Effective Methods of Service Delivery for Native American Students

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Next Generation
We Are Still HERE!
Native American Trivia

• Highest record of Military Service in the Armed Forces at five times the national average and have served with distinction in every major conflict for over 200 years (even before citizenship-1924)

• Creation of the NFL and safety equipment—Carlisle Football team

• At one time there were over 574 tribes with their own languages or dialects with sign language as one of them

• Known as hunters and gatherers living off the land and not trying to overuse one area or place this is why they were nomadic (your environmental stewards)

• Rubber —could withstand hot or cold temperatures
• Medicinal medications -such as pain relief creams

• Kayaks/canoes. And the game of Lacrosse

• Hammocks and baby bottles
*Each tribe is distinct from one another with their own language, religions and customs*
Understanding Culture to Connect

Establishing Trust: History with educational institutions is complex and can cause tacit and explicit distrust

Ways to Connect: Understand humor, family, language, naming, and community are connection points

Cultural Misunderstandings: Storytelling, circular talking, respect for elders, “Give me your ears, not your eyes,” First-generation students sometimes are reticent to ask questions because they don’t know which questions to ask, humility
Blood quantum

- Blood quantum was initially a system that the federal government placed onto tribes in an effort to limit their citizenship. (Colonists driven by land grab)

- **Key words**
  - Enrolled member of a Federally recognized tribe
  - Citizenship/citizen
  - Tribal card
  - ¼ blood quantum
  - CIB-Certificate of Indian Blood (Dept of Interior issued)
  - Direct Descendants—most are not eligible for American Indian scholarships unless written on the application
  - American Indian, Native American, Indigenous American,
  - Ojibwe, Ojibwa, Anishinaabe, Chippewa.
  - Ask a native which word they prefer, it's a preference
Small Actions = Big Difference

- Patience
- Cultural understanding/interest
- Direction to Native supports on campus and off
- Use your connections and knowledge
AILRC Mission

American Indian Learning Resource Center

The center exists to empower American Indian and Alaska Native students to take charge of their educational experience and succeed in their college journey.

Through its activities, the AILRC also enriches the Cultural, Academic, and Social environment of the UMD campus.

RESOURCES

• Cultural Programming
• Secondary advisors
• Scholarship Help
• Group Study Room
• Computers
• Free Printing access
• Kitchen space/commuters
### All Student Profile

#### Student Enrollment by Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Fall 2019 #</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Fall 2020 #</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Fall 2021 #</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Fall 2022 #</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Fall 2023 #</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Am. Indian</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>2.36%</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>2.56%</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>2.44%</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>2.45%</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>2.77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>516</td>
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<td>481</td>
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<td>4.39%</td>
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<td>2.85%</td>
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<td>257</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>0.22%</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0.17%</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
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<td>75.39%</td>
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<td><strong>100.00%</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,884</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00%</strong></td>
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<td><strong>100.00%</strong></td>
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<td>Fall 2020</td>
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<td>Fall 2021</td>
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<td>Fall 2022</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.03%</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
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<td>3.09%</td>
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<td>323</td>
<td>3.34%</td>
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<td>73.97%</td>
<td>6,903</td>
<td>73.83%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two or more races</td>
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<td>3.20%</td>
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<td>3.75%</td>
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The 3 R’s

- **Redesign**
  - Look at what was done in the past
  - Both what worked well and needs improvement

- **Reinvent**
  - Ask the student themselves what they want
  - What is needed for the students now

- **Reset**
  - Move towards the future—a 3-year cycle
  - Think beyond 2025
Highlights & Numbers

AILRC 22-24

- 3rd position hire
- Tribal flags at Graduation
- ISO student club of year
- 2nd place runner up CWS worker
- 40th anniversary year 2023
- ISO powwow back after 10+ yrs
- Engaging cultural speakers
- Successful cultural events

AILRC 22-24

- 4 Educational Doctoral candidates spr 23
- 48 new freshman Fall 23
- 50+ graduates spring 24
- 100/200 attendees at events
- 300+ student high school visits
- 186 walks in 21-22. (year 1)
- 747 walk-ins in 22-23. (year 2)
- 700+ for FALL 23 (year 3)
What are our roles and goals?

- Many times our students are facing layers of barriers. We must be comfortable moving from A to B with them even when we want to move from A to Z.
- Top most concern is often financial. If we get them in the doors, they have often already overcome major hurdles. FA can literally be the one thing to make or break their experience.

Retention is key.
Financial Opportunities for Natives

- Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Scholarships and/or any Tribe
- U of M-Morris Campus only- American Indian Tuition Waiver
- MN State Indian Scholarship. (MISP) (MOHE)
- Native American Promise Tuition Program (NAPTP) last $ in UofM F22
- American Indian Scholars Program. (AISP). Top dollar in-MN-NEW F23
- Ethel Curry Scholarship (U of M & MDE)
- MN Indian Teacher Training Program (MITTP) (MOHE)
- Cobell Scholarship
- Gates Millennium Scholarship
- Alan Page Scholar
- American Indian College Fund
- American Indian Graduate Center
- AISES and IHS
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Scholars (U of M)
- Collegiate units/departments on campus
Student Success Components

- **AILRC-New Initiatives**
  - Community Outreach
  - Connection Points (on and off)
  - Visibility Matters
  - Welcoming/Sense of Belonging
  - Single Point of Contact
  - Home Away from Home Feel
  - Empower/Accountability
  - Engagement
  - Integral part of campus

- **Key Campus Partnerships**
  - Admissions
  - Career Services
  - One Stop (FA, Billing and Registrar)
  - Health Services (talking circle)
  - Collegiate Academic Advising Units
  - ODI—Multi-cultural center
  - AIS—Am Indian Studies
  - Social Work
  - Tribal Training Certificate Program
  - Disability Services
Native Education (is not a one size fits all concept)

- Understanding that history influences the relationship between families and schools
- Understanding families are more than just mom, dad, grandma, grandpa (aunties and uncles and cousins)
- Understand that the college student is sometimes experiencing their culture for the first time
- Understand that native students use, storytelling, humor, and their language & culture as a means of Communication
- Give students in their classroom the opportunities to share their native knowledge
- Keep your expectations high as we all learn from each other
- Be yourself, be consistent, show up
Why it matters

- Native students trail significantly in graduation and matriculation rates and that is why each initiative to engage, encourage, and support our students is important.

- Every student that graduates. Every student that goes on to post-secondary. Every student that brings their talents and knowledge to the community…They all positively impact the next generation of students whether they know it or not.

*Remember: Their success is our success!*
Key Takeaway=Engagement

1. Create a sense of **BELONGING** for Native students through social and academic support and cultural programming

2. Ensure students receive **PERSONALIZED messaging**—help them feel and know that the university/college cares for them

3. Identify actions & work towards a **SMALLER FEEL**, meaning what is big can be made smaller, (**think of tribal colleges**)

4. **CAMPUS-WIDE COMMITMENT**—once a student arrives what role will you play to retain them, it's not about recruitment anymore

5. Question—-Is **YOUR** campus ready to make a difference in the life of that native student? that 1% margin the asterisk on enrollment management data chart (**)**
Tribal Colleges
Chimiigwech! Thank you!

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misp.lara@hotmail.com

www.ohe.state.mn.us/indianscholarship
QUESTIONS

- Thank You
- Miigwech----(Ojibwe)
- Philamayaye—(Sioux)
  (pee-LAH-mah-yah-yay)

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