



**2009 AIHEC SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN AT THE PARK
MISSOULA, MONTANA
MARCH 28, 2009**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER.** AIHEC Board Chair, David Yarlott, Jr., called the 2009 Spring Board of Directors meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. (local time).
- II. **OPENING PRAYER AND INTRODUCTIONS.** Marlin Spoonhunter, President of Wind River Tribal College, offered the opening prayer. Meeting participants then introduced themselves.
- III. **ROLL CALL.**
Carrie Billy, AIHEC President & CEO, 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
Fort Belknap College
Fort Peck Community College
Institute of American Indian Arts
Leech Lake Tribal College
Little Big Horn College
Little Priest Tribal College
Navajo Technical 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
United Tribes Technical College

Represented by

Michael Parish
John Salois
Cynthia Lindquist Mala
Richard Littlebear
*Cheryl Crazy Bull*¹
Ferlin Clark
Carole Falcon-Chandler
James Shanley
Robert Martin
Ginny Carney
David Yarlott
Helene Lincoln
Elmer Guy
Cheryl Crazy Bull
Thomas Shortbull
Betty Redleaf-Collett
Joseph McDonald
Diana Canku
Laurel Vermillion
Melody Henry
Olivia Vanegas-Funcheon
*Cynthia Lindquist Mala*²

Regular Members Absent

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
Fort Berthold Community College

¹ Institution present by proxy

² Institution present by proxy

Haskell Indian Nations University
Ilisagvik College
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College
Nebraska Indian Community College
Sinte Gleska University
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute
Turtle Mountain Community College
White Earth Tribal and Community College

Twenty-two Regular Members having voted present, a quorum was established.

Official Representatives to Regular Members

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College	Robert "Sonny" Peacock
Haskell Indian Nations University	Manford "Manny" King
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College	Ray Burns
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute	Monte Monteith

Associate Members Present

Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College	Debra Parrish
Wind River Tribal College	Marlin Spoonhunter

Associate Members Absent

College of the Muscogee Nation
Comanche Nation College

International Member Absent

Red Crow Community College

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES.

Vice-Chair Lindquist Mala presented the minutes of the AIHEC 2008 Fall Board of Directors meeting for consideration and approval. She presented the fall meeting minutes since she was the Secretary to the Board during that meeting. She highlighted several items contained in the minutes, including: (1) The AIHEC Bylaws requirement that a Regular Member institution, upon missing three successive meetings, shall revert to Associate Member status, and thereby lose all privileges afforded Regular Members; that the Summer 2009 Board of Directors Meeting and Retreat will be hosted by Northwest Indian College in Bellingham, WA; the adoption of the fiscal year 2009 AIHEC operating budget; and an assessment of \$1,000 per Member institutions, which may be paid over five years (Fiscal Years 2010-2014), for the purposes of establishing an AIHEC Reserve Fund; and a 5 percent annual increase in Membership dues beginning in Fiscal Year 2010 and continuing for the next four fiscal years. The Regular Membership status of Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College was reaffirmed, with the condition that prior to the 2009 Fall Board of Directors meeting, Fond du Lac Tribal College must present a written status report to AIHEC on its plan to separate from Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College.

MOTION: President Clark moved [seconded by President Shanley] to accept the minutes of the AIHEC 2008 Fall Board of Directors meeting as presented.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

V. REPORT OF THE CHAIR.

Chair Yarlott reviewed the discussions of the Executive Committee meeting held on Thursday, March 27, 2009, including two motions that the Committee is recommending for consideration and approval of the Board: (1) to clarify distribution formula regarding increased appropriations for Titles I and II of the Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance Act (Tribal College Act); and (2) to endorse the Lumina Foundation's educational attainment goal, as well as other items on the Committee's agenda.

Clarification of Funding Distribution Formula: The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) had inquired about AIHEC's interpretation of a 2004 agreement among Title I and Title II TCU presidents regarding the distribution of any increase to Tribal College Act funding. The 2004 agreement, which was documented in a letter to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, resulted from a situation that arose in Fiscal Year 2003. In that year, Congress enacted a \$2 million increase in funding for Titles I and II, of the Act. However, because the two titles of the Tribal College Act authorize different funding distribution methods, the distribution imposed by the BIA that year, resulted in a decrease in the per ISC allocation for the Title I institutions, while the Title II college received a sizable increase.

The Executive Committee agreed to the following motion recommending that the AIHEC Board of Directors, for clarification purposes, recommends to BIE that the general formula used in 2004, using each prior year's final allocation as the base amount, be used to determine the distribution of any future increases appropriated for the institutional operations grants under Titles I and II of the Act. This action would ensure continuity should the Department of Interior, BIE staff change in future years.

MOTION: President Yarlott moved [seconded by President Crazy Bull] that the AIHEC Board of Directors, for the purpose of clarification, recommends to the Department of the Interior-Bureau of Indian Education that any increase appropriated for the institutional operating grants under Titles I and II of the Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance Act, be distributed employing a formula that (1) uses the prior fiscal year's appropriation distribution to Titles I and II as the baseline; and (2) apportions the increase in funding above said baseline on the percentage of ISC that the Title I institutions and the Title II institution represent, as compared to the combined Indian Student Count for the relevant academic year.

DISCUSSION: President Shortbull expressed concern over inequities in funding distribution between Title I institutions and the Title II institution (Diné College) and that Diné College will always receive a higher amount of funding per ISC based on the original formula used by BIE/BIA. President Clark provided the history behind Diné College's funding distribution method.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote, with President Shortbull voting in opposition.

Endorsement of the Lumina Foundation's Education Attainment Goal: Chair Yarlott stated that the Lumina Foundation's "Big Goal," which has framed the Foundation's work for more than a year, specifically states that we must increase the percentage of Americans with

high-quality degrees and credentials to 60 percent by 2025. To reach that goal, the U.S. must produce 16 million more graduates than we will at current rates. Strategies for achieving this goal include improving college access information, improving college affordability, enhancing institutional productivity and learning outcomes and improving data systems.

MOTION: President Yarlott moved [seconded by President McDonald] that the AIHEC Board of Directors endorses the Lumina Foundation's "Big Goal" of 60 percent of Americans holding high quality two- and four-year college degrees by 2025, including high quality and culturally based degrees from Tribal Colleges and Universities; and further, that the AIHEC Board of Directors commits to working with the Lumina Foundation to achieve this important goal.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Upcoming Meetings:

2009 Summer Meeting and Retreat: The AIHEC 2009 Summer Board of Directors Meeting and Retreat will be held at the Northwest Indian College in Bellingham, WA on July 12-14, 2009. The Executive Committee members discussed some possible themes for the Summer Retreat presentations and discussion sessions. One of the primary topics it proposes is a session on developmental and technical education, including strategies for success, best practices and workforce training.

President Crazy Bull described the recreational activities planned for the Summer Retreat, which include canoeing, golf, and hiking. She asked that other activity recommendations be forwarded to her, or Tami Julius, her assistant at the college, or Mary Presswood at AIHEC.

President Crazy Bull announced that the Fourth Annual Vine Deloria, Jr. Indigenous Studies Symposium will be held at NWIC on July 9-11, 2009, and she invited those interested to attend.

2009 Fall Board of Directors Meeting: The AIHEC 2009 Fall Board of Directors Meeting will be held at the Mt. Washington Resort in Bretton Woods, NH on October 12-13, 2009, in conjunction with the Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA) Annual Conference, which will convene on October 14 -15, 2009. President Shanley provided background information on the decision to hold AIHEC Fall Board meeting in conjunction with RCCA's conference.

2009 National Indian Education Association (NIEA) Conference is scheduled for October 22-25, 2009 in Milwaukee, WI. Earlier this year, Chairman Yarlott spoke with members of the NIEA Board of Directors and suggested that the Executive Committees of each organization meet to learn more about our respective organizations and explore ways to support each other's efforts. Board members, particularly the Executive Committee members, were encouraged to attend the NIEA Meeting in Milwaukee.

Future AIHEC Student Conference Sites: TCU presidents were asked how the sites of the 2010-2014 AIHEC Student Conferences should be determined. President Clark stated that the sites typically rotate based on regions. He stated that the southwest TCUs represented at this meeting have agreed to host the 2010 AIHEC Student Conference in Albuquerque, NM,

Tucson, AZ or some other southwest location. He said that they plan to work with other TCUs in the region. A discussion occurred regarding whether or not to have a basketball tournament at the 2010 Student Conference, since so few TCUs in the SW have basketball teams and the travel costs for those not in the area could be expensive. President McDonald suggested that the Athletic Commission make a recommendation regarding whether or not to have a basketball tournament in conjunction with the 2010 Student Conference.

President Shortbull expressed concern about travel costs and weather conditions when selecting the locations for the annual AIHEC Student Conference. He suggested that the TCUs consider holding the Conference in a central location, such as Minneapolis, MN. President Shortbull then recommended that the 2012 Student Conference be held in Rapid City, SD.

The TCU presidents were asked to think about suitable locations and also consider volunteering to host the Student Conference for 2011, 2013 or 2014. AIHEC staff was instructed to follow-up with the TCUs regarding determination of the host institutions and locations.

VI. INDIGENOUS WOMEN SCIENCE NETWORK.

Dr. Iris Pretty Paint gave a brief presentation on the Indigenous Women Science Network, a program designed to increase the number of American Indian women in science fields and to match students pursuing science degrees with science faculty. The Indigenous Women Science Network plans to inform TCU students of academic and scholarship opportunities through a portal on the AIHEC website, a Facebook page, and other technology, such as Twitter and blogs.

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT.

President Shanley asked Ms. Tina Cooper, AIHEC's Director of Finance and Administration, to provide an update on the AIHEC FY 2008 audit. Ms. Cooper reviewed the issues and process of the audit and indicated that the audit is expected to be completed in the next three weeks. President Shortbull inquired as to whether there would be any surplus revenue in 2008. Ms. Cooper replied that the numbers were not yet final and that she would not be comfortable speculating. President Crazy Bull noted that any surplus would be remitted to the newly established Reserve Fund and that any large expenditure decisions regarding the Reserve would be brought to the Board.

Approval of the Preliminary AIHEC Fiscal Year 2010 Budget: President Shanley stated that the Finance and Audit Committee reviewed the Preliminary Fiscal Year 2010 budget and that the Committee recommended the following motion for Board consideration and approval.

MOTION: President Shanley moved [seconded by President McDonald] that the AIHEC Board of Directors approves the Preliminary Fiscal Year 2010 budget, as presented.

DISCUSSION: President Shortbull inquired about sources of funding of the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) pledges received by AIHEC. Ms. Billy explained that Federal employees make donations to organizations listed with the CFC. She further noted that several TCUs are on the CFC list, and

encouraged others to participate. While the donation amounts are small, they come from Federal agency employees throughout the U.S.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

At this point in the meeting, President Clark introduced a member of Diné College's staff, Jack Jackson, Sr., Director of Legislative and Cultural Affairs.

VIII. AIHEC CENTRAL OFFICE UPDATE.

Ms. Billy stated that the Legislative and Executive Branch updates were given during the Information Sessions on March 27, 2009; therefore, only a few timely matters will be reiterated today. She stated that Mr. Chris Redman, Bureau of Indian Education, could not attend the meeting as planned; instead, the Board was given a copy of his memorandum outlining key topics of discussion. Other items and issues were outlined as follows:

BIE distribution forms: Indian Student Count (ISC) documentation forms recently sent to TCUs by the BIE need to be completed and returned as soon as possible. BIE cannot disburse funds until the completed forms have been received. A discussion occurred regarding the communication issues between the TCUs and BIE and the ongoing confusion of where to send completed forms. AIHEC staff will contact the TCUs that have not returned forms to BIE to see what is causing the delay.

Activities advancing the AIHEC Strategic Plan: The primary goals of the AIHEC Strategic Plan were reiterated, as follows: Sustainability, Performance Accountability; Strengthening Communities; and, Student Engagement. AIHEC has made progress in each goal category, such as securing forward funding for institutional operations of TCUs in the President's 2010 Budget summary; working with the BIE and other Federal agencies more effectively; and becoming a stronger advocate for increased funding for all TCUs. The AIHEC-AIMS data collection initiative was brought in-house effective March 1, 2009 and is now being handled directly by AIHEC staff. The Indigenous Framework for Evaluation Initiative grant is in its final year. AIHEC will apply for a continuation of funding due to continued strong interest in the program. AIHEC will be announcing plans to hold five or six Indigenous Framework for Evaluation workshops during the summer and fall of 2009. The program needs additional trainers and TCU faculty and staff that are interested in becoming trainers should contact the AIHEC Central Office. Senator Jon Tester (D-MT) has again introduced the TCU legislative initiative known as "THE PATH". The Committee on Indian Affairs has scheduled an April 2, 2009 hearing on the legislation. President Lindquist Mala has agreed to present the AIHEC statement at said hearing, if necessary³. Further, AIHEC is continuing to look for opportunities for increased funding for adult basic education.

Law Enforcement Training at TCUs: The Department of the Interior has expressed an interest in using TCUs in training law enforcement officers. Many TCUs currently have law enforcement training programs and the Interior Department is willing to fund the continuation of those programs. Many American Indians are trained in law enforcement with Federal funds and then go to work elsewhere, such as in casinos. Funding is available through the Economic Stimulus package to support law enforcement training at TCUs, so those institutions that are

³ Note: The AIHEC testimony regarding S. 633 was ultimately presented by Linda Taylor, Dean of Nursing at College of Menominee Nation.

interested in setting up a training program should contact the AIHEC Central Office. AIHEC has an MOU with the Department of Interior and BIE on law enforcement training programs at TCUs to strengthen efforts in that area.

Paid Memberships on other National Organizations: AIHEC pays dues on behalf of its members to the following national organizations: American Council on Education (ACE), National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC)⁴, and the Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA). TCU presidents were encouraged to visit the ACE and NASULGC websites to learn about the opportunities and services offered by these organizations.

AIHEC AIMS Data Collection: AIHEC will hold an AIHEC-AIMS Data Strategies Workshop at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, KS on September 16-18, 2009. Reminder: Submission of each institution's AIHEC AIMS 2008 data report is due December 11, 2009.

IX. REPORTS OF THE AIHEC INTERNAL COMMITTEES.

MEMBERSHIP AND ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE.

President Parish provided the Membership and Accreditation Committee report on behalf of President Vermillion, Committee Chair. There were no motions, but the Committee had the following announcements and directives for the AIHEC staff:

- (1) **Accreditation Reports:** One of the functions of the Membership and Accreditation Committee is to monitor the accreditation status of existing member institutions. Such monitoring is useful because it provides opportunities to identify areas requiring technical assistance, and it provides AIHEC member institutions with information on developing TCUs that may need assistance or resources in various areas. For these reasons, the Committee directed AIHEC Central Office staff to annually request "Letters of Accreditation" issued by regional (or other) accrediting bodies from each AIHEC Member institution, for review by the Committee.
- (2) **New and Anticipated Federal Reporting Requirements:** The Higher Education Opportunities Act, which was signed into law last fall, includes more than 100 new reporting requirements. The reporting requirements could be particularly difficult for small and underfunded TCUs. For this reason, it was requested that AIHEC staff:
 - a. continue to work with the Washington higher education community and Congressional and relevant agency staff to streamline and/or eliminate many of these burdensome reporting requirements;
 - b. organize and host a workshop to provide technical assistance to TCUs on the new Federal reporting requirements; and
 - c. invite a representative from the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) to speak with TCU presidents on the relationship between Department of Education regulations and policies and reporting requirements of regional accrediting bodies.

⁴ On March 30, 2009, NASULGC officially changed its name to: Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (A-P-L-U)

- (3) **Reports from FDLTCC and Associate Member Institutions:** The Committee received oral reports from four institutions, FDLTCC and three of the four Associate Members. Mr. Parish summarized the reports as follows:
- **Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College:** A 5-year plan is being developed to separate Fond du Lac Tribal College from Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College.
 - **College of the Muscogee Nation (CTMN):** Impressive enrollment growth was reported (671 duplicated headcount for current academic year), and the College has a plan for constructing a new facility. The CTMN representative urged AIHEC staff to begin efforts to engage Oklahoma elected officials and educators, including the Oklahoma Board of Regents, in support of TCUs. Some Committee members expressed apprehension regarding the impact on funding for TCUs funded under the Tribal College Act, should a number of Oklahoma institutions become eligible for funding under the Act.
 - **Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College (KBOCC):** An accreditation site visit is scheduled for April 6-8, 2009; KBOCC has been invited to give a presentation on its Preliminary Information Form (PIF) at the next Higher Learning Commission (HLC) workshop.
 - **Wind River Tribal College:** The College's PIF must be submitted in May 2009 to meet its goal date for achieving accreditation, which is October 2010.
- (4) **Recommendations on New Categories of AIHEC membership:** The Committee urged AIHEC staff to identify graduate students who could research prior AIHEC discussions on new membership categories and the types of membership categories established by other higher education organizations and institutions.
- (5) **TCU Paper:** The Committee accepted an offer by President Crazy Bull to prepare a paper discussing the historical and current understandings/interpretations for what are "Tribal Colleges and Universities". The underlying question is: "What do TCU presidents think it takes to be a TCU?"

STEM COMMITTEE.

In the absence of President Davis, President Guy chaired the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Committee. The STEM Committee members heard presentations from representatives of the Department of Homeland Security and Montana State University. President Guy reported that the STEM Committee recommended the following motions for Board consideration and approval:

AIHEC NSF-TCUP Technical Assistance Proposal:

MOTION: President Guy moved [seconded by President McDonald] that the AIHEC Board of Directors supports the AIHEC proposal to the National Science Foundation Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (NSF-TCUP) to provide technical assistance to TCUs for the preparation and implementation of NSF-TCUP grant projects.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

President Shortbull expressed concern that NSF is funding proposals from mainstream institutions to support TCUs, without the mainstream applicants obtaining a letter(s) of support from the TCUs included in the submitted proposal(s).

MOTION: President Shortbull moved [seconded by President Lindquist Mala] that AIHEC contact Federal agencies to request that they not fund mainstream institutions' proposals to assist TCUs without a letter of support from the TCUs they seek to serve.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Billy commented that AIHEC worked with the WHITCU office in the past to accomplish this, and yet it continues to happen. President Shortbull suggested sending letters to higher-level personnel within the various Federal agencies. He also suggested that AIHEC and a TCU president meet with the top leadership at NSF to discuss this issue.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Rural Broadband Proposal Planning and Preparation:

MOTION: President Guy moved [seconded by President Martin] that the AIHEC staff is directed to organize a planning effort for TCU technology staff to develop rural broadband technology proposals that are responsive to the Stimulus Package Notices of Funds Availability (NOFA) from the USDA and the Department of Commerce to fund rural broadband systems.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

AIHEC – Department of Energy Meeting:

MOTION: President Guy moved [seconded by President Salois] that AIHEC staff is directed to organize a meeting between TCU representatives, AIHEC staff, and the Department of Energy to establish a working relationship with the Department for the purpose of pursuing research, education, and other opportunities that address renewable energy priorities of the Department and the TCUs.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

TRIBAL COLLEGE JOURNAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Ms. Rachael Marchbanks, publisher of the Tribal College Journal (TCJ), reported on TCJ activities. The TCJ staff is examining the current changes in media, such as print versions of magazines versus digital editions. The TCJ staff is considering starting a digital edition of the magazine as an additional service that would not replace the printed magazine. Providing a digital magazine could affect how TCJ sells subscriptions. Plans are underway to update the TCJ website. It was noted that the on-line job ads have increased, with this now accounting for 13 percent of the magazine's revenue. The Tribal College Journal will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2009 and will publish an anniversary edition of the magazine.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE.

President Martin, Chair of the Student Activities Committee, presented the Committee report and subsequent motions.

Internal motion to give full voting rights and privileges to Student Activities Committee members:

The Committee adopted an internal rule providing all members of the Committee full voting rights and privileges, including the Student Congress Advisor, Athletic Commission Representative, and AIHEC Associate Members. A committee must, in the absence of its own established rules, function under the corporation's bylaws. Because of the unique membership of the Student Activities Committee and the issues it addresses, Committee members determined that the Committee needed to establish its own rules to allow for full participation by its membership.

Increase the voluntary contribution of Member institutions to support the AIHEC Student Congress:

President Martin stated that the AIHEC Student Congress budget is dependent on interest income from its \$255,000 endowment and voluntary contributions from TCUs. However, because of the current economic situation, interest income for FY2009 is projected to drop from \$8,000-\$10,000 to about \$2,000, resulting in the decision to move the funds from a non-interest bearing sweep account to a one-year CD offering a 2.2 percent interest yield. Further, only 21 of the 36 member institutions have made voluntary contributions for FY2009. These two factors led the Committee to conclude that contributions should be increased and all members should be encouraged to make a contribution this year to show support for the AIHEC Student Congress.

MOTION: President Martin moved [seconded by President Falcon-Chandler] that beginning in Fiscal Year 2010, the voluntary contribution requested of Member institutions for support of the AIHEC Student Congress shall be \$300 per fiscal year. Further, that with respect to Member institutions that have not made a \$250 voluntary contribution to the Student Congress for fiscal year 2009, the AIHEC Board of Directors encourages such institutions to make the payment; and further, that the AIHEC Central Office staff are directed to contact and follow-up with Member institutions that have not yet made a contribution to the Student Congress.

DISCUSSION: President Shortbull questioned the voluntary increase in the Student Congress contribution since AIHEC is receiving so little investment interest on the endowment. Ms. Billy stated that the bank suggested that AIHEC move the funds out of the endowment and put it in another investment, such as a CD. AIHEC has placed the funds in a one-year CD, until a decision can be made regarding investing the funds. President Shanley said that due to the current economic conditions, a CD was the safest investment since the funds could be completely lost if the wrong investment instrument was selected. President Crazy Bull inquired if AIHEC had an investment policy, and if not, then perhaps investment decisions could be handled within the Finance and Audit Committee.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Establishment of an Investment Policy for AIHEC:

MOTION: President Crazy Bull moved [seconded by President Shortbull] that the Finance and Audit Committee is directed to establish an Investment Policy for AIHEC, including the AIHEC Student Congress Endowment and any

other AIHEC investments, and further that the policy be presented to the Board of Directors for final approval.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Changing the fiscal year of the Student Congress: President Martin stated that the Committee suggested changing the fiscal year structure of the Student Congress to be consistent with that used by AIHEC to simplify administration of the AIHEC Student Congress account.

MOTION: President Martin moved [seconded by President Parish] that the fiscal year for the AIHEC Student Congress, which is currently April 1- March 31, shall be changed so that it is consistent with that of the AIHEC Central Office (October 1-September 30).

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Appreciation of Service for Karl Duncan, President of AIHEC Student Congress: President Martin stated that during the Committee meeting, President Clark asked that the Board recognizes Karl Duncan for his service as President of the AIHEC Student Congress.

MOTION: President Martin moved [seconded by President Guy] that the Board of Directors commends Karl Duncan for his exemplary leadership during his tenure as Student Congress President.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE.

President Lindquist Mala, Chair of the Research Committee, presented the Committee report. Member institutions were reminded to submit their AIHEC AIMS report data by the December 11, 2009 deadline. The Committee discussed the AIHEC Institutional Review Board (IRB) policy, to be modeled after the Northwest Indian College IRB, and that AIHEC place the IRB on its website. A Learning Communities working group is being formed, with AIHEC staff consulting with policy experts to assist in this process. The Committee discussed the monograph series to be published by AIHEC, and Committee members were asked to forward any comments about the series to the AIHEC staff by April 15, 2009. The Committee briefly discussed how TCUs can become more involved in social science research. President Lindquist Mala presented the motions referred by the Research Committee to the Board of Directors for consideration.

AIHEC's Submission of a Native American Research Centers of Health Proposal:

The Native American Research Centers of Health program (NARCH) is a competitive program funded by the Indian Health Service and the National Institutes of Health. AIHEC plans to submit a NARCH grant proposal in 2009, to establish a TCU behavioral health research initiative intended to build the capacity of TCUs and the communities they serve to identify and address substance abuse issues, including etiology, prevention, and effective interventions. The project will have the following components: (1) Career Pipeline in Behavioral Health; (2) Behavioral Health Research; and (3) Capacity Building for Academic and Intervention Services.

MOTION: President Lindquist Mala moved [seconded by President Crazy Bull] that the AIHEC Board of Directors supports the submission by AIHEC of a "Native American Research Centers of Health" (NARCH) grant proposal in the 2009 NARCH competition. The goal of said grant proposal would be to establish a TCU Behavioral Health Research Initiative.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Topic of Monograph Series Published by AIHEC: The Committee discussed the monograph series that is being produced by AIHEC. The issue of the "value added" of TCUs is particularly timely as a new Congress begins its work and a new Administration takes office. This publication will focus on the unique aspects of TCUs – what tribally controlled higher education, by Indians for Indians, provides students, families, communities, and Nations that no other institutions of higher education can provide.

MOTION: President Lindquist Mala moved [seconded by President Salois] that the topic of the next monograph to be published by AIHEC shall be "The Value Added of Tribal Colleges and Universities."

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

X. REPORTS FROM AIHEC AFFILIATED BOARDS AND COMMITTEES.

2009 STUDENT CONFERENCE REPORT AND MONTANA TCUS.

President McDonald introduced Lola Wippert of Blackfeet Community College and Carmen Taylor of Salish Kootenai College, this year's Student Conference coordinators. Ms. Wippert and Ms. Taylor provided an update on the 2009 Student Conference activities scheduled for March 29 – April 1, 2009. There are 826 participants and 50 vendors registered for this year's event being held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Missoula, MT. President Falcon-Chandler thanked Ms. Wippert and Ms. Taylor for their excellent work in coordinating this event.

President McDonald introduced René Dubay, Director of Partnerships for Access, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, and former Director of the TRIO Training Institute at Salish Kootenai College and thanked her for providing an AIHEC TRIO (SSS) Grant Writing Workshop and training session on March 27-28, 2009 in Missoula, MT.

President McDonald introduced Dr. Bill MacGregor of the University of Montana. Dr. MacGregor stated that the 2007 Montana University System (MUS) Transferability Initiative was funded by the MT Legislature to make the process of transferring courses from one postsecondary institution in Montana to another within the state more predictable for students, faculty, and advisors. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has been created between the Montana University System and the Montana TCUs. A workshop will be held during the AIHEC Student Conference on Monday, March 31, 2009 to discuss the process and interested TCUs are invited to participate in the workshop.

STUDENT CONGRESS REPORT.

Ms. Jessie McDonald, Student Congress Vice President, Salish Kootenai College, provided the AIHEC Student Congress (ASC) report on behalf of Karl Duncan. The ASC has met throughout the 2008-2009 academic school year preparing for the 2009 Spring Student Conference. ASC

is very pleased with the direction and support it has received from the AIHEC staff and Board. ASC is developing a "go green" campaign to encourage TCU campuses to recycle and, as part of this campaign, biodegradable water bottles will be given to students attending this year's Student Conference. ASC is working with the American Indian College Fund to secure funding for the Summer Leadership Student Training Conference. ASC will create a Facebook page to inform users about the ASC activities instead of using the ASC website for updates and information.

Recognition of service of AIHEC Student Congress officers:

MOTION: President Crazy Bull moved [seconded by President Martin] that the Board of Directors recognizes Jessie McDonald and all of the AIHEC Student Congress officers for stepping up to move the ASC forward in the absence of the chair and for their excellent work overall.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND.

Mr. Richard Williams, President and CEO of the American Indian College Fund (A*CF), provided an update on the Fund's activities. The College Fund is launching a "Think Indian" campaign, including a 60-second commercial that will begin airing on television stations in the next few weeks. Funds are available under the A*CF– Mellon Faculty Fellowship Program for TCU faculty and staff in the final stages of a terminal degree program and recognized as "All But Dissertation" (ABD). Those with ABD status were encouraged to submit an application to A*CF. TCU presidents were invited to attend the A*CF / Coca Cola, Inc. banquet on March 29, held in Missoula, MT during the Student Conference, to honor A*CF scholarship recipients.

A*CF is \$2 - \$3 million below its targeted goal. Due to the current economy, the endowment is at \$19 million as compared to \$31 million for 2008. This will likely be the scenario until there is a change in the economic climate. The 2009 fall scholarship disbursements will be made to the TCUs but the 2010 spring disbursement may be a challenge.

A*CF recently received an anonymous gift of \$7 million and at the recommendation of AIHEC, Mr. Williams is seeking direction from the TCU presidents on the manner of distributing the gift to TCUs. The gift is restricted to providing financial assistance, such as scholarships and financial aid to college and graduate students and financial support for the TCUs; and it cannot be used for an endowment by A*CF.

Mr. Williams consulted with the AIHEC Executive Committee who suggested that the Board of Directors have an opportunity to make recommendations on how the money should be distributed to the TCUs. The A*CF Board of Trustees will make the final determination on the allocation of funds during its spring board meeting in April 2009. A document was circulated among the AIHEC Board members outlining recommended disbursement options for the \$7 million gift. Each Board Member was asked to rank his or her preferred options and to return the form to Mr. Williams prior to the A*CF Board meeting.

The AIHEC Board members discussed the options presented and offered other suggestions, including using all of the funds for scholarships and postponing the disbursement decision to see where the economy is headed. Chair Yarlott stated that the decision will be made by the

A*CF Board of Trustees and Mr. Williams is simply looking for input/recommendations to help A*CF make an informed decision.

The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University will conduct training on the "Fundamentals of Fundraising at Tribal College and Universities" on May 11-15, 2009.

The A*CF 20th Anniversary Gala is scheduled for October 28, 2009 in Denver, Colorado. TCU presidents were encouraged to attend and to wear traditional regalia.

FALCON UPDATE.

Mr. Terry Tatsey, USDA/Vocational Education Director at Blackfeet Community College, provided an overview of the First Americans Land-grant College Organization & Network (FALCON) program. The mission of FALCON is to provide technical assistance and to facilitate networking of the 1994 Land Grant program directors and faculty. FALCON maintains communication through an email distribution list, the AIHEC SharePoint Web portal and a public directory of 1994 land grant institution contacts. FALCON also provides policy and program input, when requested, to AIHEC, the USDA/AIHEC Leadership Group, and other TCU leadership. In October 2009, pursuant to Public Law 110-234, CSREES, the USDA agency that administers all of the 1994 Land Grant programs, save for the community facilities construction program, will be restructured into the new National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA). FALCON will continue to work with AIHEC to ensure that support for the 1994 programs within USDA is strengthened as a result of the reorganization. FALCON is working with the National Congress of American Indians Policy Research Center on developing a curriculum for tribal leaders that helps them understand how to regulate research in their communities. Lastly, FALCON will be holding its annual meeting on October 17-20, 2009, in Washington DC.

XI. NEW BUSINESS.

Chair Yarlott introduced Karl Duncan, Student Congress President, who thanked the AIHEC Board for their past support and encouraged them to continue to support ASC.

Vacancies on American Indian College Fund Board of Trustees:

The A*CF Board of Trustees needs to elect two new trustees and confirm the re-appointment of Cynthia Lindquist Mala and James Shanley who have agreed to continue serving as trustees.

MOTION: President McDonald moved [seconded by President Parish] that Cynthia Lindquist Mala and James Shanley be reelected to serve an additional term on the American Indian College Fund Board.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Mr. Williams asked for nominations to fill the remaining two vacancies on the A*CF Board.

MOTION: President Shanley moved [seconded by President Falcon-Chandler] that Thomas Shortbull be nominated to serve as a trustee of the American Indian College Fund Board.

OUTCOME: All opposed the nomination. The motion did not pass.

The following individuals were nominated from the floor and were subsequently elected, by acclimation, to serve as trustees of the American Indian College Fund Board: Cheryl Crazy Bull and Elmer Guy.

XII. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION: President Clark moved [seconded by President Crazy Bull] that the 2009 Spring Board of Directors meeting be adjourned.

OUTCOME: The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Accordingly, Chair Yarlott adjourned the 2009 Spring Board of Directors meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Mary Presswood, AIHEC executive assistant.

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

Ferlin Clark, Secretary
American Indian Higher Education Consortium

Date