BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN TRIBES AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN WASHINGTON STATE

SHEEO-Higher Education Policy Conference

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What we will cover:

Providing Context & History:
Tribal/State Legislative History & Geography
Contemporary Government-To-Government Relationships Public Education Impacts

The Work Underway: Current and Future:
Faculty of Learning Community & Curriculum Development Building CTC to University Pathways
Intentional Hiring

Sustainability:
Statewide Strategy
WCAAB, Advisory Board Funding
FEDERAL INDIAN POLICIES BETWEEN TRIBES & the UNITED STATES: LAW, LEGISLATION, POLICY & EVENTS

AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY TIMELINE

Colonial Period ➔ Removal ➔ Reservation Era ➔ Allotment & Assimilation ➔ Reorganization ➔ Termination Era ➔ Self-Determination ➔ Sovereignty
After Relocation Era, Tribes were forced to reservations, away from their traditional territories. A visual example of WA’s Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation (12 Tribes)
THE U.S. CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE 1, SECTION 8, CLAUSE 3, ASSERTS THAT CONGRESS SHALL HAVE THE POWER:

"TO REGULATE COMMERCE WITH FOREIGN NATIONS, AND AMONG THE SEVERAL STATES, AND WITH THE INDIAN TRIBES." STATE POWER ON INDIAN ISSUES IS THUS SUBORDINATED TO FEDERAL POWER. SEE ALSO ARTICLE VI, CLAUSE 2, WHERE THE CONSTITUTION STATES THAT TREATIES ARE THE "SUPREME LAW OF THE LAND."
FROM FIGHTING WA STATE TO "GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT" RELATIONS

1960s-70s TRIBES SUE WA STATE OVER FISHING RIGHTS
1974 BOLDT DECISION IN FAVOR OF TRIBES
WA Centennial Accord
State Governor & Tribal Leader G2G Gathering
2012 RCW 43.376

2013 Governor & Tribal Leaders GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT GATHERING
Evergreen State College
s'gwi gwiʔ altxʷ - House of Welcome
OVERVIEW OF WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

• 295 WA State Public School Districts

• 9 Educational Service Districts

• 7 State-Tribal Education Compact Schools

• 34 Community & Technical Colleges

• 6 Public Four-Year Colleges & Universities
FACULTY OF LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Indigenizing Curriculum
  • Centering Native American Perspectives
  • Emphasis on Local

Faculty Learning Communities
  • Faculty opt-in
  • Relationship building
  • Local Knowledge Holders & Subject Matter Experts

Faculty Courses
  • Faculty led, Self-Paced, Canvas
  • Indigenous Sovereignty, Cultures, Etc.
BUILDING COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO UNIVERSITY PATHWAYS

Partnerships = Pathways

• Building Relationships
• CTC → 4-year Institutions
  • Ex. Seattle Central Community College & University of Washington
• Making connections strong
INTENTIONAL HIRING

Institutional Accountability

• Native American Intentional Hiring
  • Financial Commitment
  • Retention

Challenges & Barriers

• Institutional Racism
• National Search vs Local
• Validity
  • Credentials vs Knowledge Holders
WA State Board for Community & Technical Colleges

- 34 Community and Technical Colleges
- Statewide Coverage / Service Districts
- SBCTC—advocacy, policy, & funding
- Confederation of colleges, not a chancellor model
Washington State Community and Technical Colleges

1. Bates Technical College
2. Bellevue College
3. Bellingham Technical College
4. Big Bend CC
5. Cascadia College
6. Centralia College
7. Clark College
8. Clover Park Technical College
9. Columbia Basin College
10. Edmonds CC
11. Everett CC
12. Grays Harbor College
13. Green River College
14. Highline College
15. Lake Washington Institute of Technology
16. Lower Columbia College
17. North Seattle College
18. Olympic College
19. Peninsula College
20. Pierce College-Fort Steilacoom
21. Pierce College-Puyallup
22. Renton Technical College
23. Seattle Central College
24. Shoreline CC
25. Skagit Valley College
26. South Puget Sound CC
27. South Seattle College
28. Spokane CC
29. Spokane Falls CC
30. Tacoma CC
31. Walla Walla CC
32. Wenatchee Valley College
33. Whatcom CC
34. Yakima Valley CC
LEADING WITH RACIAL EQUITY, OUR COLLEGES MAXIMIZE STUDENT POTENTIAL AND TRANSFORM LIVES WITHIN A CULTURE OF BELONGING THAT ADVANCES RACIAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE IN SERVICE TO OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITIES.
Washington State Community and Technical Colleges American Indian & Indigenous Advisory Committee (WCAAB)

Membership Makeup: Tribal Leadership & College Leadership

Goals:

1. Professional Development – RC)W 43.376 G2G Relationship Building Through Tribal Consultation across 34 CTCs (Training for CTC Leadership and Faculty)

2. Tackle Contemporary Challenges (Hiring of Tribal Relations/Administration/Faculty/Staff/Student Services/Community Scholars)

3. Raise the Awareness of AI/AN Historical Burdens (Intergenerational Historical Trauma i.e., MMIW, Boarding Schools, Relocation & other genocidal policies)

4. Reduce AI/AN Education and Economic Disparities (). Develop WA Tribal Student Pathways with intentional recruitment, retention, completion policies and practices, formalize G2G relationships with Tribes to support local workforce training needs.
Washington State Community and Technical Colleges American Indian Indigenous Studies Advisory Board

2022 WCAAB Retreat
WA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

- Wenatchee Valley College
- Peninsula College
- Green River College
- Grays Harbor College
GHC Native Pathways Curriculum

The ʔəʔkw'ustənáwtxw House of Learning

2017 ACT Partnership Award

WVC Community Scholars
FUTURE PLANNING...

• Regional Trainings, Statewide Approach
• From Grants to Sustainable Funding
• All College Involvement
LIMLIMT’ (THANK YOU) FOR LISTENING

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