

The collective
spirit and unifying
voice of our
nation's Tribal
Colleges and
Universities.

Tribal Colleges & Universities: *Leveraging Federal Resources*

April 25, 2012

Self Determination: Tribal College Movement



Diné College, Navajo Nation:
45 Years of
Tribal Self-Determination

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**In 1968, the first tribal college
was created**

by American Indians

for American Indians

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*“With education, we
are the white man’s
equal.
Without it, we are his
victim”*

*Baaishtashüile ammaaéhche iüwaa
awássahcheewailuuk Ammaaéhche
éwahkuulak baaawássahcheewiolak baleetáak
—Alaxchiiaahush (1848-1932)*

Chief Plenty Coups, Crow

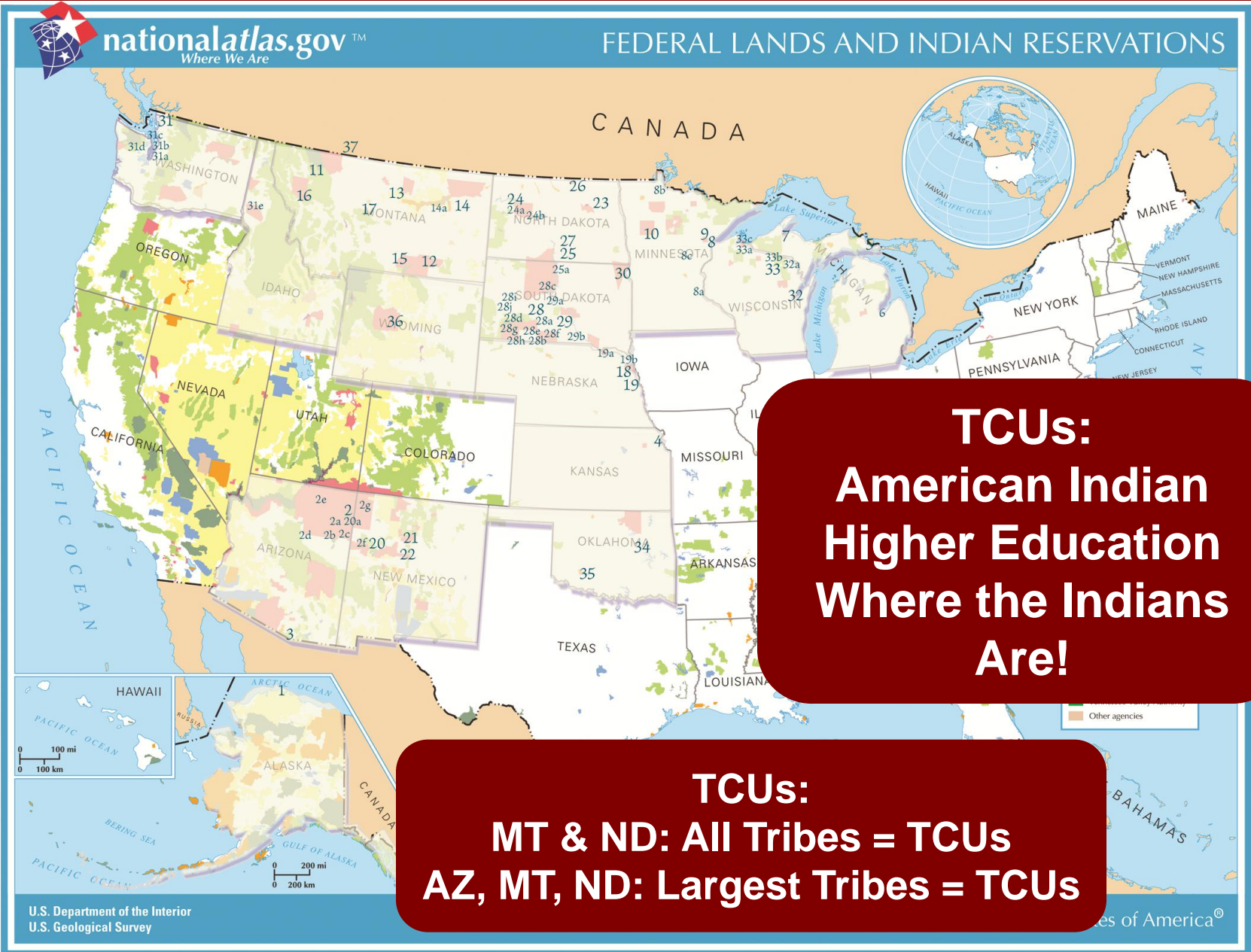
37 TCUs -- 79 Sites in U.S.



Serving 75,000+ American Indians in 15 states through academic and community education programs.

34 TCUs are chartered by their respective Tribal governments; 3 are chartered by the U.S. government)

TCUs & Indian Lands



“Tribal Institutions of Higher Education”

**Fully Accredited
(5-10 years)
or Candidates**

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Tribal College Students

Women
dominate

Age: 16-24 years

Age: 1/3rd over
30

Financial
support: 78 %

Higher degrees:
50 %

13 TCUs offer 4-year
degrees in their own
right
2 offer Master's degree



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AIHEC's Vision is:

**Sovereign Nations through
Excellence in Tribal Higher
Education.**

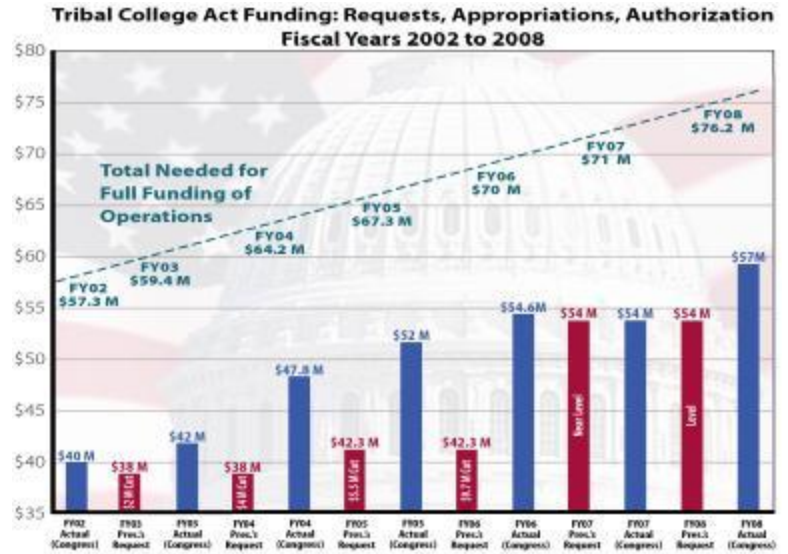
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2 Challenges to Achieving Vision:

TCUs: *most poorly funded IHEs in the country...*

- **Federal Responsibility -- TCU Assistance Act -- appropriated at \$5,325 per full-time Indian student**
- **No Federal support for non-Indians (20%)**
- **Most tribes cannot afford to support**

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Facilities Situation in 1998...

- Old Facilities – Leaking Classrooms**
- Abandoned Federal Buildings**
- Old Fish Warehouse**
- Converted Gymnasium**
- Few Computer & STEM Labs**
- 2 TCUs with Dorms**

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Hope & Commitment:

- **NEW Executive Order & WHITCU Office**
- **Recognition of Need:** *“The 10 poorest counties in the U.S. are rural, and their poverty rates are staggering, in some cases higher than 60 percent. The way to deal with these problems is to put people to work.”*

Andrew Cuomo, 1999

WHITCU, AICF, AIHEC Public-Private Pship

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AICF: \$30 M Lilly Endowment



HUD TCUP: \$5 M/Year x 10 years



**USED Title III: \$8 M x 8 years – now open
(formula)**



USDA RD: \$4M/Year x 11 years



DoD Instrumentation: \$2.5-3.5 M/year

TCUs: *Change Agents...*

**TCUs
Are Leading
American Indian
Communities
As Innovative &
Cost-Effective
Agents of Change
& Restoration:
TCUs ARE Nation
Building!**

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Maximizing HUD-TCUP: Sitting Bull College

**Entrepreneur
& Child Care
Centers:**
**Helping families
help themselves
and the Tribal
Nation**

**Leveraged
\$3.8 Million
into \$24
Million,
toward \$40
Million**

**Student &
Community
Housing:**
**Building
homes and
communities
for families**



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3-4 Fold Leveraging is COMMON

**Little Big Horn
College:
\$600,000 for
\$7.85 M
Community
Library, Tribal
Archives &
Admin**

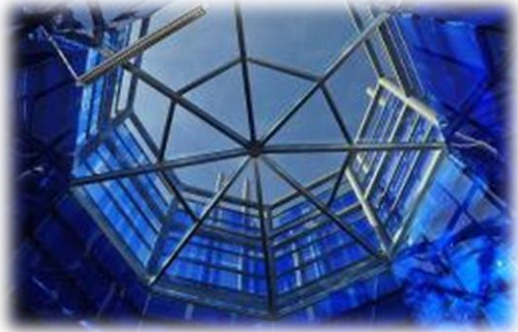
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Library @ Little Big Horn College

Leveraging w/State, Tribe, Private...

Diné College:
\$600,000 for
\$6.1 M
Community
Library &
Cultural
Center



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TCU HUD Impacts Tribes in Profound Ways

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OLC's Head Start Centers



**Community Libraries, Health & Wellness
Centers, Housing, Computer Labs,
Entrepreneurial Centers...**

Strengthening Tribal Nations

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Regional Tribal, Community, Clan-based Law Enforcement Training; Interior MOA



Community Health Promotion and Disease Prevention



Youth & Elder Initiatives; Tribal Governance; Civic Engagement



SUSTAINABILITY: Climate Change Conference, Renewed Commitment



Power of Partnerships

*The NEED remains great and ...
“tools alone do not create
educational change. The power is
not in the tool but in the
community that can be brought
together & their collective
vision....”*

M. Riel



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