

2000 Winter Board of Directors Meeting

Federal South Ballroom
Holiday Inn on the Hill
Washington, DC

MINUTES

Sunday, February 6, 2000

- I. **Call to Order.** Dr. David Gipp called to order the 2000 Winter Board of Directors Meeting at 8:50 a.m.
- II. **Opening Prayer.** Dr. Joe McDonald gave the opening prayer.
- III. **Roll Call.** The roll was called by AIHEC Secretary, Dr. Ron McNeil.

Members Present

Bay Mills Community College
Blackfeet Community College
Cankdeska Cikana Community College
College of the Menominee Nation
Crownpoint Institute of Technology
D-Q University
Diné College
Dull Knife Memorial College
Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
Fort Berthold Community College
Fort Peck Community College
Institute of American Indian Arts
Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College
Little Big Horn College
Little Priest Tribal College
Northwest Indian College
Oglala Lakota College
Salish Kootenai College
Sisseton Wahpeton Community College
Si Tanka College
Sitting Bull College
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute
Stone Child College
United Tribes Technical College
White Earth Tribal and Community College

Members Absent For Roll Call, But Present For Meeting

Haskell Indian Nations University
Turtle Mountain Community College

Members Absent

Fort Belknap College
Leech Lake Tribal College
Nebraska Indian Community College
Red Crow Community College
Sinte Gleska University

A QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED.

IV. Introductions

After introductions were made of all in attendance, Dr. McDonald presented Dr. Pease-Pretty On Top with an award for being named as one of the top 100 Montanans by The Missoulian newspaper. Ms. Tina Desjarlais, Career Development Director of AIBL, presented AIBL cups to all Board members.

V. Secretary's Report

The minutes from the 1999 Fall Board of Directors meeting were presented by Secretary McNeil.

MOTION: Mr. James Tutt moved that the minutes be approved.

SECOND: Dr. Joe McDonald seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by unanimous voice vote.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Dr. James Shanley requested that Mr. Paul Eve, Director of Business and Finance present the treasurer's report. Mr. Eve announced that this was his last day and, in turn, asked Ms. Susan Maldonado, Accountant, to present the AIHEC financial report.

MOTION: Dr. McDonald made a motion to approve the financial report.

SECOND: Dr. McNeil seconded the motion.

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

As directed by the Board of Directors during the 1999 Fall meeting, Mr. Eve presented a proposed policy on the investment of AIHEC cash reserves.

MOTION: Dr. Pease-Pretty On Top moved to adopt the policy as presented.

SECOND: Dr. Otis seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Dr. Gipp acknowledged Mr. Eve for his contribution to AIHEC.

MOTION: Dr. Pease-Pretty On Top moved that AIHEC recognize Mr. Eve's distinguished service as the Director of Business and Finance.

SECOND: Dr. McLeod seconded the motion.

AMEND: Dr. Shanley then amended the motion to include a cash bonus for Mr. Eve to be determined by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Executive Director.

SECOND: Mr. Davis seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The vote on the amendment was approved with one member not voting. The original motion, as amended, was approved, with one member voting against the motion.

There was a discussion that with Mr. Eve's departure from AIHEC and in the absence of a Director of Business and Finance, additional individuals should be authorized by the board to sign checks. In addition, since the board will not reconvene until its summer

2000 meeting, the board discussed giving Secretary McNeil the authority to sign a bank resolution to add Mr. Eve's replacement as an authorized signatory on AIHEC checks.

MOTION: Dr. McDonald moved that signing authority should be granted to Dr. Gipp, Ms. Goetz, Ms. Smith and Dr. Shanley.

SECOND: Mr. Briggs seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

MOTION: Dr. McDonald moved that after the new Director of Business and Finance is hired, Secretary McNeil be authorized to notify the bank to add that person as a signatory on AIHEC accounts.

SECOND: Dr. Pease-Pretty On Top seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Eve reported that a REIT meeting was held in Oklahoma City. Extra books from that meeting are available from Ms. Maldonado.

Ms. Gonzales discussed the status of the search for a new Director of Business and Finance. She reported that the job was advertised in and through The Washington Post, Chronicle for Higher Education, Indian Country Today, Roll Call, and other Indian information networks. She explained that the vacancy announcement would remain posted until a final decision on a candidate is made.

VII. President's Report

Dr. Gipp discussed the University of Arizona's proposal to establish a Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy. Mr. Briggs has also been in contact with Mr. Manley Begay on this endeavor. The Ford Foundation has funded the study effort.

Mr. Shortbull reported that he is serving on the nominating committee for the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities and that Norbert Hill and Dr. Monette have been nominated to serve on their board. Dr. McDonald reported that he was on the board of the Northwest Association of Colleges and Universities.

VIII. Executive Director's Report

Strategic plan. Ms. Gonzales reported that following the board meeting in Oklahoma City, a summary of the discussion relating to the strategic plan goals and objectives was sent to all members of the board for their comments. Minor changes were received and incorporated into the goals and objectives.

Staff. Ms. Gonzales reported that a search was underway for Mr. Eve's replacement. She noted that she had been negotiating with an individual to serve as AIHEC's Research Director. She introduced Ms. Meshelle Summerfield, AIHEC's new communications specialist.

External relations. Ms. Gonzales reported that she and the Executive Director of A*CF will be communicating more often so that public relations and other efforts are better coordinated between the two organizations. She reported also that she and AIHEC President Gipp met with George W. Bush's campaign staff and that meetings with other presidential candidates will be scheduled.

Economic Development Report. Ms. Gonzales noted that this report has already received good press.

Mission Statement. Ms. Gonzales noted that the consensus at the Hawaii board meeting was that the mission statement needed to be revised and updated. While still in Hawaii, a group of presidents appointed by President Gipp drafted a revised statement.

Ms. Jean Foster, an organizational consultant who has been working with the board on strategic planning, read the draft revised statement.

MOTION: Dr. McDonald voted that the draft as read be adopted.

SECOND: Dr. Lorence seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: After considerable discussion by board members on a number of matters addressed in the draft, Dr. Gipp requested that Secretary McNeil meet with any president interested in making additional revisions to the draft and that further consideration of the revised statement would be delayed until later in the day.

IX. Legislative Report

INTERIOR - Ms. Gonzales reported on an OMB meeting in December with Mr. Richard Kodl to discuss Interior funding. She said that she was monitoring the progress on the president's budget and that it appears there will be a \$3 million increase through Interior.

The report was interrupted to make an introduction of the Student Congress. Melanie Two Eagle, AIHEC Student Congress President, was asked to make a brief report.

With respect to BIA, Ms. Gonzales reported that Mr. Joe Christie requested that AIHEC form two committees. The first committee would work with the Office of Indian Education to help with the budgeting process. The second group would review the funding levels at all of the institutions funded by BIA and make recommendations to eliminate disparities. He noted that the process of payment 471 funds has been very challenging. Twenty five percent of the funds were withheld because of a potential across-the-board cut mandated in the continuing resolution. Title I and II schools were not affected, but the federal schools were.

AGRICULTURE - Ms. Goetz reported that it is expected that in the President's FY01 budget request to Congress, research will receive \$1 million. Equity grants will be level-funded; however, there will be an effort to increase the current authority and appropriated levels. AIHEC is making an effort to increase the endowment fund and use that fund for facilities, in addition to meeting other needs. The President's FY01 budget request reflects the \$2.5 million increase to the endowment fund. She noted that the White House has gone on record that the TCUs need facilities and an increase in the equity program.

EDUCATION - Ms. Gonzales reported that the Title III amendment is on track and moving. The President's budget most likely will include a \$3 million increase, bringing funding up to \$9 million.

Ms. Della Warrior from IAIA presented an update on her school's funding. She noted that last year's FY00 Conference Report zeroed out the school's funding and noted that it should be completely privately supported. There is some hope that the President's budget will include some funds, but the Congress may be unwilling to provide funds. She noted that the new campus is almost 60 percent completed. A decision will have to be made by May to determine whether the institution will remain open for another year.

There was some concern among the board members that the strategy for dealing with IAIA's situation be crafted in such a way so that it does not take away resources from other schools.

Mr. Shortbull discussed Title III, Strengthening Institutions grants, under the Higher Education Act. An additional \$3 million was appropriated last year and eight schools received monies. He noted that a pending amendment, proposed by AIHEC, would allow all TCUs to receive funding without a two-year wait-out period. The problem is that those who have been waiting will get less now if the grants will be equitably disbursed, which is what the amendment would also change. Dr. Gipp said that a working group would be pulled together to discuss the distribution.

A hand vote was taken and 17 members approved the question that this discussion be raised later in the afternoon.

X. Executive Order Report

Carrie Billy, Director of the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities, discussed the various requests that are in the president's proposed 2001 budget request for TCUs. She also discussed a number of on-going and proposed Executive Order projects.

Ms. Gonzales commended Ms. Billy for her advocacy and success in the 2001 proposed budget and noted that AIHEC has been working with the Departments of Transportation, Labor, Commerce and Interior in developing MOUs.

XI. Spring Conference

Dr. Elgin reported on the progress of plans for the spring conference. She announced that "United We're Strong" is the theme of the conference, which is scheduled for April 1-5, 2000. Crownpoint students have designed the logo. The Doubletree Hotel is the conference hotel. Information regarding the conference can be retrieved by logging on to www.iaiancad.org/aihec/aihec2000.

XII. Technology Report

Mr. Tom Davis, chair of the Technology Committee, presented a report. Among other matters he noted: an effort by EDUCAUSE to make an RFP to one TCU to do a beta one wireless connectivity using telephony connectivity; the Digital Divide Initiative; the status of the University of Michigan's project to develop a virtual library; building a Native American HPC grid to link all of the high tech capabilities of the TCUs together; and continuing efforts to obtain satellites and the highest speed connectivity to all TCUs.

XIII. A*CF Report.

Mr. David Cournoyer, External Affairs Director, presented the A*CF's report on behalf of A*CF Executive Director Rick Williams. He distributed a copy of the new joint newsletter that is being co-published by A*CF and AIHEC. He noted the Gates Millennium Scholarship Fund agreement with the United Negro College Fund and that due to the recent attacks on affirmative action, the scholarships will be based on nominations rather than applications. March 15 is the deadline for the Gates Millennium. He reminded board members laptop computers are available from IBM.

He reported that the Lilly Endowment \$30 million grant has spurred more interest from prospective donors with respect to facilities. Facilities are a top priority for A*CF and they are currently looking for someone to better coordinate this effort for the colleges. 82 percent of the money raised by A*CF goes to the colleges. The A*CF is buying their first building. Mr. Williams will produce a monthly update to keep the TCU presidents informed. College tours, proven to be extremely successful last year, will be continued this year. Data collection continues under the direction of John Gritts, Tribal College Relations Director. Eighteen schools have submitted reports with student data.

Mr. Cournoyer noted the teacher training-draft paper to Kellogg that was distributed. A*CF is looking for guidance on the document.

Mr. Eve asked about A*CF turning over shares of REIT. Mr. Cournoyer indicated that those shares should be transferred soon.

Dr. Gipp suggested that the use of HUD vouchers for student housing facilities is an idea that should be explored.

MOTION: Mr. Davis moved that the executive directors of A*CF and AIHEC pursue the development of a housing program that would allow students to use HUD vouchers to pay for student housing at the colleges.

SECOND: Mr. Briggs seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Dr. Otis expressed concern that in order to begin construction projects, which are to be paid for by the facilities grant, the colleges must pay for upfront costs and then be reimbursed. This is for \$1.1 million that the AICF has committed to each college – from the Lilly gift.

MOTION: Dr. Elgin moved that RFP guidelines be amended to allow an early draw down of funds to pay for the engineering and architectural fees.

SECOND: Dr. Monette seconded the motion.

Dr. McNeil suggested that the motion be amended to change the last sentence of the resolution to read, "... limited to 10 percent of proposed project or \$110,000, whichever is less."

MOTION: Dr. McNeil moved to accept the amendment to the previous motion.

SECOND: Dr. Otis seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: By voice vote, the amendment to the motion was approved.

MOTION: Dr. Gipp moved the previous question.

OUTCOME: By voice vote, results were mixed with three abstentions. A roll call vote was requested. Final vote: 11 yes, 9 no, 5 abstain, 5 absent. The motion was agreed to.

Dr. Gipp announced the creation of a task force to evaluate the feasibility of consolidating some AIHEC and A*CF services and of moving some AIHEC functions out west, possibly to the new A*CF building in Denver. He appointed Dr. McDonald, Dr. Shanley, Mr. Tutt, Dr. Pease-Pretty on Top, Mr. Briggs, Dr. Otis, Dr. Gipp, Ms. Gonzales and Mr. Williams to serve on the Task Force. The Executive Directors will prepare a feasibility report on consolidating services and locating some AIHEC functions in the west.

XIV. NSF

Dr. Jane Stutsman, Assistant Director for Education and Gerald Gipp, Program Director, made a presentation on behalf of the National Science Foundation. The issue of cost-sharing was raised by the TCUs. NSF has a task force on this issue for minority serving institutions. They found that the cost-sharing requirement would be determined on a program by program basis and not across the board for the agency. However, cost-sharing will be waived for all TCUs.

- Fastlane is the electronic transmission of documents to NSF. There will be a workshop for TCUs on this issue in an effort to provide hands on training and feedback. It will be held on February 25 at Bismarck, ND. United Tribes Technical College is the host institution. Financial support is available for attendance. Liz Miller of UTTC will be coordinating the travel assistance.
- The latest program announcement for the Rural Systemic Initiative (RSI) is available on the web. TCUs can submit individual proposals.
- With assistance from WHITCU, a new \$10 million initiative will be included in the President's FY01 budget. NSF would like to get input from the TCUs on the guidelines for the program and how it can support information technology programs and related sciences, as soon as possible.
- Patrick Weaselhead mentioned that two days prior to February 25, the current RSI grantees will meet to discuss lessons learned and invited those schools who may be interested in new projects to attend this meeting.

XV. Connected Learning Network

Mr. Jerry Brown announced that during the reception being hosted by the Connected Learning Network at 6:30 p.m., a full presentation would be made to all present regarding the network.

XVI. Teacher Training Initiative

Dr. David Beaulieu, Director of the Office of Indian Education, discussed the teacher training initiative, which was funded by Congress under the Title IX of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act last year at \$10 million. The Department is currently preparing an announcement on the initiative, which aims to train 1000 Native American teachers, especially in those geographic areas where there is a high concentration of Indian students. The funds under this new program will be competitively awarded to teaching institutions, which in turn will grant awards to individuals. Consortium

arrangements will be encouraged. The program beneficiaries will be required, upon graduation, to work in a school that serves Indian students; otherwise a cash payback will be required.

A Notice of Absolute Priority will be announced in the Federal Register within a week to identify areas of professional development concentration areas. Comments are due to the agency within 30 days. Dr. Beaulieu indicated that the Department would like to make awards by the end of May.

With respect to the Executive Order on American Indian and Alaska Native Education, Dr. Beaulieu reported that regional partnership forums were held around the country to discuss ideas for collaboration in the area of Indian education with tribal governments. There is a growing need for policy decisions to be made on the regional level in order to address local situations. A recommendation will be submitted to the President with respect to a comprehensive federal Indian Education policy.

Phil Baird of UTTC suggested that AIHEC consider a legislative effort to ensure continuity of the Executive Orders into the next administration. This should be a coalition effort with the other Indian organizations.

XVII. Research Agenda for Executive Order on Indian Education

Ms. Eileen O'Brien, Research Associate, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, presented the research agenda of the Executive Order for American Indian/Alaska Native education. A working group within the Department of Education is putting this agenda together. Tribal Colleges are included in all the discussions. Michael Pavel will be the principal investigator for the project along with Westat. Though it is still early in the planning stage of the agenda, the Department is seeking input to identify the most important research questions and how should they be addressed with respect to Indian Education.

Concern was expressed that the Department not forget about tribal consultation in the development of the research agenda. Ms. O'Brien responded that efforts have been made to build upon the initial regional forums already held and that the Department will continue to keep tribal education departments and tribal governments involved and informed as they move forward.

XVIII. Cultural Learning Centers Project

Anne Edinger of the Cultural Learning Centers Project presented a status report on the cultural learning centers project. During the past eight months, seven projects were begun. As the projects have moved forward, different implementation strategies have been explored. Lessons learned include: involvement of the tribal community volunteers; TCUs can be helpful to each other in securing additional resources; and public relations outreach activities are key to encouraging donations, as well as community involvement.

A workbook has been compiled in an effort to assist TCUs. The project timeline is slated to end in September, 2000. Possibly 20 more projects need to get underway before then. The workbooks are specific to each school dependent upon their manufacturer. A technical assistance checklist is provided, as well as a specifications

list by the manufacturer. The national office includes Ms. Edinger, Antonio Ruales, and a few consultants.

Ms. Edinger cautioned the schools not to include any donation as part of their budgets until the donation is definitely secured. At this time, only the Carrier Corp. has committed to heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems for all TCUs.

Based on experiences to date, the average cost of the structure will be \$300,000 with a basement and \$250,000 without a basement.

A final report to be prepared for the Kellogg Foundation in September, 2000 and Ms. Edinger asked for assistance from the colleges in compiling data.

March 31, 2000 is the log-raising day for SIPI's project. This date is between the Kellogg Networking Conference and the AIHEC Student Conference. All members of the Board of Directors are invited to attend.

Ms. Gail Bruce discussed the history of the project and noted that the success of the project from the start was heavily reliant on a large public relations effort, which in turn would attract much needed donated materials. She expressed disappointment that a large-scale public relations effort had not been undertaken. Ms. Bruce informed the Board that she would step down as the National Project Director.

Dr. Gipp suggested that perhaps A*CF could assume the responsibility for public relations efforts. He asked that Mr. Williams and Dr. McDonald look into this possibility.

Dr. McNeil and Jonathan Windy Boy led an honoring for Ms. Bruce, who has given tireless efforts and dedication to AIHEC since 1985, and especially in light of her efforts with respect to the Cultural Learning Centers project.

XIX. NIEA Report

Dr. Gipp invited John Cheek, the executive director of NIEA, to address the board. Mr. Cheek encouraged AIHEC to continue to work with his organization because more can be accomplished through a coalition of groups. He announced that the dates for the NIEA Legislative Impact Week are March 11-15. The NIEA convention will be held October 28 – November 1 in Sioux Falls, SD. He also noted that Native Hawaiians are now voting members of NIEA.

XX. Reconsideration of the Mission Statement

Secretary McNeil read the revised draft of the Mission Statement.

MOTION: Dr. McNeil moved that original motion to adopt the draft of the Mission Statement be amended to include the language in the revised draft as read.

SECOND: Dr. Otis seconded the motion.

OUTCOME: The amendment to the original motion was passed unanimously by voice vote. The original motion, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

XXI. Judy Chapman

Dr. Gipp asked for recognition and appreciation for Judy Chapman, the former staff director for former Congressman Pat Williams. She was recently diagnosed with brain cancer. An honor ceremony will take place in Montana on February 16, 2000. Dr. Gipp would like to present her with an AIHEC certificate during that time.

MOTION: Dr. McDonald moved that Ms. Chapman be recognized and commended by the AIHEC Board for her contributions to the Tribal Colleges and Universities.

SECOND: Ms. Demaray seconded the resolution.

OUTCOME: The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

XXII. Upcoming meeting schedule

The summer meeting will be held in Flagstaff as originally proposed. Diné is hosting and planning the meeting. Dr. Becenti will inform AIHEC staff of the dates for this meeting.

At this time, there are no plans for the board to meet at the spring conference. AIHEC Committees, however, will meet during the conference. It is incumbent upon Committee chairs to get in touch with AIHEC staff to set dates and agendas for their respective meetings.

XXIII. Distribution of Title II Funds

Ms. Gonzales briefed the board on an Executive Committee meeting held earlier in the day with Diné College's Acting President Dr. Francis Becenti regarding the distribution of Title II funds under P.L. 471. The meeting was held at the request of Mr. Joe Christie of OIEP/BIA.

Although concern was raised that Diné is receiving a larger ISC than other TCUs, the policy previously approved by the AIHEC board is that AIHEC will support Diné until they receive full funding (\$6,000 per ISC) and then, Diné, in turn, will support full funding for Title I TCUs.

XXIV. Adjournment

Dr. Gipp asked Dr. Carol Murray to give a prayer to honor past presidents.

MOTION: Dr. Otis moved to adjourn the 2000 Winter Board Meeting.

SECOND: The motion was seconded by Dr. McNeil.

OUTCOME: The motion was unanimously agreed to and the Winter Board Meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

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