

Minutes  
President's Advisory Board on Tribal Colleges and Universities  
August 10-11, 2006  
Duluth, MN

Attendees: Ron His Horse is Thunder, Chair; Eddie F. Brown; Kathy L. Domenici; Deborah His Horse is Thunder; Daniel Keating; Martha McLeod; Karen Swisher; Della Warrior; Carl Morgan

WHITCU Staff: Deborah Cavett, Executive Director; Anselm Davis; Tonya Ewers

Ron His Horse is Thunder called the meeting to order at 1:13 PM on August 10, 2006. Roll call of Advisory Board members taken and WHITCU staff introduced.

April 2006 minutes

Della Warrior moved to approve the April 2006 minutes. Karen Swisher seconded the motion, unanimous approval.

Department of Education-ACI Programs

Kristine Cohn, Secretary's Regional Representative (Region 5, Chicago), provided members of the Board with an overview of the Department of Education's *No Child Left Behind* programs, which included the National Indian Education Study, the President's American Competitiveness Initiative, and the draft of the report on the Commission on the Future of Higher Education. Cohn's remarks ended with a question and answer session.

Department of Interior- Bureau of Indian Education

Thomas Dowd, Deputy Assistant Secretary, via conference call, explained the organizational structure of the Bureau of Indian Education and spoke of efforts of the reorganized Bureau to deliver quality education to Indian communities. Dowd also made mention of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2002* and the requirements for BIE schools to meet the adequate yearly progress mandates, the focus on student learning and the seamless continuum of PreK-16 education, and the importance of partnerships with other federal agencies.

White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Michael McCarlie, Deputy Associate Director, White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA), updated members of the Board regarding current events of the IGA office relative to Indian country. Information regarding the Indian Affairs working committees and their efforts to bring federal agencies together to better coordinate resources and share information was also provided to the Board. At the invitation of Mr. McCarlie, Board members shared some of the successes and challenges of WHITCU.

### Learning Capabilities for TCUs / Private Industry Perspectives

Kevin J. Turner, Public Sector, Education Industry Sales Leader for IBM Global Business Services, provided remarks on the Education Industry Perspective relative to Trends in K-12 and Higher Education that are developing as a result of globalization. IBM has a great interest in all aspects of education and he spoke specifically to those IBM Capabilities and Solutions vis-à-vis WHITCU Mandates and capacity building opportunities.

### WHITCU Update

Deborah Cavett updated the Board regarding the status of the solicitation titled *Annual Report to the President for the Period Covering FY2004 and 2005*. There was a discussion of whether to go with an 8-A contractor or to channel the solicitation through FedBizOps. Via a voice affirmation, the Board recommended to channel the solicitation through FedBizOps.

The Board was informed that staff member Pamela DeRensis is on a one-year detail to the National Museum of the American Indian, that Tonya Ewers recently come on Board as Staff Assistant, that WHITCU is working on bringing an IPA from a tribal college to the Washington office, and that guidelines for a three-year plan for federal agencies are being developed. Information on the TCU sub-committee—one of four sub-committees of the Indian Education Interagency Task Force—was also provided.

A motion was made by Karen Swisher, which was second by Deborah His Horse is Thunder. Motion to accept the director's report passed unanimously.

### Sub-Committee Reports

Update on Energy and Economic Development Issues: Kathy Domenici discussed issues of Title V in the Energy bill and about ways that TCUs might get involved in Indian energy and economic development issues by working closely with the departments of Interior and Energy. Main items of discussion were: exploring the possibility of submitting an unsolicited proposal to the Department of Energy's Office of Science, exploring possibilities through the Faculty and Student Team (FAST) program, and exploring energy programs through the Department of Interior. The Board agreed to break into Energy and Economic Development/Technology, providing four sub-committees as working groups. List of tasks was set out for both Board members and WHITCU staff.

Update on Federal Agency Relationships: Deborah His Horse is Thunder reported that the sub-committee on Federal agency relationships reviewed the data obtained from the Census Bureau A-133 Audit Reports, that the data was not as sound as expected, but the data does help in establishing a baseline for federal agency resources being provided to TCUs.

Mandates from the 2003 report will be clarified, consolidated, and tied into the sub-committee action plan for report-out as overall accomplishments of PABTCU.

Schedule of 2007 Meetings

Members of the Board indicated that they were in favor of having their next Board meeting in a timeframe to coincide with AIHEC winter activities and overlap a portion of the meeting to discuss areas of mutual interest of the AIHEC Executive Board in February 2007.

Board members also indicated that they would like to meet in Anchorage, Alaska, and honor Ilisagvik College for becoming a TCU. It was suggested this meeting could be held in conjunction with the National Congress of American Indians' Mid-Year Conference, to be held in June 2007.

A motion was made by Karen Swisher to have Pamela DeRensis report quarterly from the National Indian Arts Museum in view of the fact that PABTCU is accountable for her salary. Kathy Domenici seconded the motion, unanimous approval.

Public Comments

The meeting was opened for public comments at 12:50 p.m., of which there were none.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned the 12:00 p.m. on August 11, 2006.

Certified-

Deborah J. Cavett  
October 31, 2006  
Designated Federal Officer  
White House Initiatives for Tribal Colleges and Universities

Approved on behalf of the Board

Ron His Horse is Thunder  
Chair, President's Advisory Board of Tribal Colleges and Universities