



**AIHEC 2009 FALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MOUNT WASHINGTON RESORT
BRETTON WOODS, NEW HAMPSHIRE
OCTOBER 13, 2009**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER.** AIHEC Board Chair, David Yarlott, Jr., called the AIHEC 2009 Fall Board of Directors meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. (local time).
- II. **OPENING PRAYER AND INTRODUCTIONS.** An opening prayer was offered.
- III. **ROLL CALL.**
Carrie Billy, AIHEC President & CEO, called the roll.

Regular Members Present

Bay Mills Community College
Cankdeska Cikana Community College
Chief Dull Knife College
College of Menominee Nation
Diné College
Fort Belknap College
Fort Peck Community College
Leech Lake Tribal College
Little Big Horn College
Navajo Technical College
Nebraska Indian Community College
Northwest Indian College
Oglala Lakota College
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
Salish Kootenai College
Sisseton Wahpeton College
Sitting Bull College
Stone Child College
Tohono O'odham Community College
Turtle Mountain Community College
United Tribes Technical College

Represented by

Michael Parish
Cynthia Lindquist Mala
Richard Littlebear
Cynthia Lindquist Mala¹
Ferlin Clark
Cynthia Lindquist Mala²
James Shanley
Ginny Carney
David Yarlott
Elmer Guy
Michael Oltrogge
Cynthia Lindquist Mala³
Thomas Shortbull
Olivia Vanegas-Funcheon
Joe McDonald
Diana Canku
Laurel Vermillion
Melody Henry
Olivia Vanegas-Funcheon
James Davis
David Gipp

Regular Members Present After Roll Call

Institute of American Indian Arts

Robert Martin

Regular Members Absent

Blackfeet Community College

¹ Institution present by proxy

² Institution present by proxy

³ Institution present by proxy

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
Fort Berthold Community College
Haskell Indian Nations University
Iilisagvik College
Little Priest Tribal College
Sinte Gleska University
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute
White Earth Tribal and Community College

Twenty-two regular members having voted present, a quorum was established.

Associate Members Present

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|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| College of the Muscogee Nation | Robert Bible |
| Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College | Debra Parish |

Associate Members Absent

Comanche Nation College
Wind River Tribal College

International Member Absent

Red Crow Community College

Official Representatives Present

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College | Robert Sonny Peacock |
| Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College | Ray Burns |

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES.

Secretary Clark presented the minutes of the AIHEC 2009 Summer Board of Directors meeting for consideration and approval.

MOTION: President McDonald moved [seconded by President Vermillion] to accept the minutes of the AIHEC 2009 Summer Board of Directors meeting, as presented.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Treasurer Shanley reported that the Finance & Audit committee met the previous day and brought forward two motions.

MOTION: President Shanley made a motion [seconded by President Oltrogge] that the Board of Directors adopt the preliminary budget for the AIHEC Central Office Fiscal Year 2010, as presented.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

MOTION: President Shanley made a motion to have the 2008 audit accepted by the Board of Directors.

OUTCOME: The motion was not seconded. Staff explained that the audit does not require Board approval; rather, it is accepted by the Finance & Audit Committee.

VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Randy Smith, Rural Community College Alliance.

Dr. Smith greeted the AIHEC Board of Directors and expressed thanks for the Board's willingness to coordinate the AIHEC Fall Board of Directors meeting with the RCCA conference for the first time. Dr. Smith extended an invitation to the presidents to attend the RCCA conference and reception. He reminded the Board that all AIHEC members are members of RCCA and encouraged Board members to take advantage of RCCA's membership benefits.

VII. REPORT OF THE CHAIR.

Chair Yarlott reported that the Executive Committee meets by conference call on a monthly basis and regularly receives updates on Federal issues and upcoming meetings and activities and encouraged the Board to read the minutes of the Executive Committee conference calls contained in the Fall Board Book.

Upcoming Meetings:

Winter 2010

AIHEC 2010 Winter Board of Directors meeting will be held in Washington, DC on February 8-11, 2010. Travel dates will be Sunday, February 7 and Friday, February 12. There will be presentations from Executive Branch officials on Monday, along with a Hill briefing session. Hill visits will be scheduled on Tuesday and Wednesday. A debriefing meeting will be held for all participants on Thursday morning and Agency presentations and meetings will take place throughout the rest of the day on Thursday. The USDA-AIHEC Leadership Group will meet on Friday.

Ms. Billy stated that Board members should look to receive the AIHEC 2010 Winter Board of Directors meeting logistics memo to come from the AIHEC office in the next few weeks.

Spring 2010

President Vanegas-Funcheon provided an update on the 2010 AIHEC Student Conference to be held March 20-23, 2010 in Phoenix, AZ. The AIHEC 2010 Spring Board of Directors meeting will be held March 18-20. The conference was originally scheduled for March 26-29, 2010, but due to a significant room rate reduction by moving the conference up a few days, the organizers agreed to change the dates. Planning meetings have been held with the Southwest Region TCUs. The Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino in Chandler, AZ is the site of the event. When the details have been finalized, President Vanegas-Funcheon will circulate updated information about the event to the TCUs.

AIHEC Code of Conduct: Annual Notification

Each Board member received a copy of the AIHEC Code of Conduct for his or her annual review. This annual notification is required per the AIHEC auditing requirements.

VIII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: Dr. James Laws, Department of Education – Title III.

Dr. James Laws, director of the U.S. Department of Education's Institutional Development and Undergraduate Education Service (IDUES), provided the Board with a comprehensive update on the Department's Title III-Part A Tribal College and University program. He discussed current appropriations and the process for determining eligibility to participate in the program. He repeatedly reiterated that it is critical that *all* TCUs must apply for designation as an "eligible institution" to participate in the program. This is required whether the program is competitive or formula driven. The application for eligibility is not available at this time, but it should be published in the Federal Register by late October.

Dr. Laws reported that 30 percent of the FY2010 funding will be available for construction grants. By fiscal year 2012 or 2013, all existing competitive development grant awards to TCUs will be completed and all TCUs will have transitioned to the formula-driven program. TCUs should not anticipate additional funds or independent funds for a construction competition. At this point, Board members expressed concern, stating that the construction program was a critical component of the TCU Developing Institutions program, and that in the past, the Department consulted closely with the TCUs on the Title III-Part A program. Examples were provided on the critical facilities needs at various Tribal Colleges.

Dr. Laws reminded Board members to contact Department of Education staff with any changes in Title III project directors and certifying officials. Department of Education contacts are: Allison Brown, Program Officer, 202.502.7611, and Darlene Collins, Team Leader, 202.502.7576.

In response to a question, Dr. Laws stated that if grant funding is not completely spent, for example, in year two of a 5-year grant, the funding will automatically rollover. Extensions are usually granted for up to one year at the end of a competitive award.

Members of the Board invited Dr. Laws, Ms. Brown and Ms. Collins from the Department of Education to attend the AIHEC 2010 Winter Board of Directors meeting.

IX. AIHEC CENTRAL OFFICE UPDATE.

Ms. Billy highlighted the following information included in the Board Book:

- AIHEC Sponsored meetings and workshops:
 - AIHEC Indigenous Evaluation Framework Workshops: October and November 2009 at various locations: TCU faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in these informative workshops.
 - NASA/Native Peoples Native Homelands Climate Change Workshop II: November 18-21, Mystic Lake Casino Hotel, Prior Lake, MN. This national conference is sponsored by NASA, using NASA-TCU program funds. TCUs are encouraged to participate.
- Contact information for AIHEC staff and TCU changes are listed behind Tab 5 of the Board Book.

Ms. Billy reported on AIHEC central office activities, meetings, and initiatives. She also announced two new grants recently awarded to AIHEC: \$500,000 from the Lumina Foundation

to conduct a public policy initiative with TCUs; and funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities to work with the National Museum of the American Indian, Tribal Colleges, and Indiana University to create a platform for editable digitized museum content. AIHEC is currently drafting an NSF-TCUP technical assistance grant proposal. AIHEC is currently working with the Walmart Foundation on a proposal to engage TCUs, HBCUs, and HSIs in a collaborative project to identify and share best practices in student success and retention and support implementation of selected projects.

Ms. Billy introduced the Board to a new web-based Policy and Resources Portal that the AIHEC central office is developing for TCU presidents. Ms. Billy gave a brief overview of the portal, which will be password protected and secure. The portal will encourage the use of technology as an alternative to using reams and reams of paper. Board members will have access to material on AIHEC policy initiatives; appropriations requests; meeting information such as schedule of events, minutes and committee agendas; and all meeting related materials. Committees will have a section with all committee related material posted for access.

AIHEC AIMS 2008-2009 Report

All presidents should be aware that AIHEC AIMS data—Parts A & B, as well as photos—are due no later than December 11, 2009. AIHEC AIMS data submitted on time will receive feedback no later than the second week of January 2010.

Ms. Page has reworked and rebuilt AIHEC AIMS-AKIS for 2009, eliminating problems from previous years. Future reports, beginning with 2008, will be smaller and more focused, targeting specific topics guided by the questions that the presidents answer in AIHEC AIMS-AKIS Part B, the qualitative section of the data collection system. Last year's questions centered on recruitment, retention, and graduation. This year's questions focus on culture and language.

In mid-September, AIHEC held a successful AIHEC AIMS Data Strategies Workshop in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Fifty-five data collectors from 32 TCUs attended. Based on feedback from the previous year, the format included more time for discussion of particular topics and for everyone to confer about challenges and strategies for data collection.

Analysis of the 2008 data has begun; however several colleges have not responded to data questions or have only partially answered questions regarding their data (LBHC, NWIC, NICC, Muscogee, SKC, and WRTC). In spite of this, the data for 2008 is more complete than in previous years. For example, in 2007, only eight TCUs submitted complete and usable retention data. (Because of this, AIHEC had to remove the retention tables from the 2007 Fact Book.) However, in 2008, 19 TCUs reported complete and usable retention data.

X. AIHEC AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION REPORTS.

AIHEC Student Congress

Allison Steinmeyer, President of the AIHEC Student Congress (ASC), reported that the AIHEC Student Leadership Workshop took place at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico in mid-summer 2009. The goals were to gain critical skills for addressing campus

issues and personal and community goals. Thirty-six students from 12 Tribal Colleges attended. ASC received daily participant evaluations with excellent suggestions and speaker input.

Ongoing projects include: updating the ASC website; creating Myspace and Facebook pages; and reviewing the constitution, Code of Conduct and bylaws (as there are concerns and questions about roles and responsibilities of officers). In addition, the ASC is preparing a letter inviting Michelle Obama to the 2010 AIHEC Student Conference.

Ms. Steinmeyer reported concerns about the "Mr. and Ms. AIHEC representatives," particularly in relationship to the ASC, as well as their lack of an advisor. She stated that the TCU leadership and/or the organization that confers the designations should clarify expectations and responsibilities for roles and provide mentoring or designate a person under whose responsibility the representatives are assigned.

The first edition of the ASC newsletter has been sent to all TCUs and is included in the Board Books. The Student Congress plans to publish a quarterly newsletter and is currently working on the second edition, which will include feedback from students who attended the summer Leadership Workshop.

ASC is selling t-shirts for \$15.00 each as a fundraiser for the 2010 Spring Student Conference and Summer Leadership Workshop. The Chair called for a brief recess so that students could sell t-shirts to Board members.

American Indian College Fund

Ms. Deborah Hunt reported that the College Fund is recruiting individuals at TCUs to apply for various Mellon Foundation fellowships. Dennis Carder will be the new contact for the project, and his contact information can be found on the College Fund website. Five TCUs have not applied for their *Woksape Oyate* funding.

Overall, donor contributions are down, but the College Fund is doing well and is close to meeting its goal of \$9 million due to anonymous contributions. AICF recently submitted a proposal to Kellogg for an early childhood development initiative focused on Tribal Colleges in Michigan and New Mexico. Other new initiatives are underway, involving changes in staffing, departments and divisions. The College Fund recently completed its fiscal year audit, which went well. The Fund's annual report will be distributed in two weeks.

XI. AIHEC COMMITTEES.

Membership & Accreditation

President Vermillion, chair of the Membership & Accreditation Committee, reported that the committee met with a quorum and has brought forward two motions:

- MOTION:** President Vermillion moved [seconded by President McDonald] that the AIHEC Board of Directors accepts Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College as a regular voting member of AIHEC.
- OUTCOME:** The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

- MOTION:** President Vermillion moved [seconded by President Parish] that the Committee directs the AIHEC staff to look into clarifying the Membership Handbook with regard to the transition process from an Associate Member of AIHEC to regular AIHEC membership.
- OUTCOME:** The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

STEM Committee

President Davis, chair of the STEM Committee, reported that the committee met with a quorum and has brought forward two motions:

- MOTION:** President McDonald moved [seconded by President Vanegas-Funcheon] that AIHEC staff be directed to pursue a geospatial technologies initiative in partnership with the BIA's National Geospatial Resource Center (NGRC). Under this initiative, (a) the NGRC would provide the TCUs access to geospatial information system (GIS) software and technical support; and (b) participating TCUs would develop GIS training and technical support centers that would serve their local and regional Tribes.
- OUTCOME:** The motion was agreed to by voice vote.
- MOTION:** President McDonald moved [seconded by President Vanegas-Funcheon] that AIHEC staff be directed to pursue a green workforce development initiative that will support efforts by TCUs to identify local green workforce priorities, and develop or adapt appropriate curriculum and effective training models. AIHEC staff is also directed to identify sources of funding to support this initiative, including the Department of Labor, Department of Education, and private foundations.
- OUTCOME:** The motion was agreed to by voice vote.
- MOTION:** President Shortbull moved [seconded by President Vanegas-Funcheon] that AIHEC staff be directed to work with the Rural Community College Alliance to pursue an amendment to the E-rate legislation that would make rural and Tribal colleges eligible to participate in the E-rate Program in the same manner that K-12 schools and libraries currently participate.
- OUTCOME:** The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Student Activities Committee

President Martin, chair of the Student Activities Committee, reported that the committee met with a quorum. President Martin reported that the Board-appointed AIHEC Athletic Commission has not been actively engaged in the various athletic activities of the TCUs. It was recommended that the AIHEC Central office staff schedule and convene regular meetings to better engage the Commission.

Dr. Martin reported that there are two vacancies on the Athletic Commission. The AIHEC central office will solicit nomination from the two regions – Northwest and Woodlands – that are not currently represented on the Commission. Prospective Commissioners should know that travel is paid by the Commissioner's home institution, not the AIHEC central organization. The Commission has limited funds, approximately \$7,500, to use for Commission expenses, including *hosting* meetings – but not travel -- and preparing materials. These funds were raised through the voluntary athletic donations from TCUs).

The committee has brought forward two motions:

MOTION: President Martin moved [seconded by President McDonald] that the AIHEC staff work with Little Big Horn College to convene a meeting of the AIHEC Athletic Commission, which shall include a one-time travel stipend of \$300 per Commissioner, to: (1) Develop a plan for ensuring that AIHEC Athletic Commission activities are conducted on an ongoing and timely basis; (2) Finalize a Handbook of Rules and Regulations, which shall be forwarded to the Student Activities Committee; and (3) Address outstanding issues related to AIHEC athletic competitions.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

MOTION: President Martin moved [seconded by President McDonald] that the AIHEC Board of Directors thank Cindy Dodd, Northwest Indian College, for her outstanding work on behalf of the AIHEC Student Congress.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote. The Board expressed thanks and appreciation to Cindy Dodd.

Research Committee

President Lindquist-Mala, Chair of the Research Committee, reported that the committee was unable to convene due to lack of a quorum. The attendees discussed the need to send out reminders to committee members. Dr. Lindquist-Mala reported that AIHEC's monograph on student assessment had been completed.

Tribal College Journal Advisory Board Meeting

President Vermillion, Chair of the Tribal College Journal (TCJ) Advisory Board, introduced Kurt Umbhau as the new editor of TCJ. Mr. Umbhau shared his background and new initiatives to involve more students with TCJ, including cover shots and media reviews by students. Mr. Umbhau encouraged the Board to respond to calls for shorts and to invite TCJ to visit their campuses during scheduled events.

President Vermillion reported that there is a vacancy on the Board, but a decision to fill the vacancy will be made at a later date.

Committee-on-Committee

MOTION: President Yarlott moved [seconded by President McDonald] that the Board endorses the nomination of President Lindquist-Mala to serve on the NCAI Policy Research Center Advisory Board to fill the vacancy on the Board.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

MOTION: President Parish moved [seconded by President McDonald] that the Board thanks Carrie Billy and the AIHEC staff for their work.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote. The board then expressed thanks and appreciation to the AIHEC staff.

XII. AIHEC 2009 STUDENT CONFERENCE REPORT.

President Joseph McDonald, Salish Kootenai College, submitted a written report on the 2009 AIHEC Student Conference and reported that attendance was larger than expected at the Conference, which was held in Missoula, Montana in March. More than 900 people attended. The banquet and powwow were especially well attended, and the financials for the Conference were positive. Dr. McDonald stated that there is a need to standardize competition awards, to make expectations of students more reasonable. He stated that the Conference organizer, Ms. Carmen Taylor, had developed an event matrix and financial report. Ms. Billy asked for a copy of these documents to share with future annual conference hosts.

XIII. AIHEC 2010 STUDENT CONFERENCE UPDATE.

President Olivia Vanegas-Funcheon, Tohono O'odham Community College, reported that the 2010 AIHEC Student Conference will be held March 20-23, 2010 at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino in Chandler, Arizona. Carmen Taylor will serve as the Conference Coordinator. The Conference was originally scheduled for March 26-29, 2010, but due to a room rate reduction of \$100 per room per night, which would be available if the Conference began six days earlier, the Conference dates were changed. The final hotel rate is \$109 per night. Planning meetings have been held with the Southwest Region TCUs, and the organizers are identifying keynote speakers. They have invited Michelle Obama with individual letters to come from students at each TCU. Details will follow on the Conference website, which will be linked to the AIHEC website when available.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS.

USDA/AIHEC Leadership Group

President Lindquist-Mala reported that there is one TCU representative vacancy to be filled in the USDA/AIHEC Leadership Group.

MOTION: President Oltrogge moved [seconded by President Lindquist-Mala] that the Board name President Michael Parish, Bay Mills Community College, to serve on the USDA-AIHEC Leadership Group, as a representative of the Tribal Colleges and Universities, which are the 1994 land-grant institutions.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

XV. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION: President Parish moved that the AIHEC 2009 Fall Board of Directors meeting be adjourned.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Accordingly, Chair Yarlott adjourned the AIHEC 2009 Fall Board of Directors meeting at 5:34 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Nichole Mitchell, AIHEC staff.

Executed and acknowledged by the undersigned being the Secretary of the Corporation.

Ferlin Clark, Secretary
American Indian Higher Education Consortium

Date