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Walthill Schools - Invitation Letter

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Hi Ms. Ostrand,

Here are some other things that have a more K-12 focus; this was the first set of ideas I had and may be for fitting for our meeting to pursue. I’ll call you at 3PM today.

Hank Lehrer
A Nebraska Space Grant /EPSCoR Aeronautics Initiative: 
An Articulation Model with Tribal Schools
prepared for
The Western Region Space Grant Fall Meeting
Santa Fe, NM
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by
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Faculty Research Associate

There are three components to this effort; these three components include the tribal K-12 programs, the tribal colleges, and an articulation agreement between the aeronautics program at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) and the Nebraska tribal colleges.

K-12 Program Highlights:

I Tie-in the NASA and FAA Teacher Resource Centers to tribal K-12 centers

I Offer high school curriculum units and career exploration units, as well as visiting teachers/professors developed by the Nebraska Space Grant Consortium, to tribal schools

I Provide special scholarships to the Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy

I Assist in the establishment of summer high school internships

Tribal Colleges Thrust:

I Enhance the existing Metropolitan Community College Native American focus and connection to Nebraska tribal colleges

I Provide curriculum assistance in establishing aeronautics course work

I Establish a minority student transfer program and support group focusing on Native American students and mentored by students as well as faculty.

I Provide Internet and World Wide Web (WWW) services to tribal colleges

Co-operative Effort:

I Enroll transfer students in a Minor under the established Native American Studies Program at UNO; provide a strong support network for those enrolled.
Encourage enrollment in upper-division aeronautics courses for native American transfer students

Utilize current Space Grant researcher with tribal college ties, Dr. Peter Suzuki, to expand UNO Native American programs

Use Space Grant researchers to assist faculty members at the tribal colleges to engage in aeronautics research efforts by providing:

- Proposal writing assistance
- Leadership for research teams
- Opportunities for co-investigation
- Service as consultants
- Communication of NASA sponsored faculty development programs

Continuing Strategic Goals

Continue the initiatives above but with a focus to involve other state Space Grant programs and as a regional Space Grant project

Strive to develop an interstate, co-operative focus in aeronautics.

Explore new special funding opportunities with a minority focus

Expand the current Nebraska EPSCoR grant proposal to include the addition of a national model program of best practices

Continue to explore innovative ways to respond to NASA initiatives and the recent Executive Order for more Native American educational and employment opportunities

Develop an aviation database which includes statistical information on the representation of Native Americans in the aviation industry and in the federal, state, and local aviation regulatory structure

Involve the Nebraska Space Grant Consortium affiliate, the Nebraska Department of Aeronautics, in support of these goals

Assist NASA Headquarters in developing closer ties with the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC)