



**Board of Regents (BOR) Quarterly Meeting  
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI)  
November 29, 2022  
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (MDT)  
ZOOM and In-Person**

**Minutes**

**A. Call the Meeting to Order**

Chair Begaye welcomed meeting attendees and called the meeting to order at 9:18am.

**B. Welcome and Invocation**

Dr. Chavez provided a welcome and invocation.

**C. Roll Call**

Dr. Chavez called roll. The following Board members were in attendance: (*\*denotes virtual attendance*)

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. Owen Little, Mescalero Apache Tribe

\*Mr. Francis Tafoya, Eight Northern Pueblos

Ms. Ryan Dedman, SGA President (or designee)

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

Absent:

Dr. Sherry Allison, President Emeritus, SIPI

Mr. Darrell Flyingman, Vice-Chair, Oklahoma Tribes

Vacant, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona-North

Vacant, Jicarilla Apache Nation

Quorum Established.

**D. Form Recognition of Samantha Sanchez, as Board member  
Student Government Association**

Samantha Sanchez, SGA representative was not able to attend the meeting. Ryan Dedman, SGA Secretary attend on her behalf and provided self-introductions.

**E. Approval of the Agenda**

Chair Begaye review agenda

Dr. Chavez motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Francis Tafoya. All in favor.  
Motion Approved.

## **F. Approval of the Meeting Minutes**

### **1. September 15, 2022**

Alena Chalan indicated the minutes needed to be tabled as she need the recording of the meeting to clarify some items.

Dr. Chavez motioned to table minutes for September 15 2022. Seconded by Dr. Pfeiffer. Call for questions. All in favor. Motion Approved

## **G. Introduction of New Employees**

No new employees were introduced.

## **H. Reports (Action)**

### **1. SIPI Quarterly Report**

#### **a. Overview**

- Dr. Pfeiffer reviewed her report with Board members and highlighted the following:
- Student handbook and Course catalogue have been published since last meeting. These are living documents and will have ongoing revisions as needed
- She has held on-going bi-weekly meetings with leadership 2 weeks, two President Cabinet meetings,
- On-going conversations on accreditation.
- Tribal listening session on November 18 to input on 2 keys areas.
- Purpose behind a college
- How SIPI can best support tribal nations
- SIPI will produce a report after written comments are received and due by December 9
- New Union Steward is Todd Nims
- Transportation Secretary Buttigeig visited SIPI. Students and staff attended.

9:30am Esther re-joined called. She lost connection at the beginning of the meeting.

#### **b. Appropriated Funds**

Bella Lujan reviewed status appropriated funds report.

### **3. Board of Regents Development Office**

Bill Lohr reported on the Development Office activities:

- The Grant Manager (Abby Webb) is back form maternity leave.
- The Vista employee (Denver Romero) will stay another year. Will serve second year of three year grant.
- American Indian College Fund grant:
  - 14 people participated in the pottery painting workshop held in October.
  - Artist digital marketing workshop will be held on January 14, 2023. The workshop will focus on helping artists marketing on social media platforms. All 20 spots have been filled.
- Non-profit in on the calendar year. December is the year end. If know anyone who want to donate or support send contact info to Bill or direct them to Board website.

Dr. Chavez inquired about year-end giving and audience capture and recommended that possibly a newsletter show casing events or projects be sent for next year.

Bill conveyed a large portion of donors were existing donors. He is working with a firm to for other ways to reach other potential donors. Would like to host more events at SIPI and work with culinary to showcase SIPI and its' program. Chair Begaye suggested a tribal leaders gala or guest speakers for potential fundraising events.

#### **4. Student Government Association**

Ryan Dedman reported on the Student Government Association Activities, including their participation in the YDI-Halloween Parade and a clothing drive for the Albuquerque Indian Center. He reported the SGA is looking at alternative ways, other than e-mails, to reach students and peak their interest in SGA events.

Ryan also reported on his and Samantha Sanchez's attendance at the White House Tribal Youth Forum in Washington, DC. He noted the esteemed presenters and guests as well as the different sessions such as one on indigenous foods and their effect on the world. Ryan took many pictures and videos and is working with IT so he can present to the students.

Mechelle Crazy Thunder, SGA Staff Sponsor, noted she and SGA are working with IT to get SGA social media platforms to reach students.

10:16 am Dr. Bush indicated he needed to be excused at 10:30  
Action items were moved to up for voting purposes.

#### **J. Introduction of New Business**

##### **1. ACTION: Policy Development Process**

Dr. Pfeiffer reported the Policy Development Process was approved in January 2011. The policy revisions ensures the policy is current and includes the addition of the Board minutes as documentation of Board concurrence. The revised policy was presented to President's Cabinet who recommended the policy move to the Board for concurrence.

Francis Tafoya motioned to approve the Policy Development Process Policy as amended. Seconded by Dr. John Bush. Call for questions. All in favor. Motion Approved.
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Dr. Bush was excused at 10:30am.

#### **I. Old Business**

##### **1. Accreditation**

Edward Hummingbird/Vicky Morris Duer were not available to present. Will be holding accreditation training in the afternoon for the Board.

##### **2. SIPI Name change update**

Dr. Pfeiffer reported Secretary Haaland office is looking at have a tribal consultation on a name change for both SIPI and Haskell. Dr. Pfeiffer will request for a tribal consultation in the spring.

##### **3. SIPI trimester to semester update**

Dr. Pfeiffer requested that Val Montoya to create a draft concurring trimester and semester calendar for presentation to the Board at the Q1 meeting. Alignment to surrounding institutions.

#### **J. Introduction of New Business**

##### **2. AIHEC Legislative Week (February 7-10, Washington, DC)**

Dr. Pfeiffer noted the AIHEC Legislative week will be in February. She asked for Board volunteers to attend. Federal employees not allowed to lobby on any level for the college. She encouraged board members to attend to speak on behalf of SIPI.

##### **3. NIEA Hill Week 2023(March 7-9, Washington, DC)**

Dr. Pfeiffer noted that INIEA Hill week would be occurring in March. She asked for Board member to attend. SIPI staff would not be able to attend as it overlaps with the AIHEC Student Conference.

Bill will follow-up on Board member attendance for both events.

#### **4. Adequate SIPI staffing discussion**

Dr. Curtis Chavez inquired and expressed concerns about adequate staffing at SIPI in regards to grants. In discussion with the early childhood department there is a lack of staffing for grants management. The Board's non-profit side, can identify grants however SIPI doesn't have the staffing to manage the grants.

Dr. Pfeiffer indicated SIPI relies on adjuncts for instructors. Adjuncts cannot manage a grant. Full-time faculty have 5 or more grants under them along with their other teaching, advising and other duties. SIPI is working more full-time faculty however is up to the managers to ensure they submit the necessary documents in a timely manner to ensure a streamlined hiring process. SIPI will soon on board a Human Resource Specialist to assist with hiring.

Monte Monteith discussed the grant form that is filled out when a person/department wants to apply for a grant. This helps display resources and responsibilities. He also relayed SIPI is trying to bring the adjunct contract in-house rather than contracting through UNM. Since Adjuncts are hired through UNM, SIPI is limited in what they can ask of them. SIPI uses adjunct because there is not enough demand in certain areas of study to have a full-time instructor.

#### **K. Public Comments**

No public comments.

The following announcements were made:

- March 4-7, 2023: AIHEC Student Conference in Albuquerque, NM Board members are invited to attend.
- Chair Begaye requested more advertisement for Board meetings and asked that e-mail regarding Board meetings be sent to students and staff.

#### **L. Future Meeting Schedule/Calendar**

Quarter 1:

- February/March 2023

Meeting with be in February. Bill Lohr will send possible dates.

#### **M. Adjournment**

Dr. Chavez motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Francis Tafoya. Call for questions. All in favor. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 11:11am.
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Meeting recorder: Alena Chalan