

27 October 2017 - Native American Task Force meeting notes

• College of Menominee Nation, Keshena

- Call to order - present: Brian Gauthier, Nancy Crevier, Ariga Grigoryan, Kenzie Carlson, Eloisa Gomez, Alana Perez-Valliere, Cathy Techtmann, Dawn Doperalski, Jennifer Gauthier, Megan Suehring, Lori Schuettepelz, Steve Nelson, Sophie Teller, Will Andresen, Julie Keown-Bomar, Karl Martin, Jessie Conaway, and Pat Goggin.
- Welcome / introductions - Brian welcomed attendees and folks on the call and everyone introduced themselves and told where they were from and their work area(s).
- In-service discussion – “Working effectively with tribal communities”
 - Pat shared an update with task force members on the training preparations we are working in partnership with colleagues on for a spring 2018 session.
 - June 5th and 6th were identified as potential dates for the postponed training; June 12th and 13th were thrown out as potential back up dates.
 - Pat will reconnect with Dean Amber Marlow to see if these dates work okay for the College and the LCO community; Ariga and Pat will work with Amber through monthly conference calls this winter into spring on planning the session—Cat and Brian are available too if needed for planning questions and logistical support help from the state office.
- Discussed transition to the Next Generation model – Karl M.
 - Dean/Director Karl Martin gave a short update on where the Next Gen process stands, some of the opportunities for tribal communities in the restructuring, and other points on the transition to the new model for Extension.
 - Karl also discussed the tentative move of Cooperative Extension programming and operations to the UW-Madison campus and what it might mean going forward, with the linking of a strong institution like UW-Madison with the strengths and different abilities and nimble network of Cooperative Extension. Together we can reach community goals for Wisconsinites even more effectively is the hope.
 - Karl took a few questions from the task force on the Next Gen process timeline, how it affects tribal partners moving forward, possibilities around creating a Native Nations Center of sorts, and exploring ways tribal colleges can work more closely with the UW-System and Cooperative Extension.
 - It was stressed by both Karl and Brian that the unique sovereignty relationship between the US federal government/states and tribal nations must be at the forefront of our understanding when building partnerships with tribal communities.
- Native Nations/UW System work group and action planning – Jessie C.
 - Jessie provided the group with an updated version of the strategy for posting on the NATF web site.
 - She shared that efforts are going forward with establishing a more coordinated and dedicated approach to educational programming and applied research to tribal communities via UW-System support and relationship building through the strategy—striving for the creation of sustained resources through a collaborative network of UW-System staff available to tribal communities. Together they create strong academic-community relationships and programming that meets tribal goals and needs.
 - A professional development workshop on groundwater management was conducted in Wausau in mid-October with 9 Wisconsin tribes participating and 2 tribes from Michigan.
- A future agenda item was highlighted by the group regarding the opioid crisis statewide and the challenge it brings to many tribal communities here; lately the crisis is getting very serious and the task force should discuss it further at an upcoming meeting.

- Local / partner updates:
 - Will A. – Will shared how he is excited to be back with CNRED in his new interim role as program leader for CNRED; he is focusing on budgets and helping staff transition to the new model.
 - Kenzie C. – helping with several different strategic planning efforts with Forest County Potawatomi Community members and tribal offices—small steps with a growing baseline of information that can be used going forward with decision-making. The new tribal farming operation is doing well and is ahead of schedule with its initial goals for production.
 - Annie J. – dropped off call before local updates
 - Dave B. – setting up his new office at the LCO College; working with college leadership on several fronts including helping with strategic planning and supporting the campus in their efforts to seek reaccreditation.
 - Cathy T. – provided assorted grant work and other project updates related to National Park Service G-WOW video project, “Hear the water Speak” unit development, estuary education with 20+ women participants, and EE programs with Bad River school groups. Cat also shared that the organizational development / shared leadership session for GLIFWC biological services went very well with Brian’s help—something to continue to build on going forward.
 - Brian G. – he enjoyed working with Cat and GLIFWC too—a prosperous session. He is busy supporting LDF community initiatives around youth, families, and challenges with drug use and other gang type activity in the community leading to a state of emergency scenario with significant repercussions. He also shared outreach efforts around helping community members to understand their lagoon system maintenance needs with stormwater and the EPA standards followed with that long-term water structure in the community. This discussion included a forum with Moss Lake members and other community folks number some 70+ interested people.
 - Ariga G. – working hard on putting her portfolio together for tenure consideration. She has been busy helping Sawyer County to examine the impact of local foods and farmer’s markets to local economies and community health goals. Their team is interviewing market vendors and farm logistics with baseline questioning to help bolster local efforts around food production, technical assistance to support economic growth, and healthy living—different modes of community support are emerging.
 - Amber M. – (Dean of Continuing Education and Customized Training with LCO College) we have been busy getting their new wing of classroom up and running this semester along with a new café. Gearing up for ricing excursions with students and staff. Discussed some intern possibilities being explored with Ag. Equity Program, US Forest Service and GLIFWC (Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission). Also, working with First Americans Land-grant Consortium (FALCON) conference.
 - Will A. – shared his progress in his new role as interim CNRED program leader and helping with transition to Next gen model.
 - Pat G. – Indigenous arts and sciences workshop in July at LDF a great success with 20+ educators and youth; Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (WTCAC) update given.
 - Brian G. – State of Emergency facilitation in home community b/c of recent challenges – facilitation of meetings, council discussions, etc.; helping record and report progress and needs going forward of the community
- Other
 - No other items were brought up for discussion

Conclude and travel home!

Respectfully written and submitted by Pat Goggin