



**2009-10 COMMISSION FOR NATIVE AMERICANS (CNA)
RETREAT AGENDA
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2009
11:00-4:30
University Union, Havasupai C**

- I. **Introductions and Welcome – roll call included the following:**
Joe Martin, Gwen Cody, Regina Eddie, Christy Nations, Catherine Talakte, Dean Smith, Shelley Silbert, and Kathleen Frank. Special Guest: Paula Garcia McAllister from the NAU Institutional Review Board
- II. **Review of 2008-09 accomplishments**
- III. **Recent Updates**
 1. **Native American Cultural Center – Shelley Silbert and Catherine Talakte provided an update on the progress of the NACC, informing the committee that the funds for the building have almost been met and that a potential gift from Navajo is on hold pending the outcome of the current situation regarding President Shirley and his Vice-President. The committee was informed that the final building design is going through revision based on an over-budget situation.**
 2. **Special Advisor to the President on American Indian Affairs – Dr. Martin provided an overview of his position and current projects. Meets bi-weekly with the President, attends President’s Board and Budget Council meetings. On November 4th, Laura Huenneke, David Camacho and Joe will meet with the Budget Council to look at Goal 6 to strengthen the language and to look at retention and other concerns. Dr. Martin talked about College of Education enrollment trends and the impact of cuts made to distance learning. 1999/860 enrolled, 2002-03/602 enrolled, 2003-04/483 enrolled, 2004-05/568 enrolled, 2005-06/494 enrolled, 2006-07/480 enrolled, 2007-08/487 enrolled, 2008-09/304 enrolled. The decision making process included using more Part-time faculty (non-tenured) to subsidize reduced faculty load. Jr. faculty are usually cut first and the concern is how to increase them to tenured positions. He’s looking into 2+2 programs with tribal colleges and will meet with the Provost to discuss this more. He also talked about the Native American Consultation Policy and pulling together a committee to continue working on the language of the policy. He mentioned that there will be an upcoming INA Board meeting on November 16. He has met individually with most of the INA Board members to get feedback on the INA Board member responsibilities and what areas they want to focus on. He asked the CNA members present how we can work more collaboratively with the Board. How can we leverage the members experience and expertise? The INA Board will meet on November 16th and it was mentioned that either both or one of the CNA co-chairs give an update to the board. Dr. Smith with follow-up on this. Dr. Martin went on to ask, “where do we go from here after the NACC has been built?” He mentioned an endowed faculty position that could move around in specific target academic areas. He mentioned developing an ITEP clearinghouse for information on renewable energy, sustainability and access to resources. He talked about his desired to advocate for more diversity in the hiring process. He’ll be concentrating some of his efforts on K-12 system, looking at providing data back to the schools on the progress of their graduates, especially in areas of Math, Science, etc. In addition, to reports back to tribal colleges, tribal education departments, and tribal leaders. Lastly, back to Goal #6, he wants to assist the university in defining measures that will help us gage how far we’ve come in meeting the strategic goals and objectives of Goal #6.**

3. Campus departments and colleges

IV. Topics of discussion:

1. Native American mathematics: can we improve the success of our students? How do we accomplish this? A brief overview of the concerns about math across campus and identifying potential strategies to address the issue were discussed. This included a discussion on the systemic issues in the k-12 system, entering student knowledge of resources, developing a “skills for success in Math” course and developing inter-dependent skills to ask for help when needed, and Native American tutors. Dr. Smith will talk with Dr. Martin about the importance of having Native American math tutors, being able to tutor out of the NASS area. A math sub-committee will be formed to look into the matter further.
2. What shall we do with the alumni study from 2008? (We will have to review the findings for the new members.) This will be delayed until the next meeting. A copy of the entire Alumni study will be forwarded to CNA members.
3. CNA rules and Bylaws: we need to design staggered terms. Shelley mentioned that the bylaws did reference “staggered terms” in the language and felt that the present bylaw language did not need to be revamped. Catherine asked members to review the bylaws and give her and Dean any feedback.
4. Native American Cultural Center: how do we accomplish a community acceptance of our goals and vision for this facility? Other segments of NAU? The greater Flagstaff community? The greater NA community? Catherine mentioned that some of this responsibility will fall to the new NACC director to initiate. As to when their hire would occur, it is unknown at this time. Until this occurs it was felt that a sub-committee of CNA members and campus community members could help identify key elements to this question. Dr. Smith indicated that work needed to be done on the upcoming “ground breaking” ceremony scheduled for 2010 and what this might entail. Jolene Manus also mentioned that she had an opportunity to visit the Portland State University’s Center and talk with staff. She indicated that at the time of her visit, it was being used by an off-campus organization. In her visit with staff, it was mentioned that initially the Center was to be used strictly for on-campus groups, students, faculty and staff, but that it has evolved over time and opened up to off-campus usage. She also mentioned the lack of support by administration had made it difficult at one point. Catherine mentioned that the NACC group had through their investigations talked with the Portland State University director and she indicated that she would share the policies that they developed and the importance of having clear guidelines for usage of the building. The following individuals volunteered to start working on this sub-committee: Kathleen Frank, Dr. Smith, Gloria Cody, Jolene Manus, Regina Eddie, and Catherine Talakte.
5. The CNA website: what shall we put on it? How do we manage it? Dr. Smith and Catherine mentioned the website needs to be updated asked about other ideas to enhance the website. Shelley asked if it is possible for the president’s office to provide support for a Webmaster? Dr. Smith will ask Dr. Martin. Shelley mentioned her work on the GREEN NAU website and her interest in work on a sub-committee to further develop the website. Catherine and Kathleen Frank also volunteered for this sub-committee.
6. The tri-university consultation policy; who will work on which sections? This is due in December. Paula Garcia McAllister from the NAU IRB talked about what has occurred to date regarding the policy. She handed out the ABOR guidelines on the Tribal Consultation Policy Development and the status report submitted to ABOR in July of this year. She expressed the importance of this document to the university’s overarching strategic plans and the importance of the CNA as one body to help advise the NAU committee that will be charged with formulating the Policy. The committee will be further defined by Dr. Martin. Dr. Smith mentioned that he will inform Dr. Martin that there already exists a current group of individuals who have been working on the policy. Further information will be forthcoming.

7. Fundraising: working toward our \$2 million goal. How do we determine what programs and scholarships to fund? Are there new initiatives that need to be added? How should the process of awarding occur? There were a number of ideas discussed that included, elders program, mentoring, emergency funds, Nizhoni academy, scholarships, distance learning support, endowed professorship and travelling exhibits just to name a few. Shelley mentioned that to endow a professor position we would need \$1.5 million, which could generate 4% interest to be used annually to fund the position. To endow Scholarships, we would need \$25,000, generating 4% interest to be used toward awarding scholarships. The importance of assessing the needs of current units and programs across campus was discussed and prioritizing these needs. A sub-committee will be formed to look into how this might be accomplished. Shelley and Catherine have agreed to start this sub-committee. This will aid the Native Roots Native Futures Campaign as they speak and present to potential donors.

V. CNA meetings and times: After reviewing available meeting options, it was decided that Friday mornings would be the best day for most people. If we kept in line with our 4th week meetings, our next meeting would occur during the Thanksgiving break, therefore, if it's ok with everyone the next CNA meeting will occur on: **Friday, November 20, 2009, from 10:00-12:00 noon, University Union, Havasupai C room. The agenda will be forthcoming.**