



**Board of Regents (BOR) Quarterly Meeting
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI)
April 13, 2023
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (MDT)
Hybrid – Zoom and In-person**

Minutes

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Vice Chair Chavez welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 9:09am.

B. Welcome and Invocation

Esther Peterson provided an invocation.

C. Roll Call

Esther Peterson called roll the following were in attendance.

Mr. Adam J. Begaye, Chair, Navajo Nation-New Mexico (Arrival 9:39am)

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 via Zoom

Mr. Darrell Flyingman, Vice-Chair, Oklahoma Tribes

Mr. Francis Tafoya, Eight Northern Pueblos via Zoom

Dr. Tamarah Pfeiffer, President, SIPI (Ex-Officio, non-voting member)

Absent:

Ms. Samantha Sanchez, SGA President (or designee)

Mr. Owen Little, Mescalero Apache Tribe

Vacant, President Emeritus, SIPI

Vacant, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona-North

Vacant, Jicarilla Apache Nation

D. Approval of the Agenda

It was noted an addendum to the agenda was needed to include additional policies for action. Policies were provided in the meeting book but not included in the agenda.

Dr. Pfeiffer motioned to accept the agenda with additions. Darrel Flyingman Seconded. Motion Approved.

E. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

1. March 2, 2023

Esther Peterson review the minutes and noted a few minor spelling corrections.

Darrell Flyingman motioned to approve the minutes with corrections. Seconded by Esther Peterson Motion Approved

F. Introduction of New Employees

Jessica Durst was introduced as the new Financial Analyst for Grants and Sponsored Programs.

G. **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Jicarilla Apache Nation Board Position

Chair Begaye reported several requested were sent to Jicarilla to fill the position vacated by Haeyalyn Muniz. No response has been received. The Board has three options.

1. Continue to ask to fill position
2. Letter with 30 days to respond if no response Board will vote for removal of position.
3. Board may fill the position with someone from Jicarilla.

Discussion occurred on a final letter with a thirty day response.

Francis Tafoya motion to send one more formal letter to Jicarilla with a thirty day deadline for response. If no response position will be removed from the Board. Seconded by Dr. Bush. Call for questions. Motion approved.

2. Resignation – Dr. Allison, President Emeritus

Chair Begaye reported Dr. Allison submitted her resignation from the Board via email in January 2023. Her position was slated for the immediate past President. There isn't anyone else who can fill this position.

He presented two possible options:

- 1) Eliminate the position
- 2) Eliminate the position and replace with a representative from a tribe with the highest student body representation with a possible term to allow for changing student body.

Discussion occurred regarding other possible options such as an at-large person or a member of the SIPI alumni. It was decided discussions will continue at the next Board meeting regarding the vacant President Emeritus and Jicarilla positions,

Chair Begaye noted the Board needed to accept Dr. Allison's resignation and keep position vacant at this time.

Dr. Chavez motioned to accept Dr. Allison's resignation. Seconded by Esther Peterson. Call for questions. Motion approved.

3. Amenments to Constitution

- a. SIPI President Emeritus, Sec.2.C.
- b. Jicarilla vacated position, Sec.2.A. & F.

Chair Begaye conveyed that based on the previous discussion regarding the President Emeritus and Jicarilla positions no action will be taken on agenda items 3.a and 3.b. Items will be tabled until the next meeting.

5. BOR Annual Native American Education Policy Statement

Chair Begaye conveyed the Board needed to develop an annual policy statement to be given to federal state and tribal community leaders. It would be for requesting for equal funding for students and faculty and campus community

Per the SIPI-Board MOU the Board can lobby for equal funding. It conveyed the Board has been requesting equal funding for SIPI but have never got and answer. The Board will also give the statement to the BIE Director.

Dr. Chavez motioned to approve the Board to develop and annual Indian education policy statement. Seconded by Francis. Call for questions. Motion Approved.

6. SIPI Policies – for Concurrence

Dr. Pfeiffer reported on the following policies and conveyed they have gone thru the shared governance process.

- a. Relationship Between Employees and Students
- b. Academic Misconduct
- c. Double Major
- d. Change of Major
- e. Final Examination/ Assessment
- f. Required Admissions Documents
- g. Enrollment Status
- h. Academic Honors and Awards
- i. Course Load
- j. Adding/Dropping Courses
- k. Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- l. Auditing a Class
- m. Graduation Requirements
- n. Total Withdrawal from SIPI

Dr. Chavez motioned to approved/concur the policies listed A-N policies per addendum to agenda. Seconded by Francis Tafoya. Call for questions. Motion Approved.

H. New Business

1. Richard Luarkie, CEO Tamaya Ventures

Richard Luarkie was not able to attend due to a scheduled conflict. Will present at a future meeting.

2. 2022-23 Addendum to the Strategic Plan

Edward Hummingbird reported the 22-24 Addendum to the Strategic Plan was delayed. The purpose of the addendum is to get approval on strategic activities that support the strategic plan and are operationalized based on the need of the college. Edward reviewed the proposed strategic activities:

After review, Dr. Bushed motioned to approve the 2023-2024 Addendum to the Strategic Plan. Seconded by Francis Tafoya. Call for questions. Motion approved.

3. Retention/Persistence Indicator Report

Edward Hummingbird reviewed the Fall to Fall persistence rates and conveyed it is the lowest it have ever been. It is also an indicator of what happens when students don't have access to face to face and resources. Although it is an alarming number SIPI can recover. The Summer Bridge program will reconvene this summer and as SIPI fulling transition to on campus and in person classes students will have the necessary resources. No action to the report is needed from the Board.

4. 2023-2024 Student Handbook

Dr. Cometsevah presented the 2023-024 Student Handbook. She noted the Solicitors comments were received and she will incorporate them along with any comments the Board may have. Once all comments are received the handbook will go to press.

5. 2023-24 Course Catalog

Val Montoya reported the Course Catalog was updated new policies and reformatted. She noted Dr. Muskett took the lead to reformat the catalog to support matriculation and make it easier for students to understand.

6. Academic Master Plan

Val Montoya reported she completed the first Academic Master Plan that SIPI has had. She thanked Edward Hummingbird for his guidance and her team. She also conveyed the master plan will serve as a foundation for planning for SIPI and will assist in the development of the Master Facility Technology plans.

Chair Begaye excused himself at excused from meeting at 10:52am. Vice Chair Chavez presided over meeting.

I. Reports

1. SIPI Quarterly Report

a. Overview

Dr. Pfeiffer reported the following:

- AIHEC Student conference was success. SIPI teams brought back trophies. She thanked Dr. Cometsevah for coordinating.
- The annual Memorandum of Understanding with Indian Health Service for the Dental Clinic has been signed.
- She attended the Southern Governors Council Meeting with Dr. Chavez. The Governors asked questions about accreditation and graduation.

b. Appropriated Funds

Monte Monteith reviewed the appropriated funds funding report.

c. Grants

Jessica Durst reviewed the Grant report.

4. Board of Regents Development Office

Bill Lohr reported the following:

- The 20-21 audit complete. He will send a copy to Board members and the President's Office.
- The photographer will be postponed as there are only two Board members for photographs.
- Bill requests Board members send bios and photo graphs to him or Abbey Webb.
- The Suazo-Hutchins Emergency Student fund will host a silent fundraising auction fund at SIPI

5. Student Government Association

Student Government did not have a report.

J. Old Business

1. Accreditation

Monte Monteith provided brief Accreditation updates.

2. Update: SIPI Name change

Dr. Pfeiffer reported the Secretary authorized SIPI to proceed with tribal consultations on a SIPI Name Change. She hopes to hold two sessions in the summer and have a tribal session at NIEA in October.

Francis Tafoya inquired if a questionnaire could be provided to graduates and/or community at commencement to capture their feedback on a SIPI name change.

3. Update: SIPI trimester to semester

Dr. Pfeiffer reported she held two tribal stakeholder meetings in February and presented at the Student Government Association meeting. The comment closing date closes on April 14. Once she receives comments she will create a report. She encourage Board members to submit their comments.

K. Public Comments

There were no Public Comments

L. Announcements

The following announcements were made:

Val Montoya announced Dr. Eeva Lebron will be leaving SIPI to work for the U.S. Department of Labor in West Virginia and will train former coal miners.

M. Future Meeting Schedule/Calendar

- May 18 , 2023 will be special meeting on BOR strategic plan via ZOOM at 10am MT
- Q3 Meeting will be July 24, 2023 and include the budget approval.
- September 11-12, 2023: HLC Site Visit Special Session with Peer Review Team
(Board members in-person attendance required. More info to be provided)

N. Adjournment

Darrell Flyingman motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Dr. Bush. Call for questions. Motion Approved.

Meeting adjourned t 11:30am

Lunch (12:00pm-1:00pm)

1pm – 2pm SIPI Recruitment Training/Orientation was hosted by Ashley Tso for Board members.

Meeting recorder: Alena Chalan