



**Board of Regents (BOR) Quarterly Meeting
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute**

**September 15, 2022
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (MDT)
ZOOM and In-Person**

**Accreditation Training
1:00PM - 3:00 PM (MDT)**

MINUTES

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Chair Begaye called the meeting to order at 9:59am.

B. Welcome and Invocation

Esther Peterson provided the invocation.

C. Roll Call

- Mr. Adam J. Begaye, Chair, Navajo Nation-New Mexico
- Dr. Curtis Chavez, Vice Chair, Southern Pueblos Council
- Ms. Esther Peterson, Secretary/Treasurer, Navajo Nation-Arizona
- Dr. John Bush, Member, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona-South
- Mr. Francis Tafoya, Eight Northern Pueblos
- Ms. Sheriah Lepahe, Student Government Association, SIPI (**or designee**)
- Dr. Tamarah Pfeiffer, President, SIPI (Ex-Officio)

Absent:

- Dr. Sherry Allison, President Emeritus, SIPI
- Dr. Damon Clarke, Member, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona-North
- Mr. Darrell Flyingman, Vice-Chair, Oklahoma Tribes
- Mr. Owen Little, Mescalero Apache Tribe
- Vacant, Jicarilla Apache Nation

Quorum Established.

D. Approval of the Agenda

Chair Begaye reviewed the agenda.

Dr. Bush motioned to approve the agenda. Seconded by Dr. Chavez. Call for questions. All in favor. Motion Approved.

E. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

1. April 13, 2022

Esther Peterson reviewed the April 13, 2022 meeting minutes and noted a couple typos.

Dr. Chavez motioned to approve the April 13, 2022 with correction of noted typos. Seconded by Dr. Bush. Call for questions. All in favor. Motion Approved.

F. Intro new employees

There were not any new employees for introductions.

G. Reports (Action)

1. Welcome Dr. Tamarah Pfeiffer

Monte Monteith welcomed Dr. Tamarah Pfeiffer as the New SIPI President, official on September 6, 2022. Dr. Pfeiffer provided introductions and expressed her excitement to be at SIPI. She looks forward to working with the Board, SIPI leadership, staff and students. The Board welcomed Dr. Pfeiffer.

2. SIPI Quarterly Report

a. Overview

Monte Monteith provided an overview of the SIPI quarterly report and highlight the following.

- COVID: SIPI is monitoring guideline nationally and locally. Most of the Summer SIPI had an indoor mask mandate. SIPI has also offered vaccination clinics.
- SIPI facility are experiencing issues. The campus chiller is down, there is a temporary unit (whole trailer size) which costs \$64k a month. There are issues with the supply chain and the party is available to fix the air handler for immediate fix. Also had an incident where the student had to be moved into a hotel due to a smoking air handler bearing. This has been fix
- SIPI is working with the Corps of Engineer for engineers/project managers to assist with facility projects. .
- The Budget cycle back on track. Will be asking the Board for a special virtual meeting to approve the budget. Will most likely be in October.
- College Operations is working on updating the MOU with the Bernalillo County Sherriff. Department.
- SIPI will co-host the AIHEC Student Conference in Spring 2023.
- The Fulbright scholar on residence has completed her term at SIPI.
- Dr. Lansing received the Distinguished Service Award from the Department of Interior. It is one of the highest honors within the Department.
- Secretary Haaland will be at SIPI on Tuesday, September 19 for a SIPI tour, roundtable with students and alumni, and she will provide remarks commemorating SIPI's 50th Anniversary
- Role of Community College (book) recommendation by Edward for Board members and leadership teams members to read. Will mail to those are not in attendance.
- SIPI- BOR MOU
 - SIPI received approval to assist the Board office with the Audit.
 - Board members were invited and attend a Board training
 - Need to begin looking at Board and SIPI deliverable per the MOU such as an annual report and Board Strategic Plan

Discussion occurred on enrollment and why there has been a decline. Students are still concerned with COVID and don't want to return. Lost students to the transition from online to in-person classes. The only SIPI program that is fully approved for online instruction is the Early Childhood program. SIPI is looking into receiving approved for online instruction from the Higher Learning Commission.

Monte reported Ashley Tso developed formal recruitment training for anyone who is interested in recruiting on behalf of SIPI. This ensures a common SIPI message.

Val Montoya report the Vision Care Program is accredited nationally and graduates of the two-year program can receive the licensing in any state.

Francis Tafoya conveyed his concerns for student safety and asked the new President to look into funding for residential repairs or new dorms. The students need a safe place to live and receive their education.

Dr. Pfeiffer relayed the Board have the ability to also seek funding or provide asks on behalf of SIPI. Federal employees (SIPI) do not have the capability to ask for fundraise.

b. Appropriated funds

Bella Lujan reviewed the appropriated funds report with Board members.

c. Grant Funds

Karen Coffey reviewed the grant fund report with Board members. There are sixteen new grants starting this fiscal year.

Chair Begaye asked the Board to accept SIPI Reports (2a-1c)

Dr. Bush motioned to approve H. Reports 2.b. – 2.c. Seconded by Dr. Chavez. Call for questions. Motions approved.

d. Board of Regents Development Office

Bill Lohr reported:

- Abbey Webb is on maternity leave.
- The Board Office will host the American Indian Chamber of Commerce Luncheon on September 21. Culinary will provide the food. He hopes to continue to plan similar local community events
- The Office received 25K from the American Indian College fund for community arts; and will host a pottery paint workshop on October 22 and a digital marketing workshop on January 14, 2023.
- Chair Begaye signed Title III grant for the Board Development Office.

e. Student Government Association

Sheriah LePahe, Acting President, reported all the SGA officer positions are open. Applications are due September 28 and elections will be held September 28.

H. Old Business

1. Accreditation

Chair Begaye noted Edward Hummingbird did not present but will host an accreditation training for Board members in the afternoon.

Monte Monteith provided a quick update. SIPI will have an Accreditation site visit next year. There will be a tight timeline for accreditation events and submissions of items. The assurance argument will lock in August.

SIPI Culinary students provided introductions and reviewed the lunch menu.

2. Energy Consortium

Val Montoya requested a Board member to serve on the Advisory Committee for the Native Energy Workforce Energy Consortium. Currently the working group is writing a grant application for \$5 million from the U.S. Department of Labor help fund the consortium and strengthen community college and address workforce needs. They are also submitting for year-end NASA funds to help fund the consortium, however, NASA prohibits giving money to another federal entity. Therefore they will look at CAEL to receive funding on behalf of the Consortium.

She conveyed the Advisory Committee will be working with a Director and two Sub-Committees. The Director and Sub-Committees will perform the majority of work. She is not sure how often the Advisory Committee will meet.

Francis volunteered.

3. SIPI Name Change update

Alena Chalan reported the name change will be part of the tribal stakeholder meetings.

Dr. Chavez asked that the history of SIPI be presented during the stakeholder meeting to ensure tribal representative are aware why SIPI was created.

4. SIPI trimester to trimester update

Val Montoya reported there has not been much progress. Monte Monteith will establish a task to work on a potential trimester to semester change. He asked leadership designate person from each division to be on the task force and research an appropriate system for SIPI. Will also hire an outside consultant if necessary.

I. Introduction of New Business.

1. Fall 2022-

Monte reported:

- SIPI will provide and \$1500 IT Award to student for the purchase of IT equipment.
- Both dorms will be open. One dorm was closed due to renovation.
- Cafeteria will be open again. Renovations are completed
- Gym will be closed due to gym flooring and air handling issues

2. Sub-Committee assignments

a. Government (lobbying)

- Committee will work on lobbying. Will work with SIPI to develop a white paper for common ask for SIPI to use when communicating with Congressional members, staffers, tribal leaders etc.

b. Fundraising

- Need to have a local base of donors.
- Need to promote SIPI programs, events, student's successes. Get the work out.
- Develop a repository of data and success. Can be used for the Capital Campaign and be sent to current and potential donors.

c. Transition with new SIPI President

- How can the Board help the new SIPI President transition?

The Board will let Dr. Pfeiffer have several months in her new position and ask again possibly in the first quarter.

J. Public Comments

K. Future Meeting Schedule/Calendar

Quarter 4:

- November, December

Bill will send out dates.

- Approve SIPI Budget, Proposed October 26 via Zoom.

L. Adjournment

Dr. Bush motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Dr. Chavez. Motion Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm

NOTE: Accreditation Training was offered to Board members from 1pm-3pm by Edward Hummingbird and Vicki Morris- Duer.