal expenses associated with the project for the purpose of possible reimbursement.

AMEND: Dr. Elgin accepted the amendment offered by Dr. Bordeaux.

WITHDREW: Dr. Elgin **WITHDREW** the motion.

MOTION: Dr. Elgin reoffered the original motion.

SECOND: Dr. Lewis seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to by voice vote.

MOTION: Dr. Bordeaux moved that AIHEC consider reimbursing Ms. Bruce for personal expenses associated with the project.

OUTCOME: The motion **TABLED** due to lack of a second.

XXI. Strategic Planning Session

Consultant Jean Foster reviewed in brief the current status of the strategic planning process, including a revision of the mission statement. She then presented a concise list of goals based on the work previously done and encouraged discussion. She suggested that the information be reviewed closely, sent out to the membership of AIHEC and opened up for comments. It was decided that the presidents be given a month to respond to the new draft goals.

MOTION: Mr. Briggs moved that the information be redrafted and forwarded to the membership for further review and comment.

SECOND: Mr. McNeil seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was **AGREED** to on voice vote.

XXII. Other Announcements

Dr. Bordeaux also requested that his statements in the summary of the Board's strategic planning session in Hilo, Hawaii, regarding Tribal Governments be corrected.

The group discussed the need to approach the Presidential candidates about the Tribal College Executive Order in an effort to familiarize all of them with the institutions before the election next year.

XXIII. Adjournment

MOTION: Mr. McNeil moved to adjourn the Fall Board Meeting.

SECOND: The motion was seconded by Dr. Elgin.

OUTCOME: The motion was ***AGREED*** to and the Fall Board meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by AIHEC staff.

Executed and acknowledged by the undersigned, being the Secretary of the Corporation, on the _____ day of _____, 2000.

Ron McNeil, Secretary,
American Indian Higher Education Consortium