

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AIHEC FALL 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MILLENNIUM MINNEAPOLIS HOTEL, MINNEAPOLIS, MN
OCTOBER 9, 2019

- I. **CALL TO ORDER & OPENING PRAYER:** AIHEC Board Chair, David E. Yarlott, Jr., called the 2019 AIHEC Fall Board of Directors meeting to order at 8:29 a.m. CDT. President Elmer Guy offered an opening prayer.

ROLL CALL: Carrie Billy, AIHEC President & CEO, called the roll with the following results.

Regular Members Present

Aaniiih Nakoda College
Bay Mills Community College
Blackfeet Community College
Cankdeska Cikana Community College
Chief Dull Knife College
College of Menominee Nation
College of the Muscogee Nation
Diné College
Fort Peck Community College
Iḷisaḡvik College
Institute of American Indian Arts
Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College
Lac Courte Oreilles Community College
Leech Lake Tribal College
Little Big Horn College
Little Priest Tribal College
Navajo Technical University
Northwest Indian College
Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College
Oglala Lakota College
Red Lake Nation College
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
Salish Kootenai College
Sinte Gleska University
Sitting Bull College
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute
Stone Child College
United Tribes Technical College
White Earth Tribal and Community College

Regular Member Represented

Haskell Indian Nations University

President (Voting) or Representative

Carole Falcon-Chandler
Michael Parish
Karla Bird
Cynthia Lindquist
Richard Littlebear
Paul Trebian
Robert Bible
Charles M. Roessel
Haven Gourneau
Pearl Brower
Robert Martin
Lori Ann Sherman
Russell Swagger
Raymond Burns
David Yarlott
Maunka Morgan
Elmer Guy
Justin Guillory
Twyla Baker
Thomas Shortbull
Dan King
Carla Sineway
Sandra Boham
Lionel Bordeaux
Laurel Vermillion
Sherry Allison
Cory Sangrey-Billy
Leander R. McDonald
Lorna LaGue

Stephen Prue

Regular Members Absent

Fond du Lac Tribal & Community College
Nebraska Indian Community College
Sisseton Wahpeton College
Tohono O'odham Community College
Turtle Mountain Community College

29 Regular Members being present, a quorum was established.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVE OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Chair Yarlott reviewed the proposed agenda for the meeting.

MOTION:

President Martin moved [seconded by President Roessel] to approve the meeting agenda.

OUTCOME:

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

III. SECRETARY'S REPORT

President McDonald briefly reviewed the 2019 Spring and Summer Board of Directors meeting minutes, noting one change, as well as the final 2019 July and September Executive Committee meeting minutes.

MOTION:

President McDonald moved [seconded by President Parish] to approve the 2019 Spring and Summer Board of Directors meeting minutes.

OUTCOME:

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

MOTION:

President McDonald moved [seconded by President Guy] to accept the 2019 July and September Executive Committee meeting minutes.

OUTCOME:

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

IV. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE AIHEC CODE OF CONDUCT

Pursuant to Board motion, all Members and staff are required to review and sign the AIHEC Code of Conduct annually. Ms. Billy provided an overview of the AIHEC Code of Conduct.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

Todd Early, AIHEC Investment Advisor with Sovereign Finance, LLC, provided an overview of AIHEC's financial investments. Sovereign manages three portfolios for AIHEC: AIHEC Student Congress (ASC) endowment, AIHEC board directed fund, and AIHEC operating reserve fund. Mr. Early reported a return of 10.25 percent on the ASC endowment fund and a return of more than 7 percent on both the board directed and operating reserve funds. AIHEC's original investment was \$1,174,000. The current value of AIHEC's three funds is \$1,224,755, an increase of \$50,755. The three funds outperformed the

expectations set forth under AIHEC's Investment Policy, which anticipates a conservative return of approximately 5 percent. Despite the strong growth of AIHEC's investments this year, Mr. Early said there is a greater than 50 percent probability of a recession within the next 12 months, due in part to the 2020 presidential election.

President Guillory provided a brief overview of the Finance Committee's meeting, which occurred on the preceding day. He noted that due to a small amount of interest earned, funding for AIHEC's accreditation effort now totals \$49,337. The Committee recommends that this funding be tracked separately and that any interest earned should be redeposited and used to grow the accreditation initiative fund.

MOTION:

President Guillory moved [seconded by President Bible] that the Board approves the establishment of an AIHEC Accreditation Initiative Fund, which will include the reinvestment of any interest earned on the fund.

OUTCOME:

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

VI. PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD

Luis Cubano, National Institute of General Medicinal Sciences (NIGMS)

Dr. Luis Cubano, Program Director in NIGMS-Division of Genomic Medicine provided an informative presentation on funding opportunities available at the National Institutes of Health, including NIGMS, which may be of benefit to TCUs and their students. For example, several programs provide assistance to improve transition rates (pathways) at key postsecondary points, including the transition from 2-year colleges and programs to 4-year programs and from master's degree programs to doctorate programs, such as:

- Bridges to Baccalaureate (B2B) (B5)
- Research-Training Initiative for Student Enhancement (RISE)
- Bridges to the Doctorate Program (R25)
- Research Supplements to Promote Diversity/Reentry (Admin Supplements)
- Innovative Programs to Enhance Research Training (IPERT) (R25).

In addition, NIH grantees may apply for funding to develop or strengthen sponsored programs offices, under the Sponsored Programs Administration Development (SPAD) program.

VII. AIHEC AFFILIATE REPORTS

A. AIHEC Student Congress (ASC)

TaNeel Filestone, ASC President, discussed some of the organization's initiatives:

- Communication: The ASC plans to establish a communication network with all TCUs, starting with the designation of one "permanent" (non-student) point of contact from each TCU. The ASC developed a draft agreement, which has been distributed to each Member present. The forms, which include the contact information for one point of contact, should be completed and returned as soon as possible. The point of contact should be a TCU employee or staff member. Forms

completed after the board meeting may be sent via email to Stacia Prue, ASC Co-Advisor, at sprue@aihec.org. In addition to developing an email exchange, the ASC plans to increase ~~theirs~~ use of social media, including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

- Sustainability: To promote an environmental-friendly lifestyle, the ASC would like to launch initiatives such as the banning of Styrofoam at TCUs. There will be more discussion of this issue among ASC members, with the goal of bringing a consensus statement and plan to the Board.
- Get Out the Vote Initiative: As the 2020 presidential election approaches, the ASC is working on a “get out the vote” initiative. The effort will remain non-partisan and solely focus on spreading the word about the importance of voting and encouraging people to register to vote.

The ASC is continuing to plan upcoming conferences, including the AIHEC 2020 Student Conference and the summer 2020 ASC Student L.I.F.E. Conference. For the latter conference, the ASC is considering two locations, Salish Kootenai College (Pablo, MT) and College of Menominee Nation (Keshena, WI).

Ms. Billy suggested the annual AIHEC AIMS data form be amended to include a request for the name and contact information of an ASC Point of Contact. When this information is compiled annually, Mrs. Katherine Cardell, AIHEC Research & Data Associate, could share the list with the ASC president and co-advisors.

B. American Indian College Fund (AICF)

AICF President Cheryl Crazy Bull discussed the organization’s activities and stressed the need for TCU presidents to spread awareness about AICF’s faculty development scholarship/fellowship programs. The master’s degree scholarship program, including support for faculty needing to meet the Higher Learning Commission’s 18-credit hour qualifications, needs the most help. The Master’s program has been successful in the past, but the funder will not support continuing the effort if TCU faculty do not apply for the funding.

AICF sent thousands of Native Pathways guidebooks to high school students. AICF is working directly with high schools and colleges and universities to provide small place-based grants that can serve as a pathway incentive. Student Services staff at each TCU should have more information on this effort.

C. White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaskan Native Educations (WHIAIANE)

Executive Director Ron Lessard provided an update on WHIAIANE and U.S. Department of Education initiatives. He discussed the just completed 2019 Native American Language Summit, which is a partnership between the U.S. Departments of the Interior and Education and the Administration on Native Americans. He encouraged TCU presidents to attend the 2020 Native American Language Summit, which is scheduled for Albuquerque, NM following the NIEA annual conference in October. Information will be sent to Ms. Billy. Also, Mr. Lessard will send a draft letter to Ms. Billy regarding a request to federal agencies to provide certain information, including grant funding, on their work with TCUs (“data call”).

WHIAIANE is hoping to begin the process of developing a federal agency webinar series for TCUs soon. Several agencies have indicated interest in participating.

D. Bureau of Indian Education

Ms. Katherine Campbell, Postsecondary Program Analyst at the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE), provided an update on various opportunities available for TCUs in the upcoming year. Over the summer, Ms. Campbell facilitated K-12 professional development training workshops at Haskell Indian Nations University, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, College of Menominee Nation, and United Tribe Technical College. She thanked the TCU presidents for working with her to give BIE teachers and staff the opportunity to visit the various TCUs for their training and see the great things that TCUs have to offer.

Michelle Obama's Reach Higher Foundation requested Ms. Campbell's help in identifying a volunteer TCU student to work with staff at the foundation, and Sitting Bull College responded with several students. The Foundation selected one student to participate.

Presidents Sherry Allison (SIPI), Monte Monteith & Dan Wildcat (HINU) along with Ms. Campbell, are working on the Goal 4 of the BIE strategic plan, which focuses on college and career readiness. She is hoping to secure grant and scholarship funding, which the BIE would offer to TCUs as small grants to cover recruitment, training, and college bound activities for BIE students beginning with sixth grade.

This year, [BIE STEM scholarship funding](#) administered by the American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC) totaled \$2.4 million. This funding is available to American Indian/Alaska Native students enrolled in any STEM degree program, including associate degrees through Ph.D. programs. However, only three TCU students applied for scholarships. Ms. Campbell implored TCU presidents to ensure that their financial aid staff, STEM faculty, and students know this scholarship funding is available. She said that she would speak with AIGC staff to ensure that they are sharing information on the program with the TCUs.

The BIE has one more year of the special STEM funding administered by AIGC. BIE Director Tony Dearman has designated teacher and faculty professional development as priorities for this funding. Currently, the BIE needs STEM teachers and computer/IT professionals, particularly for junior high and high schools. TCUs can benefit from this funding in two ways: (a) American Indian/Alaska Native TCU STEM faculty (along with BIE STEM teachers) can apply to directly AIGC for fellowship funding to pursue advanced degrees or professional development in STEM. TCU faculty and BIE teachers have priority in scholarship distribution. (b) TCUs are encouraged to develop professional development training workshops and institutes for BIE (and other) K-12 STEM teachers. For example, a TCU might want to develop a 1-week Math Institute for BIE K-6 teachers. The TCU would set the registration for this training at a level to fully recoup the costs of operating the Institute, including development, administration, and actual seat time and instruction. The TCU would advertise the training to the BIE and its schools. BIE teachers would apply to AIGC for scholarship funding to attend the Institute. TCUs have priority in terms of BIE professional development, as the BIE views TCUs as a lower cost, local/regional provider of high quality professional development for teachers of American Indian

students. Ms. Campbell requested that TCU presidents make their faculty and staff aware of this opportunity so that they can begin designing training programs. These activities should be developed (for offering in the summer) by February 2020.

As part of AIGC's contract with BIE, TCU and other American Indian/Alaska Native students may also apply for funding to do internships at agencies within the U.S. Department of the Interior and at certain tribal governmental sites. Once an internship is secured, AIGC will pay the students. Contact AIGC or Ms. Campbell for more information on this.

Finally, Ms. Campbell noted that she has distributed BIE endowment funding applications to all TCUs.

E. FALCON-Land Grant

A written report is included in the board book.

F. AIHEC Tribal College and Universities Librarian Association

A written report is included in the board book.

VIII. AIHEC REPORT

A. Legislative and Executive Branch Update

Ms. Billy and Ms. Atine presented the legislative and executive branch updates on Friday. To briefly recap, Ms. Billy noted that the priority is saving the Higher Education Act's (HEA) Title III-Part F (mandatory) program. Ms. Billy advocates for permanent funding, while Ms. Atine supports funding for two years and pursuing permanent funding as part of comprehensive HEA reauthorization.

B. AIHEC Initiatives

An update of selected AIHEC initiatives is included in the AIHEC Quarterly Report in the board book. AIHEC's six-year NARCH has been successfully completed. AIHEC received a new grant from NIH to continue the Aseto'ne Network for an additional four years. Ms. Reno Charette is now leading that initiative. AIHEC has received new grants to continue the National Native Health Research Training Initiative in conjunction with the Indian Health Service and the Native Research Network, a grant focused on Advanced Manufacturing through the U.S. Department of Energy (AIHEC's goal is to expand the program beyond the five existing TCUs), and a new 3-year grant with the USDA to work with disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, which will strengthen TCU extension activities.

Ms. Billy thanked the 23 TCUs that signed the community letter on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) issue. The letter is an important display of support for sister institutions of higher education. The final letter and letters on the Title III- Part F initiative are included in the board book. Ms. Billy closed with an overview of upcoming AIHEC meetings and events.

C. AIHEC STEM Programs Presentation: AIHEC Staff

AIHEC staff members Grace Mukupa, Al Kuslikis, and Alex Grandon gave a presentation on two of AIHEC's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) initiatives, highlighting AIHEC's recent Indigenous STEM Pedagogy Institute, convened in late August in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for TCU

STEM faculty. The Institute included an overview of AIHEC's innovative Indigenous Problem-based Learning (PBL) project, which includes the goal of building and scale a TCU community of practice around Indigenous PBL.

IX. LUNCH (Recess)

President Yarlott declared the meeting in recess at 12:33 pm. The meeting resumed at 1:00 p.m.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS & MOTIONS

A. Research Committee: Leander McDonald, Chair

The Research Committee presented no motions.

B. Membership & Accreditation Committee: Robert Bible, Chair

The Membership & Accreditation Committee presented no motions. President Bible discussed the Bacone College application to be a regular member, which the committee received yesterday, noting that the college has solicited five tribes in Oklahoma to provide charters. However, the charters, which were not included in the application packet, do not appear to be charters of ownership and control. Ms. Billy will solicit two TCU presidents to join AIHEC staff for the required site visit in December 2019.

The Membership & Accreditation Committee determined that the San Bernardino Community College District does not meet the requirements of being a regular member of AIHEC, therefore, the District's application will not advance to the full board.

The Committee will establish a working group on AIHEC Memberships Categories. The group will review and propose recommendations regarding membership categories and affiliations, including an analysis of both threats and opportunities of establishing new institutional membership categories and service/business affiliations.

President Crazy Bull asked that the American Indian College Fund be kept informed and involved as the Bacone application process moves forward.

C. Student Activities Committee: Robert Martin, Chair

The Student Activities Committee presented several motions for consideration.

MOTION: *Critical Inquiry Competition: Addition of Rules and Guidelines*

President Martin moved [seconded by President Roessel] that the AIHEC Board of Directors approves the following changes to the AIHEC Student Conference Critical Inquiry Competition Rules & Regulations:

1. Rule #8 is amended to state: "Team members and spectators shall conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. Spectators are not allowed to communicate in any way with the teams once a match begins. Any intentional or unintentional communication with or by a team will result in the disqualification of the entire team from the tournament. A team is disqualified if the team's coach signals to his or her team(s) during the competition,"

2. Rule #17 is amended as follows: "Handouts are required for each team that competes. Handouts produced must be professional, typed, clean, and with works cited in APA format". In addition, the coordinator of the critical inquiry competition will be required to obtain and display a countdown clock to assist the teams manage the timing of their presentation.

OUTCOME:

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

MOTION: *Poetry Slam at the AIHEC Student Conference*

President Martin moved [seconded by President Sangrey-Billy] that the AIHEC Board of Directors approves the following changes to the AIHEC Student Conference Poetry Slam Rules & Regulations:

"The number of students participating in the Poetry Slam should be limited to 37 (equivalent to the number of TCUs). If eight or more TCUs do not enter a participant into the competition, the ASC may fill any vacancies, to a total of 30 participants."

OUTCOME:

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

MOTION: *AIHEC Athletic Commission Vacancies*

President Martin moved [seconded by President Parish] that the AIHEC Board of Directors confirms Twyla Baker, President of Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College, and Pete Conway, Men's Head Coach at United Tribes Technical College, to serve as Commissioners on the AIHEC Athletic Commission; and further, that the Board encourages all TCUs with women's athletic teams to nominate the head coach of their women's team(s) to serve on the Commission.

OUTCOME:

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

MOTION: *AIHEC Student Congress Advisor*

President Martin moved [seconded by President Roessel] that the AIHEC Board of Directors confirms Noelani Bumatay-Jefferson, Student Activities/Indigenous Service Learning Coordinator at Northwest Indian College, to serve as Lead Advisor to the AIHEC Student Congress.

OUTCOME:

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

President Martin requested that President Allison, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, provide an update on the 2020 AIHEC Student Conference. President Allison stated that the conference, scheduled for March 21-24, 2020, will be held at the Albuquerque Convention Center in Albuquerque, NM. The entire facility will be reserved for the conference. The DoubleTree Hotel is the host hotel. Embassy Suites, Crowne Plaza and the Fairfield Inn also are contracted for rooms for the conference. The theme of the conference is '*Living Our Ancestors Prayers*'.

The conference will feature competitions in 17 academic areas and four non-academic areas, including two new academic competitions: Culinary Arts Bowl and the Math Bowl. The book lists for the Knowledge Bowl were confirmed last week and notifications will be sent out soon. The Mr. and Ms. AIHEC competition has moved to the academic competitions and will include public speaking and interview skills. Other conference activities include the annual Poetry Slam, a Fashion Show (new this year), the annual pow wow and a 5K Run.

In closing, President Allison noted that the AIHEC National Basketball Tournament will be held March 25-28, 2020 in Santa Fe, NM and will be hosted by IAIA.

D. Tribal College Journal Advisory Board: Pearl Brower, Chair

The Tribal College Journal Advisory Board had no motions to present. President Brower provided a brief update. The TCJ continues to expand its online content, including web exclusive articles, columns, blogs, TCU news, additional media reviews, and the TCJ student webzine, which includes TCU art and film. There are regular podcast posts and videos online as well.

TCJ created a downloadable guide of all TCU academic degree programs, which is free all who subscribe to the TCJ e-newsletter, as well as a comprehensive guide with all academic programs and degree. The guide also includes enrollment, housing, campus locations, and tuition costs, among other pertinent information for students considering enrolling at a TCU or transferring to continue their education at another TCU.

TCJ has published a printed version of its book *Language of Revitalization at Tribal Colleges and Universities: Overviews, Perspectives, and Profiles*. The book includes essays and articles from numerous TCU leaders and includes a forward written by President Littlebear. For more information, visit www.tribalcollegepress.org. The official publication date is Monday, October 14, 2019 and the book can be purchased on www.amazon.com or www.barnesandnoble.com.

Lastly, the TCJ is hosting an online fundraiser/auction later this fall. All items should be donated by October 15, 2019.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

President Yarlott reminded board members to attend NIEA's opening night at the Minneapolis Convention Center following the board meeting.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

President Boham moved [seconded by President Sangrey-Billy] that the 2019 AIHEC Fall Board of Directors meeting be adjourned.

President Bordeaux offered a closing prayer.

OUTCOME:

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Accordingly, the meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm CDT.

Minutes prepared by AIHEC staff.

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