



Tribal University Advisory Board (TUAB)
November 10, 2020 (1:00-3:00 pm)
Zoom Meeting

Attendance:

- Attendance list with names and roles, including Broncho, Denell (Board), Colter, Chad (Board, Co-Chair), Covington, Shoshawna (Board), Fellows, Sidney (Board), Force, Rex (Board, Co-Chair), Gibson, Stacey (Board), Herkshan, Laticia (Board), James, Jessica, Loley, Lethaniel, Martin, Julia (Board), Murillo, Larry, Liz Kickham (Board), Stone, Sunny (Board), Tuell, Yvette.

Guests: Sarah Godsey

Guest

- Sara Godsey is an associate professor in Geosciences. Her interest is in water quality and intermittent streams. She discussed a new NSF grant that is spread out over eight universities and colleges to study intermittent springs (springs that dry up) and how it affects perennial water streams. Two areas this grant is developing that may be of interest is data science platform training program and opportunities they are developing with the Shoshone Bannock summer youth groups related to environmental studies. They have budgeted support for two Shoshone Bannock youth participants as well as two advisors to accompany students to Haskell Indian Nations University. Rex suggested TUAB Research Subcommittee can work with her. Please contact her if any other interests or questions.

Old Business

- Holds/Student Debt Forgiveness - Rex met with Finance and Business Affairs (F&BA) to discuss registration holds and outstanding student balances. Larry had earlier provided a handout of the outstanding balances for the past 10 years. Rex said holds generally have been in place if the outstanding balance is \$200 or more. Students Affairs is working to increase that amount to \$1,000. For this academic year, if a student was enrolled in the fall semester, they will be allowed to register for the spring with no holds. Students can work with Weston Whitworth/Maria Gonzales to work out financial aid opportunities to cover outstanding balances (financial aid, Pell grants, loans, settlements). Larry said the holds affect Tribal students with debt from three years ago and they do not want to also incur ongoing fees for future enrollment. He said Utah State University has a full debt forgiveness program in place.
Capping Tribal Member Fees - Rex had discussed with F&BA the capping of fees for full-time students at 12 credits. University policy doesn't provide a mechanism to cap fees for those individuals receiving a reduced tuition fee (staff, spouse of staff, seniors, Native American students, etc.). Larry asked Rex to provide a summary of these discussion points so he could share with students to help explain. Yvette would like to explore these options further. She referenced the strategic priorities for the tuition fee model for students as well as the section to creating a mechanism to improve retention and graduation rates for students of the Tribes. The two suggestions proposed (debt forgiveness and capping) would help achieve these priorities. This is not an ask for any other group just for Shoshone-Bannock students. She would like to move this for further discussion with our leadership.
Elder Care Initiative Between ISU/COT and 477 Program +Tribal Program - Larry explained the steps they are taking to create an elder care initiative with the 477 Program along with College of Technology to train CNAs to work with elders in their community. The idea is to reduce costs to elders by providing options to stay home versus staying in a nursing home, improve access to care, educate elders with resources, implement a process to make sure CNAs are doing their jobs, and raise CNA rates with additional training provided by Sister Grieving (ISU) for an ISU certification.
Role of ISU for 477 Summer Youth Program - Larry shared the importance of the program and an increase awareness and impact of STEM-related exposure. This program works with businesses and organizations (i.e. INL, Bonneville Power, state parks, etc.). They have seen an increase in interest since it started 10 years ago. He has been working with various ISU departments/faculty. The Board appreciates him sharing information with this body but no expectation that he cannot continue to do his job. Additional discussion with the group



related to other disciplines students have an interest in (fisheries, robotics, drones, GIS, etc.). Chad encourages training as RNs versus CNAs to prevent additional debt/expenditure of resources if the goal is an RN. Sunny said ISU has a step program CNA, LPN, RN. Reduces time – a full RN program is not needed.

New Business

- **Indigenous Peoples’ Day Recap** – Liz was unavailable to provide a summary. Lethaniel said sessions were well attended. The event was held via zoom. Some behind the scene issues can be addressed next year (marketing, communications). Next year they will start planning in December and enhance the make-up of the committee. Yvette said a pre-registration deadline prevented some individuals from registering. Laticia would like to increase attendance of ISU staff and faculty. It could have been an opportunity for one of our strategic priorities related to training seminars.
- **Research Committee** – the Research Subcommittee met last week to discuss projects and directions for next year. The purpose of the subcommittee is to develop protocols for ISU researchers wanting to work with the Tribes. The Tribal Research Committee has been meeting for several months to develop an appropriate internal tribal process for research proposals regardless of the entity/body. The TUAB Research Subcommittee needs to develop their internal process so the two committees can work together cohesively. The Tribes will prioritize those proposals received from Tribe members first and Tribe staff will identify other proposals for consideration. Additional information will be provided to this group as it develops.
- **Fort Hall Business Council Annual Meeting (FHBC) /November 16** – The Board reviewed the draft presentation. Yvette said there is a pre-briefing meeting with the FHBC on November 13. They will provide them with a copy of the MOU and recap. Some suggestions for the presentation was to include more graphics, pictures, and simplify as bullet points. Provide the FHBC with handouts of the timeline, accomplishments, and plans for next year. Also provide data information about student population (how many applied for reduced fees, how many graduated, undergrad and graduate population/disciplines, etc). Include slide of accomplishments overall (i.e. TERO programs) and verbal reports. Rex and Chad will take turns to moderate the presentation. Need to identify an agenda as well as ISU President and FHBC will review the strategic priorities and evaluate. Include COVID impacts on the MOA and student experience (some do not like the online option). Rex will revise the presentation based on feedback provided and send out to the group.

Other Items

- Follow-up: Question revisited regarding the roles and responsibilities of the students on the Board. Sunny recapped the discussion from the prior meeting and the motion. Sidney still feels there is a disconnect with the students (no changes, no support, etc.). Sidney and Laticia were asked to compile a list of priorities from the student prospective and bring back for discussion.
- Next agenda item: Laticia would like to see a subcommittee developed for student services
- Jessica provided an update from her area. They have up to \$800 available for students for electronic items (laptops, etc.) if they can show they are enrolled, provide their class schedule, and complete the application. The Tribal Youth Program is moving to the William Valley property in Blackfoot. Still in transition of move, includes a STEM room. Will increase future collaborations with ISU/Tribes.

Next Meeting

A Doodle poll will be sent out for the next meeting.

Adjourned 3:15 pm.