



2008 SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
UNITED TRIBES TECHNICAL COLLEGE
BISMARCK, ND
MARCH 16, 2008

I. Call to Order.

AIHEC Board Chair, Cheryl Crazy Bull, called the 2008 Spring Board of Directors meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. Opening Prayer and Introductions.

Marlin Spoonhunter, President of Wind River Tribal College, offered an opening prayer.

III. Roll Call.

Gerald Gipp, AIHEC Executive Director, called the roll.

Regular Members Present

Bay Mills Community College
Blackfeet Community College
Cankdeska Cikana Community College
Chief Dull Knife College
College of Menominee Nation
Diné College
Fond du Lac Tribal College
Fort Belknap College
Fort Berthold Community College
Fort Peck Community College
Haskell Indian Nations University
Institute of American Indian Arts
Leech Lake Tribal College
Little Big Horn College
Navajo Technical College
Nebraska Indian Community College
Northwest Indian College
Oglala Lakota College
Salish Kootenai College
Sisseton Wahpeton College

Represented By

Michael Parish
John Salois
Cynthia Lindquist Mala
Richard Littlebear
*Leah Carpenter**
Ferlin Clark
Patty Petite
Carole Falcon Chandler
Russell Mason
James Shanley
Linda Sue Warner
Robert Martin
Leah Carpenter
David Yarlott
*Joseph McDonald**
Micheal Oltrogge
Cheryl Crazy Bull
Thomas Shortbull
Joseph McDonald
Diana Canku

* Institution present by proxy

Sitting Bull College	Laurel Vermillion
Stone Child College	Melody Henry
Tohono O’odham Community College	Olivia Vanegas-Funcheon
Turtle Mountain Community College	James Davis
United Tribes Technical College	David Gipp
White Earth Tribal and C.C.	Robert “Sonny” Peacock

Regular Members Absent

Ilisagvik College
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College
Little Priest Tribal College
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
Sinte Gleska University
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

Twenty-six regular members voted present; and a quorum was established.

Official Representatives to Regular Members

College of Menominee Nation	Holly Youngbear Tibbets
Navajo Technical College	Tom Davis

Associate Members Present

College of the Muscogee Nation	Angela Bunner
Comanche Nation College	Colin Winkelman
Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa C.C.	Debra Parrish
Wind River Tribal College	Marlin Spoonhunter

International Member Absent

Red Crow Community College

IV. Introductions.

All persons present introduced themselves.

V. Approval of 2007 Fall Board of Directors meeting minutes.

Second Vice Chair Cynthia Lindquist Mala presented the minutes of the 2007 Fall Board of Directors meeting, for consideration and approval.

MOTION: President Clark [second by President Vermillion] moved to approve the minutes of the 2007 Fall Board of Directors meeting, as presented.

President Carpenter noted that her name was omitted from those present at the meeting, and asked that the record be corrected.

OUTCOME: The minutes, including the correction noted by President Carpenter, were approved by voice vote.

VI. Executive Session.

The Board convened in executive session at 9:30 a.m. to discuss the report of the AIHEC Executive Director Search Committee and speak with one of the candidates, and to discuss a membership matter.

VII. Appointment of a New AIHEC Executive Director.

The meeting resumed its regular open session at 11:46, at which time the Board considered the following motion.

MOTION: President Vermillion moved [second by President McDonald] that the AIHEC Board of Directors: (1) approve the appointment of Carrie L. Billy as the next Executive Director of AIHEC, and (2) authorize the Executive Committee to conduct compensation negotiations with her.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

VIII. Report of the Chair.

AIHEC Board Chair Crazy Bull referred members to the schedule of 2008-2009 meetings of AIHEC and related organizations included in the Board books. She reminded presidents that under the organization's bylaws, the Board is required to meet three times a year. She requested that all presidents make a commitment to attend all Board meetings especially this summer's meeting, so that the Board can officially conduct necessary business.

Chair Crazy Bull reported that President Warner of Haskell Indian Nations University offered to host an AIHEC meeting in 2009 and, in particular, that she would be willing to host the 2009 summer Board of Directors meeting and retreat.

Two additional meetings noted were: (1) the 2008 National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC) Conference to be held November 8-11, 2008 in Chicago, IL; and (2) The American Indian College Fund Gala, to be held on October 24, 2008 in New York City.

IX. Treasurer's Report.

President Shanley, AIHEC Treasurer and Finance and Audit Committee Chair, presented the Treasurer's report and the motions agreed to by the Finance and Audit Committee.

ACCEPTANCE OF AUDITORS' FY 2007 REPORT AND LETTERS

MOTION: President Shanley moved [second by President McDonald] that the AIHEC Board of Directors accept the Auditors' FY 2007 Report and Letters.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF FINAL FY 2008 OPERATING BUDGET

MOTION: President Shanley moved [second by President Oltrogge] that the AIHEC Board of Directors approve the final FY 2008 operating budgets for the AIHEC central organization, the Tribal College Journal, and the Bureau of Indian Education technical assistance contract.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

DEFERRAL OF PRELIMINARY FY 2009 OPERATING BUDGET

President Shanley explained that the Board of Directors typically approves a preliminary operating budget for the next fiscal year at each spring meeting. However, with a new Executive Director soon to be appointed, the Finance and Audit Committee recommended that the Board defer the approval of a preliminary budget until: (1) staffing needs and positions have been determined, and (2) the outgoing and incoming Executive Directors have had time to consult with one another. President Shanley also reported that the Finance and Audit Committee will conduct a conference call prior to June 1, 2008 to discuss the preliminary operating budget for FY 2009.

MOTION: President Shanley moved [second by President Parish] that the AIHEC Board of Directors defer consideration of the preliminary FY 2009 operating budget pending the determination of staff needs under the new Executive Director and following consultation between the outgoing and incoming Executive Directors.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

President Shanley announced that Jay Phillips, AIHEC's Director of Finance and Administration, had tendered his resignation, effective April 1, 2008. President Shanley thanked Mr. Phillips for his work and said that AIHEC's business office is in exceptional shape as a result of his efforts.

X. AIHEC Report.

AIHEC Executive Director Gerald Gipp referred members to the 2007 AIHEC Annual Report, which was included in the Board books. He too expressed his appreciation to Jay Phillips for his work and contributions in the financial area. He then thanked the organization's leadership and all of the presidents for their support during his tenure as Executive Director.

XI. Recognition of Gerald Gipp and Jay Phillips.

MOTION: President Clark moved [second by President Lindquist Mala] that the Board of Directors recognize Gerald Gipp, AIHEC Executive Director, for his leadership of AIHEC over the past seven years and for his contributions to Indian education.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

MOTION: President Clark moved [second by President Shanley] that the Board of Directors recognize contributions made by Jay Phillips as AIHEC's Director of Finance and Administration to improve the financial picture of AIHEC.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

XII. Gonzaga University Briefing.

Stacy Chapman, Gonzaga University's Program Coordinator for the Masters in Business Administration Program for TCU faculty and staff, provided a briefing on the program and distributed brochures.

XIII. Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) Program.

President David Gipp and Tom Disselhorst of United Tribes Technical College (UTTC) provided a brief overview of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program and the regulatory challenges that UTTC and Sitting Bull College have faced in attempting to participate in this program as a source of funding for student housing. They asked the AIHEC Board of Directors to pass a resolution supporting the efforts of UTTC and Sitting Bull College in seeking amendments to Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code that would accommodate Tribal Colleges and Universities under the LIHTC program. President Gipp explained that UTTC will work with the North Dakota Congressional delegation on the necessary amendments.

MOTION: President Gipp moved [second by President Vermillion] that the AIHEC Board of Directors support the efforts of United Tribes Technical College and Sitting Bull College in seeking amendments to the Internal Revenue Code that would ensure TCU participation in the Low Income House Tax Credits (LIHTC) program by allow participating TCUs to give housing priority to TCU students.

OUTCOME: The motion agreed to by voice vote.

There was further discussion that AIHEC needs to work with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to identify funding for TCUs for transitional housing.

XIV. Executive Session.

MOTION: President Gipp moved [seconded by President Canku] that the Board of Directors convene in executive session to discuss a membership matter.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Chair requested that the Executive and Deputy Directors of AIHEC and the Chair of the Fond du Lac Tribal College's governing board remain in the room for the Executive Session. The Board convened in Executive Session at 12:25 p.m. to discuss a membership issue. The Board resumed its regular session at 1:37 p.m. Upon resumption of the meeting in regular open session, the Board returned to its agenda items.

XV. Reports of the Committees.

Membership and Accreditation Committee.

President Carpenter, chair of the committee, presented a report of the committee meeting and subsequent motions.

TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO AIHEC'S BYLAWS

President Carpenter explained that there were four clarifying and technical corrections being proposed to the AIHEC bylaws, as follows:

- (a) **Full-time Equivalency:** The intent of AIHEC criteria for Regular and Associate membership is to be consistent with federal statutory requirements for funding eligibility under the Tribally Controlled College or University Assistance Act. However, the AIHEC bylaws are vague on the requirement that an applicant institution have a "majority of Indian students." This amendment clarifies that an applicant institution must demonstrate that a majority of its *full-time equivalency* of students be American Indian or Alaska Native.
- (b) **Alaska Natives:** The term "Eskimo" is removed from the bylaws because the term is considered derogatory by many Indigenous people, particularly in Canada. The term "Alaska Native" represents the distinct Native groups in the region.
- (c) **Official Representative:** At the Board's earlier direction, we have drafted language to clarify the *process* for a member institution to designate a non-voting "official representative" for the sole purpose of attending a specific board meeting when the president (Director) is unable to attend. Consistent with Colorado law, an official representative has no voting authority. (Under section 3.10.01, the bylaws permit a Regular Member to designate an "official representative" to attend a meeting in the Director's place, but the section does not specify the process.)

(d) **Grammatical and Numbering Corrections:** A few technical corrections will be made to correct typographical and numbering errors. (These changes do not require board approval due to previously approved motions, but are included in the set of amendments referenced in this motion for the Board's convenient reference.)

MOTION: President Carpenter moved [second by President Falcon Chandler] that the AIHEC Bylaws be amended to make specified clarifying and technical corrections.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

EXPLORATION OF INCORPORATING THROUGH A TRIBAL ENTITY/GOVERNMENT

President Carpenter explained that last year, the AIHEC Board directed AIHEC staff to report on the possibility of incorporating the Consortium in a state other than Colorado. That report was included in the board books for this meeting. As a next step, the committee would like information on the potential for incorporating AIHEC under the laws of a sovereign Indian tribe. Some national Indian organizations may already be incorporated under a tribal authority, and this could serve as a model for AIHEC.

MOTION: President Carpenter moved [second by President Parish] that the AIHEC staff is directed to explore the possibility of seeking incorporation through a tribal entity/government, including examining the incorporation status of other national Indian organizations, and report to the Membership and Accreditation Committee at the Fall 2008 Board of Directors meeting.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

ACCEPTANCE OF REQUIRED REPORTS BY FOUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

President Carpenter explained that at the Membership and Accreditation Committee meeting, the president or official representative of each Associate Member institution (College of the Muscogee Nation, Comanche Nation College, Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College, and Wind River Tribal College) submitted the required report regarding the accreditation status of his or her institution. All four institutions are planning to submit their "Program Information Form" to their respective accrediting body within the next several months.

MOTION: President Carpenter moved [second by President Falcon Chandler] that the Board of Directors accept the reports of the four Associate Members.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

POSTPONEMENT OF REQUIRED WRITTEN REPORT BY FOND DU LAC TRIBAL COLLEGE

During the Membership and Accreditation Committee meeting, President Petite gave an oral report on the status of Fond du Lac Tribal College. No written report was submitted to the Committee; however, a partial report was distributed at the Board meeting. President Petite stated that the college has pending litigation with the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) regarding the Bureau's decision to discontinue institutional operations funding to FDLTC. She further stated that Fond du Lac Tribal College continues to function as a fully accredited institution. Based on this, President Petite requested that the AIHEC Board of Directors:

1. Continue to recognize FDLTC as a Regular Member of AIHEC;
2. Ensure that FDLTC receives full benefits of AIHEC Regular membership; and
3. Suspend any discussion or decision on FDLTC's membership status until FDLTC's lawsuit against the BIE is resolved.

MOTION: President Carpenter moved [second by President Vermillion] that the Board of Directors postpone consideration of the required written report from Fond du Lac Tribal College until the 2008 Fall Board meeting. At that meeting, FDLTC shall either: (1) provide the required annual report, which shall include information on the institution's progress toward becoming a separately accredited tribal college; or (2) formally apply for Associate Membership in AIHEC.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

STEM Committee.

President Davis, Chair of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Committee, presented a report of the committee meeting and subsequent motions.

REQUEST TO FEDERAL AGENCIES REQUIRING PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH AND SUPPORT OF TRIBAL COLLEGES AND AIHEC

President Davis explained that increasingly, federal agencies award grants to mainstream universities, companies, and organizations that involve tribal colleges without the knowledge of, or in consultation with, the tribal college or colleges that are impacted. Additionally, some mainstream universities, companies, or organizations have consulted solely with faculty that are not in a position to officially represent their college's interest or make commitments on its behalf.

MOTION: President Davis moved [second by President Oltrogge] that the AIHEC Board of Directors requests that the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities (WHITCU) urge all federal departments and agencies to require that any proposal

for federal funds (in response to a Request for Proposals or “RFP”), which directly or indirectly names tribal college(s) or AIHEC in the proposal, but is not submitted by a tribal college or university or AIHEC, must include documentation confirming that tribal college administration or AIHEC, as relevant, is fully informed of and supports its role in the proposed project. Further, the Board directs AIHEC staff to prepare and send a letter to all federal departments urging the adoption of the policy set forth above.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN FOR TRIBAL COLLEGES TO PARTICIPATE IN DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAMS

President Davis reported that at the Fall 2007 Board meeting, TCU presidents were advised of a WHITCU sponsored meeting between select TCUs and representatives of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to discuss programs and funding opportunities for TCUs. As a result of this meeting, the STEM Committee recommends that AIHEC take a proactive position and work closely with the WHITCU Executive Director to create a plan for developing specific initiatives that engage TCUs in DHS programs. This plan will be presented to the Department.

MOTION: President Davis moved [second by President Salois] that the AIHEC Board of Directors direct the AIHEC staff to work with the WHITCU Executive Director to create a plan for developing specific initiatives that engage the Tribal Colleges and Universities in Department of Homeland Security programs.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Tribal College Journal Advisory Board.

President Spoonhunter presented a report of the TCJ Advisory Board meeting. The *Tribal College Journal* staff is currently conducting an examination of its readership market and the content of the publication. As part of this effort, the Advisory Board is considering the possibility of changing the publication’s name in order to broaden the potential readership base.

Rachael Marchbanks, *TCJ* publisher, distributed a questionnaire that is being sent to *TCJ* readers as part of its evaluation process and asked that Board members complete and return the survey to *TCJ* staff.

Athletics Committee.

President Yarlott discussed several problems and issues relating to the AIHEC basketball tournaments, including:

- *Team Expertise:* Different levels of team organization and experience results in significant scoring disparities;

- *Continuity*: Need for the assignment of AIHEC representative or staff liaison to help ensure consistency of tournament format and rules and regulations from year to year;
- *Commissioners*: Need for the naming of commissioners who are not coaches, acknowledging the unwillingness of TCU presidents to serve as commissioners;
- *Facility Requirements*: A process is needed for vetting those institutions wishing to host an AIHEC tournament, which would include a checklist of key items needed for a properly conducted tournament, including items such as gymnasium specifications and scoring devices;
- *Inconsistencies in Rules Enforcement and Officiating*: AIHEC Commissioners have developed a comprehensive set of tournament and game rules and regulations. However, in recent years, enforcement of these rules has been inconsistent, giving the impression that rules are enforced in an arbitrary manner;
 - For example, in some cases, teams register, but do not show up for their games; in other cases, teams have not registered, but they show up expecting to participate
- *Sportsmanship*: A code of sportsmanship needs to be established due to irresponsible and disrespectful behavior of coaches and players.

President Yarlott will develop specific recommendations to address these issues and problems, which will be forwarded to the Athletic Committee for its consideration. In the meantime, there was general consensus that TCU presidents need to explain to their students and staff general standards of behavior and disciplinary ramifications. Presidents also said they would like to be advised by an official about misconduct of their students and staff.

XVI. TCU Data Trend Discussion Summary.

Chair Crazy Bull announced that the summary of the TCU data trend discussions that had occurred during the two previous days will be e-mailed to all presidents.

XVII. Executive Awareness Sessions.

Chair Crazy Bull asked presidents to e-mail potential topics for future Executive Awareness Sessions to Carrie Billy.

XVIII. Recognition of Jean Foster.

Chair Crazy Bull announced that Jean Foster, AIHEC Special Assistant, had submitted her resignation, effective June 1, 2008.

MOTION: President Lindquist Mala [second by President Yarlott] moved that the AIHEC Board of Directors recognize Jean Foster for her work with and contributions to the Consortium over past nine years.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

XIX. AIHEC Student Congress Report.

Karl Duncan, President of the AIHEC Student Congress, was not present to provide an oral report. A written report detailing recent Student Congress activities was included in the Board books.

Chair Crazy Bull announced the resignation of Michele Spencer (Diné College) as the liaison to the Student Congress.

MOTION: President Davis moved [second by President Falcon Chandler] that the AIHEC Board of Directors thank Michele Spencer for her work as liaison to the Student Congress and appoint Cindy Dodd, Dean of Students, Northwest Indian College, as the new AIHEC Liaison to the Student Congress.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

XX. AIHEC/USDA Leadership Group.

USDA REGIONAL 1994 LIAISON POSITIONS

President Salois reported that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will be hiring three Tribal College Liaison Specialists (TCLSs) in the Eastern, Central and Western areas of the country. These are full-time federal Civil Service positions. The TCLS for the Eastern portion of the country will be located at USDA headquarters in Washington, DC and will cover TCUs east of the Mississippi. The other two TCLSs will be housed at a TCU in the Central and the Western regions of the country. The specific colleges housing the TCLSs will be determined by the AIHEC Board.

MOTION: President Salois moved [second by President Lindquist Mala] that the Tribal College Liaison Specialist for the Central region be located at Sitting Bull College, Fort Yates, North Dakota.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

With respect to the location of the TCLS for the Western region, the president of Little Big Horn College expressed willingness to have the position housed on his campus. The president of Tohono O'odham Community College also expressed willingness to house the position on her campus. A vote was conducted by paper ballot, with the following result: Little Big Horn College was selected to house the TCLS for the Western region.

Chair Crazy Bull announced that she had accepted President Verna Fowler's resignation as co-chair of the USDA-AIHEC Leadership Group with great appreciation for her long-term commitment and superior leadership on the Leadership Group. The Chair then asked for volunteers to fill the vacancy created by Dr. Fowler's resignation.

VACANCY ON AIHEC USDA LEADERSHIP GROUP

MOTION: President Carpenter moved [second by President Yarlott] that President Lindquist Mala be appointed to fill the vacancy on the AIHEC USDA Leadership Group created by the resignation of President Fowler.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Board subsequently agreed that the TCU presidents serving on the Leadership Group will select the AIHEC co-chair of the Leadership Group and report to the Board and USDA on their selection.

XXI. National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC) Report.

Mr. Phil Baird, the 1994 representative on NASULGC's Board of Agriculture Assembly (BAA) Policy Board of Directors, provided an update on the recent BAA-PBD meeting. Issues covered included, an update on the reauthorization of the Farm Bill; REE Energy Science, Education, and Extension Plan; a proposal to realign the BAA advocacy efforts under a different organizational component, the NASULGC- Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET) Capitol Hill exhibition, the NASULGC Task Force on Emerging Issues and Future Directions, and lastly, a potential name change for the organization [NASULGC], which may result in removal of "land grant" from the organization's name.

1994 NOMINEES FOR NASULGC's BAA POLICY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MOTION: President Salois moved [second by President Yarlott] that Mr. Phil Baird (UTTC) and Mr. Terry Tatsey (Blackfeet C.C.) be the 1994 nominees to serve as the 1994 representative and alternate on the NASULGC BAA Policy Board of Directors, each for a second term.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

XXII. American Indian College Fund.

Mr. Richard Williams, President and CEO of the American Indian College Fund, stated that since the American Indian College Fund's governing board had met with the AIHEC Board on Saturday, March 15, an oral report on the Fund's activities was unnecessary. Chair Crazy Bull announced that President Ferlin Clark had resigned from the Fund's Board of Trustees. She then asked for nominations or volunteers to fill the vacancy. President Shanley was nominated and by acclamation approved to fill the vacancy. A question arose as to the length of President Shanley's appointment. Mr. Williams stated that he would verify whether the appointment is to complete President Clark's remaining term (six months) or is for a full three-year term.

XXIII. WHITCU Report.

Deborah Cavett, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities (WHITCU) summarized her written report on recent

activities of the WHITCU office. Chair Crazy Bull expressed concern about the timing of some of the WHITCU meetings and suggested that consideration be given to checking with other organizations about their meeting schedules prior to scheduling WHITCU meetings or events.

Ms. Cavett announced that the deadline for submitting Applications of Eligibility for the Department of Education's Fiscal Year 2008 discretionary Title III program and the mandatory College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA) for Tribal Colleges and Universities is April 9, 2008. Tribal colleges are required to submit an Application for Eligibility in each fiscal year that new funding is sought. In addition, she said that the Department anticipates making 10 construction grants under the mandatory funding available through CCRAA. Each of the 10 awards will be funded at approximately \$6 million over two years. Concern was expressed by tribal college presidents about the limited number of awards expected to be made. They expressed a need to intervene in the distribution process to increase the number of institutions to receive awards. Further, they expressed the desire to meet with Ms. Diane Auer Jones, Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, about this matter.

XXIV. Note of Appreciation.

Chair Crazy Bull expressed appreciation on behalf of all of the tribal college presidents and the AIHEC staff to President David Gipp and his staff, particularly Tiffany Hodge and Brad Hawk, for hosting the 2008 AIHEC Spring meeting on the UTTC campus.

XXV. Adjournment.

MOTION: President Vermillion [second by President Carpenter] moved that the 2008 Spring Board of Directors meeting be adjourned.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Accordingly, Chair Crazy Bull adjourned the 2008 Spring Board of Directors meeting at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by AIHEC staff.

Executed and acknowledged by the undersigned being the Second Vice Chair of the Corporation.

Cynthia Lindquist Mala, Second Vice Chair
American Indian Higher Education Consortium

Date