

NATIVE AMERICAN TASK FORCE MEETING, Sept. 13, 2019 10:30 am
College of Menominee Nation

Present: Brian, Erin, Donna, Cat, Matt, Catherine Neiswender, Teresa, Jesse

Team POW

Cat presented the Native Nations Team draft. Group had input. She will send out one more time for comment, then send in. Matt said that they are expecting drafts. Our draft will be submitted by 9/15.

Tribal Nations Lead! Project

Brian and Cat shared the Tribal Nations Lead! Project which is a partnership with MSU Extension and UW Extension to pilot a curriculum for building tribal leadership skills that integrates indigenous and “western” leadership concepts. This is a North Central Rural Development grant funded initiative. The first pilot session was held in August at LDF with 25 tribal leaders, tribal organization heads, elders, and youth participating. Feedback was very positive. The next step is to pilot a session in Michigan sometime this fall. MSU is filing for a grant extension. The idea is that this pilot to build into a broader leadership initiative.

This brought up the opportunity to submit a Baldwin Grant for developing a Great Lakes Tribal Leadership Center. Annie Jones has contacted Eden Inoway-Ronnie and received some guidance on this idea. Matt will bring this up at Institute directors meeting to find out what other Extension sections might be submitting and their thoughts about this. A pre-proposal for this grant is due 11/11/19.

UW Native Nations

Matt will try to organize a spring 2020 joint meeting between Native Nations Group and NATF to talk about ways to collaborate. This would be a good time since Native Nations is sun setting soon and is currently re-evaluating their next steps.

Matt noted Brian McInnes, a new hire within the UW School of Human Ecology, is an Ojibwe scholar. Would be a good resource for NATF.

Admin Updates

Catherine and committee screened over 70 applicants for Tribal Leadership position. Candidate interviews and Madison visits in process.

Other

Jesse Conaway from the UW Nelson Institute-Native Nations/Earth Partnership for Schools: They are wrapping up 3-year Native Nations UW that goes through 2019. Currently evaluating where they’ve been and plans to reframe their future work. Extension needs to be at the table for this. Wants to work together with Extension folks at the table to vision what it next.

Jesse will share with Brian the dates of the visioning sessions between mid-sept to Mid-October. A Great Lakes Indigenous Research Center (co-governing model 50% tribal/50% UW) is a proposed next step with a planning document being developed. Jesse invited the NATF members to participate in these meetings. The transcripts that come up of these meetings will be incorporated into the working group’s final recommendations in terms of the next move and who will lead it in an intentional way. Chancellor Blank and her administration is more interested and receptive as exemplified by the Tribal Relationship position currently being interviewed for.

Jesse supports the idea of a joint meeting between Native Nations working group and reps from NATF. Jesse will plan a nuts and bolts meeting with NATF and reps from Native Nations Work Group via Zoom in early October.

Jesse shared the Tribes Adapt! Grant funded project between that she and Cat are working on with representative from Red Cliff, Oneida, and HoChunk Nations. The grant team is invited to present the project's training modules for tribal professionals on climate resiliency, natural resources, and food at the College of Menominee Nation on 10/24 as part of GLIFWC's week long Tribal Adaptation Menu Training. Attendees will be the Native Nations Advisory Council and tribal leaders for working for climate resiliency in the work place.

Jesse will be leaving her role as lead for the UW Nelson Institute Native Nations as the grant sunsets and moving into a new UW Nelson Institute role involving conservation and Tribes. Her new position starts Jan. 2020, but she will still be involved with Native Nations.

Local Sharing

Jennifer: Shared the Center for Disease Control Grant, a 5-year grant for supporting active and healthy communities engaging indigenous knowledge and communities. She has engaged workgroups within the tribe, Menominee College. Donna is working with the food sov group. There is a Facebook page on the grant.

Erin:

Reminded everyone that Jennifer will be sharing her food sov work on a national webinar on Monday, 2 pm. Erin is finishing final interviews for the community development institute community food system program manager position. Person should be able to work with all WI communities and 1st Nations. Erin has been asked to be part of a conversation on core competencies in food sov work.

CAT: Share that she has developed and run 5 multi-day summer field courses that integrate Ojibwe TEK and climate and/or ecology including the 5-day Climate Strong! Institute. Other projects have been noted during the meeting including the Tribes Adapt and Tribal Nations Lead Initiatives, working on the Native Nations Team POW.

Brian: Shared that his work has been concentrating on organizational development and creating a positive work environment. He is getting ready to conduct a big meeting on developing opioid strategies and positive way to move that forward.

NATF website

Patrick is working on updating. Cat suggested that the website list tribal programming initiatives that team members are involved in to provide a way to document tribal partnerships, outreach, and encourage broader connections.

NATF-related Travel

Brian will ask Lisa for the coding string for our NATF TERS and send info to

Next meeting: December 3rd, 2019; Bad River (first choice- ask Joy)

Adjourn: 1:55 pm.