Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian Institutions Assisting Communities & Tribal College and Universities Program Annual Conference

San Diego, California
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Project: Sitting Bull College
Presented by: Koreen Ressler
Vice President of Academics
History of Sitting Bull College

- Located on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in south central North Dakota and north central South Dakota ~ Main campus located in Fort Yates, ND ~ Branch campuses located in McLaughlin and Mobridge, South Dakota
- Began as Standing Rock Community College (SRCC) on September 21, 1973
- Chartered by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
- One of the original five tribal colleges established
- Accredited through the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Associations of Colleges and Schools
- On March 6, 1996, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Council voted to officially amend the charter, changing the college's name to Sitting Bull College (SBC)
Programs of Study

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS
Business Administration ~ General Studies
General Studies ~ Nursing Transfer ~ Native American Studies

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE
Business Administration/Management ~ Criminal Justice
Early Childhood Education ~ Environmental Science
Human Services Technician ~ Information Technology
Natural Resources Management ~ Office Technology
Practical Nursing ~ Teacher Education

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE
Building Trades
Business Administration/Management Arts & Crafts Entrepreneurship
Office Technology

CERTIFICATE
Building Trades
Business Administration / Management Arts & Crafts Entrepreneurship
Entrepreneurship ~ Farm/Ranch Management
Information Technology ~ Office Technology

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE
Business Administration
Elementary Education
Environmental Science
Demographics

• Personnel
  – 3 Administrators
  – 22 Full-time Faculty
  – 50 Full-time Staff

• Students
  – Average 300 per semester
  – 71% Female/ 29% Male
  – 90% Native American
  – 73% Single
  – 31 Average Age
Main Campus Prior to 2006

- Science center was a two room trailer
- Remaining facilities ~One-story, 12,379 square-foot complex under three roofs constructed in the 1970s as an industrial skills center
- Since 1973, and it has deteriorated past the limits of cost-effective maintenance
- No room for expansion
- Classrooms maximum capacity was ten students
- Mechanical and electrical inadequate
Capital Campaign Milestones

- 1996 purchase 160 acres of land
- Raised $19.5 million dollars of ambitious $40 million campaign to construct our new campus
- Developed Master plan
- Water, sewer, roads, and lights have been completed for phase I.
- Water and sewer have been completed for phase II.
New Campus Construction

• Cultural center
• 18 low income family housing units
• 26,000 sq. ft. science and technology center
• 15,000 sq. ft. family support center
• 5,000 sq. ft. transit center
• 16,000 sq. ft. entrepreneurial center under construction due to open in April 2008
• 13,000 sq. ft student support center is currently being designed and construction is due to begin in April 2008
Funding Sources New Campus

- Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
- USDA
- American Indian College Fund
- US Department of Education - Title III
- HUD - TCUP
- HUD - Special Appropriation
- Department of Transportation
- Tax Credits
- Private Foundations
- Individuals
HUD TCUP Grants

- 2005- $600,000 to assist with construction costs for the Family Support Center. Facility completed in March 2006
- 2007 - $600,000 to assist with construction costs for the Student Support Center. Currently under design with construction scheduled to begin in April 2008
Future Facilities

• Financial Operations Center
  – Bookstore
  – Cafeteria
  – Business offices
• Dorms
• Pow Wow Grounds/ Camp Grounds
• Theater
• Maintenance/ Vocational Center
• Field House/ Aquatic Center
• Additional Housing – Student and Staff
Challenges

- Sitting Bull College had three unsuccessful applications prior to the 2005 award
- Difficulty in completion of environmental studies
- Variation in requirements from one federal agency to another
- First Tribal College to be audited
Strengths of HUD TCUP Grant

• Helpful and available staff
• Provides needed construction dollars
“Let us put our minds together to see what we can build for our children.”
— Sitting Bull