

April 24, 2009

The Honorable Arne Duncan
Secretary of Education
U.S. Department of Education
White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges
and Universities
1990 K Street, NW, 6th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am pleased to enclose the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Fiscal Year 2008 *Annual Federal Performance Report on Executive Agency Actions to Assist Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)*. The report reflects the NRC's continuing efforts to assist TCUs through the agency's funding opportunities. This enclosure includes two attachments: (1) Summary of Total Agency Awards by Category, and (2) Summary of FY 2008 Agency Awards to Individual Tribal Colleges and Universities.

As noted in the agency's Annual Performance Plan for 2008, NRC implemented a Minority Serving Institutions Program (MSIP) during Fiscal Year 2006 that provides financial assistance to a broad range of support services, programs and activities. These funded initiatives address the needs of TCUs and their students and faculty. The programs and activities funded include research and development, mentoring, leadership building, instruction, training, education activities, technical assistance, and recruitment and retention initiatives. Funds are also awarded for cooperative agreements, grants, direct institutional subsidies, fellowships, internships, scholarships, and tuition, travel, housing and other types of assistance.

If you have questions regarding this report, please contact Ms. Corenthis B. Kelley, Director, Office of Small Business and Civil Rights, at (301) 415-7380 or Corenthis.Kelley@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dale E. Klein

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: Alan Schiff, Executive Director (Acting)
White House Initiative for TCUs

**FY 2008 ANNUAL FEDERAL PERFORMANCE REPORT ON
EXECUTIVE AGENCY ACTIONS TO ASSIST TRIBAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

AGENCY OVERVIEW

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received authority under the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAAct) to establish and participate in outreach programs and activities with Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), including Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs). In Fiscal Year 2006, NRC implemented a Minority Serving Institutions Program (MSIP), which is administered by NRC's Office of Small Business and Civil Rights (SBCR). MSIP's purpose is to fulfill NRC's obligations toward TCUs in accordance with Executive Order 13270. NRC ensures opportunities for TCUs to participate in NRC-conducted programs and activities and in procurement opportunities in accordance with Executive Order 13270 requirements. NRC's effort to assist TCUs is described in this report and the accompanying attachments.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) FY 2008 Performance Plan identifies resources to assist Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs). The Plan's objectives are consistent with the agency's FY 2009-2011 strategic goals: safety and security. The programs and activities achieved the agency's organizational excellence objectives (openness, effectiveness, and operational excellence).

1. Goals and Measurable Objectives Outlined in the FY 2008 Performance Plan:
 - Fund two NRC mission-related research and development projects at \$5,000 each, or one project at \$10,000.
 - Fund or co-fund program evaluations up to \$5,000.
 - Fund or co-fund two activities for training and technical assistance, up to \$5,000.
 - Award for equipment or structure work/repair up to \$5,000.
 - Fund four cooperative education awards at \$10,000 each.
 - Fund six student/faculty assistance awards at \$5,000 each.
 - Make one award of \$57,500 or a number of awards up to \$57,500 to be used for developmental educational programs, activities, or training (e.g., STEM programs).
 - Make one award to National Association for Equal Opportunity for Higher Education and American Indian Higher Education Consortium's (AIHEC) at \$2,500 each, to be used for purposes related to TCUs.
 - Fund or co-fund 2 activities for private sector involvement, up to \$5,000.
 - Fund or co-fund 2 activities for other activities, up to \$5,000.

2. Comparison of FY 2008 Performance to the FY 2008 Performance Plan:

The following summary provides a comparison of the FY 2008 performance to the FY 2008 Performance Plan:

- A. The College of Menominee Nation:

The FY 2008 Performance Plan provides funding for a fixed number of programs and activities in limited quantities, which would result in providing narrowly focused services.

In lieu of making a series of single awards as described above in Item 1, NRC awarded \$117,500 to the College of Menominee Nation to conduct a President's STEM Leadership Program. The NRC obtained guidance and conferred with the White House Initiative on TCUs to ensure that NRC's funding initiatives and activities were consistent with the objectives identified in the FY 2008 Performance Plan.

This grant pays tuition costs for 9 students and up to 15 credits per term; an \$800 per month stipend for textbooks, lab fees, or other student fees; living expenses; costs associated with training activities and faculty meetings; registration fees for attendance at national and regional STEM events; travel; and stipends for peer tutoring. The program focuses on recruiting high achieving Native American seniors from local schools and providing these students with full tuition and scholarship funds to attend the College of Menominee Nation as STEM majors. The program also focuses on building leadership skills, coaching, and mentoring students, and providing opportunities for them to participate in activities that offer experiential and developmental learning and occupational exposure. The specific program goals are to increase student retention, the number of college graduates, enrollment in undergraduate programs, and STEM graduates who enter the workforce.

The grant awarded to the College of Menominee Nation was used to:

- Establish a STEM Leadership Team and create the application packet and criteria for student participation.
- Establish mentoring programs wherein each STEM student has a STEM advisor from the STEM Leadership Team and meets with the project director bimonthly, where each student is monitored and receives tutoring.
- Develop recruiting materials to increase student enrollment.
- Conduct outreach at surrounding high schools (Shawano, Menominee Indian, Gresham, Bowler, and Seymour).
- Award nine STEM students with tuition assistance and stipends.
- Hold four leadership sessions on varying topics to include leadership styles and skills, practical advice regarding matriculation to 4-year universities, internships, job opportunities in STEM areas, Native American leadership attributes, and ethical considerations in genetic research.
- Pay a portion of the salaries and fringe costs for two faculty members (program manager and recruiter) to carry out program activities.
- Supplement faculty program staff costs to attend meetings.
- Provide awareness and networking to increase matriculation to major universities and internships and job opportunities with major corporations and government agencies.
- Assist students in applying for research and development opportunities through summer internships to increase students' understanding of such disciplines as materials science, engineering, bio-science, information technology, and others.
- Fund students experiential learning and occupational exposure through participation in the American Indian Science and Engineering Society's National Conference, held in the fall of 2008 in Phoenix, Arizona, and the American Indian Higher Education Consortium's (AIHEC) National Student Conference, during spring 2008, in Bismarck, North Dakota.

B. American University Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS) Program:

The FY 2008 Performance Plan proposed funding for four cooperative education awards at \$10,000 each. NRC awarded WINS \$12,000 to provide two internships and the following support services:

- Professional experience through practical application while interning at the U.S. NRC.
- Participation in courses focusing on Native American public policy concerns.
- Social and cultural extracurricular activities.
- Leadership skills.
- Knowledge about existing and emerging Federal occupations.

C. Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) Capacity Building Workshop

The FY 2008 Performance Plan proposed making an award to the National Association for Equal Opportunity for Higher Education (NAFEO) and AIHEC at \$2,500 each for activities to support TCUs. The FY 2008 Performance Plan also proposed funding two activities for private sector involvement up to \$5,000.

The NRC, the Department of Commerce, and the Agency for International Development co-sponsored a capacity building workshop directed at MSIs, including TCUs. One purpose of this workshop was to assist MSIs to locate and effectively compete for grants, cooperative agreements, and other Federal and private resources. The share of TCU funds apportioned for the capacity building workshop was \$10,500.

3. Programs (New and/or Ongoing) That Show Specific Benefit to Tribal Colleges
NRC provides the following opportunities for IHEs, including TCUs:

- The Office of Small Business and Civil Rights administers the Minority Serving Institutions Program (MSIP), which partners with MSIs and provides assistance for programs and activities in exchange for the transfer of knowledge and skills.
- The Office of Human Resources administers the Nuclear Education Grant Program, Trade School and Community College Grant Awards program, the Faculty Development Grant Awards Program, and the Scholarship and Fellowship Grant Awards Program, which provide funds for curriculum development and training, and enable new faculty to enhance their careers and to increase the skill base in the nuclear field.
- The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research provides financial assistance to conduct research and development activities related to the nuclear regulatory field.
- The Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards provides financial assistance to conduct research and development activities related to the nuclear regulatory field.

4. Programs Implemented that Exemplified Increased Federal Opportunities for TCUs:
NRC's MSIP, which was implemented in FY 2006, has increased opportunities for TCUs.

5. Total Funding Awarded to Tribal Colleges in FY 2008: The total funding awarded to TCUs in FY 2008 was \$140,000.

6. Agency Funding Increases or Decreases for Tribal Colleges from FY 2007 to FY 2008:
There was a decrease in funding in FY 2008, due to the unexpected withdrawal of a prospective recipient. Funding is expected to increase during Fiscal Years 2009-2011.

Attachments:

1. Summary of Total Agency Awards
By Category
2. Federal Agency Awards to Institutions
Fiscal Year 2008

PART B
SUMMARY OF TOTAL AGENCY AWARDS BY CATEGORY

1. AGENCY: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
2. NAME/SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF REPRESENTATIVE: Corenthis B. Kelley, Director, SBCR DATE: March 10, 2009
3. TOTAL FUNDS FOR AWARDS TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (IHEs): \$21,587,294

Category	FY 2008 Total Funds to IHEs	FY 2008 Total Funds to TCUs	Funds to TCUs as% of Total Funds to IHEs
1. Research and Development	1,249,301	0	0
2. Program Evaluation	-		0
3. Training	13,355,221	0	0
4. Facilities and Equipment	-	0	0
5. Fellowships, Traineeships, Internships, Recruitment, and IPAs	4,256,145	0	0
6. Student Tuition Assistance, Scholarships, and Other Aid	2,608,668	129,500	4.9%
7. Direct Institutional Subsidies	114,000	0	0
8. Third Party Awards	-		0
9. Private Sector Involvement	-		0
10. Administrative Infrastructure	-		0
11. Other Activities	14,459	*10,500	.2%
Total	21,597,794	140,500	.6%

A total of \$129,500 was expended during FY 2008 for the MSIP/TCU Program.

*\$10,500 TCU funds directed toward Capacity Building Workshop

**PART 1. TABLE C
FEDERAL AGENCY AWARDS TO INSTITUTIONS
FISCAL YEAR 2008**

ANNUAL FEDERAL PERFORMANCE REPORT ON EXECUTIVE AGENCY ACTIONS TO ASSIST TCUs

EXECUTIVE ORDER 13270

STATE/ INSTITUTION	R&D	PE	TRAINING	F&E	FELLOWS	SFA	DIS	TPA	PSI	AI	OTHER	TOTALS
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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

American University Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS)					\$12,000.00							\$12,000.00
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Menominee Nation			\$10,888.82			\$30,778.40	\$75,832.78					\$117,500.00
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OTHER ACTIVITIES

Capacity Building and Technical Assistance Conference											\$10,500.00	\$10,500.00
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GRAND TOTAL			\$10,888.82		\$12,000.00	\$30,778.40	\$75,832.78					\$140,000.00*
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*\$10,500 utilized to conduct a Capacity Building Workshop held for TCUs, Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic Serving Institutions.

CATEGORIES:

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|-------------|---|
| 1) R&D | RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT |
| 2) PE | PROGRAM EVALUATION |
| 3) TRAINING | TRAINING |
| 4) F&E | FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT |
| 5) FELLOWS | FELLOWSHIPS, TRAINEESHIPS, INTERNSHIPS, RECRUITMENT, IPAs |
| 6) SFA | STUDENT TUITION ASSISTANCE, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND OTHER AID |
| 7) DIS | DIRECT INSTITUTIONAL SUBSIDIES |
| 8) TPA | THIRD PARTY AWARDS |
| 9) PSI | PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT |
| 10) AI | ADMINISTRATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE |
| 11) OTHER | OTHER ACTIVITIES |