Commission for Indigenous Peoples

September 14, 2023

Minutes

1. Meeting started at 1:35pm by Ora Marek-Martinez
2. Land Acknowledgement read by Ora Marek-Martinez
3. Greetings and Introductions
   1. Attendance:
   2. Beth Cross, Darwin Mann, Naomi Ruth Lee, Sheena Hale, Traci Gleason, Winona Reid, Princess Dana Benally, Emerald Arnold, Carmenlita Chief, Ora Marek-Martinez, Jennifer Ashleigh Hudson, Darold Joseph, Nate Armenta, Taeler Whitehair, Chesleigh Keene, Azah Quach, Denyse Herder, Alisse Ali-Joseph, Kiara Weathersby, Ann Marie Chischilly, Chris Jocks, Colin Ben, Jani Ingram, Priscilla Sanderson, Shirley Conrad, Shy, Simeona Beasley, Angelina Castagno, Adele Sidney Pablo, DeeDee Lynn James, Vangee Nez, Gavin Healey, Shirley Conrad, Souksavanh Keovorabouth, Rebecca Malone-Little Owl
4. VP Office of Native American Initiatives – Ann Marie Chischilly
   1. Introduction and updates
      1. Attendance enrollment has increased, and thanks to the word of mouth and university efforts to talk about the benefits of NAU’s new affordability programs
      2. Discussion about retention rates and how A2E (Access to Excellence) initiative for covering tuition costs for members of the 22 recognized Tribal Nations in AZ, as well as RAISE (Realizing Attainment Impact through Strategic Enrollment)
      3. First NAU census number is after 21 days taking into account the final withdrawal day for the term
         1. Will give an opportunity to reach out to students before it is too late for them.
5. What is the relationship between CIP and ONAI?
6. 7 Generations Initiatives Programming Information – \_Dr. Ora Marek-Martinez and Colin Ben
   1. Introduction and updates
      1. Founding faculty advisory council
         1. Volunteers reach out to Colin Ben
      2. Knowledge exchange with regional TCU’s (Tribal Colleges and Universities)
         1. 5 faculty members will travel and visit to share knowledge from NAU and the regional TCU’s
      3. Indigenous Knowledge Holder program
         1. Present to the NAU community on topics that they have expertise
      4. Visiting Artist program
      5. Ancestral Skills program
         1. Teaching and sharing indigenous skills and knowledge such as the process of making regalia, weavings, etc.
      6. Cultural Experiential Learning program
         1. Land-based, for NAU and international organizations to learn about sacred places and hosting within communities
   2. What is the relationship between CIP and 7 Generations Initiatives?
7. Indigenous Peoples Living and Learning Community (IPLLC) – \_Sharon Doctor, Kiara Weathersby,
   1. Introduction and updates
      1. Partnership mainly with Campus Living (ONAI, OIS, NACC) through NAU (Calderon and Mountain View Halls)
      2. Blessing ceremony held the week before move-in
      3. Open to indigenous and non-indigenous students
   2. What is the relationship between CIP and Indigenous Peoples Living and Learning Community?
      1. Potential for involvement in community events through IPLLC
      2. October 15, star watch party from 7-9pm at Lowell Observatory
      3. Potential for a Rez Metal concert/show in the coming year or two
8. General Studies Requirement- Alisse Ali-Joseph
   1. Discussion about ensuring that Indigenous voices are centered in the core parts of the curriculum
      1. Curriculum development program is set up
      2. To be eligible for 2025, courses must be submitted by October 6, 2023
9. Co-Chairs Updates from CoCom
   1. Career Readiness Initiatives concerns raised to CoCom
      1. What does ‘professionalization’ mean and how has it been used historically?
      2. Proposal to invite NAU Career Development to a CIP meeting
   2. CIP Bylaws – *review minutes from April 27th meeting* 
      1. Propose revisions through tracked changes/notes in the MS Teams chat up to one week before the next meeting so that all proposed changes can be reviewed before final voting to confirm revisions to the CIP bylaws
   3. CIP Directory – \_opt in or out
      1. **A.** [**Qualtrics survey**](https://qualtrics.nau.edu/jfe/form/SV_4OC4eA2Wj04TWJM) **to submit you information if you want to be added to CIP Directory**
10. Planning
    1. Native American Heritage Month
    2. **NDN Girl Book Club** – \_Kinsale Drake to NAU Thursday, November 9
       1. Request to use CIP funds for her travel ~ $800
       2. Motion made by Alisse Ali-Joseph, seconded by Chesleigh Keene
          1. The majority voted in the affirmative, the motion passes and up to $800 can be allocated for this purpose.
          2. There were no abstentions
11. NAHM Committee
    1. Alisse Ali-Joseph, Ann Marie Chischilly, Chesleigh Keene, Souksavanh Keovorabouth, Gavin Healey, Adele Sidney Pablo, Rebecca Malone-Little Owl
12. Announcements
    1. Gold Axe Award Application – deadline September 22
    2. Indigenous Faculty, Staff, and Allies Networking events at the NACC from 3-4pm, hosted by ONAI
       1. September 29
       2. October 13
       3. November 17
       4. December 1
    3. Congratulations to Sharon Singer-Doctor, the 2023 NAU Homecoming Dedicatee
       1. [Register for Dedicatee Luncheon](http://nau.edu/dedicatee) – Tuesday, October 24, 11 am – 1 pm, Ashurst Auditorium
    4. Congratulations to Ann Marie Chischilly, Most Influential Women in Arizona of 2023
    5. Indigenous folks in the NAU Review
       1. [Dr. Naomi Lee](https://news.nau.edu/lee-infectious-disease-burdens/)
       2. Rebekah McNiel, recipient of [Udall Scholarship for Native American Initiatives](https://news.nau.edu/udall-recipient-native-american-initiatives/)
       3. Kaylin McLiverty
       4. Ora Marek-Martinez: Co-PI for an NSF CRICS grant for 5 years
    6. [Award](https://news.nau.edu/cbiks/) for the Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science (CBIKS)
    7. [Featured in an article](https://curiositystream.com/realwildwest/index.html) for The Real Wild West
    8. NAU had a 47% increase in new Indigenous students this fall semester.
    9. Fall 2023: 2nd Thursday of every month from 1:30pm to 3pm
13. Meeting adjourned at 3:01pm by Ora Marek-Martinez
    1. Next Meeting: Thursday October 12, at 1:30-3pm via zoom and in the Pattea conference room in the NACC (Building 14).