



THE UNIVERSITY
OF ARIZONA

Native American Initiatives

Year 1 (2022-2023) Strategic Plan Progress Report

SP 1: Native students have the tools to successfully navigate the University experience.

Engage students before, during and after college entrance.

- Middle and high school outreach
- Indigenizing the New Student Experience Committee
- Tribal fair parades and representation at tribal community events
- Arizona Experience & Native American College Day
- Stakeholders Luncheon in Phoenix
- Dual enrollment initiative with BHS (ended with BHS visit to UA)

Access quality data to more effectively define and measure Native student success.

- Persistence and Completion Working Group (PCWG)
- Data analytics project with UAIR
- Tribal affiliation options in application process
- Tribal enrollment verification system

Increase financial security through opportunity and access to resources.

- Arizona Native Scholars Grant information sessions
- Scholarship Universe information sessions
- Native American Financial Aid Advisory Committee
- Financial literacy workshops offered by CALS Cooperative Extension
- Last Mile Grant Program
- Panel on healthcare options for Native students

SP 2: The University fosters a welcoming and supportive campus climate and sense of belonging.

Embed meaning of being a land grant institution.

- Land grant history and reconciliation project led by College of Law (Regents Professor, Rob Williams, lead)

Increase awareness and understanding of the contributions of Native Nations.

- Presentations on relationship building and engagement with Native Nations
- Co-lead Arizona Tri-Universities for Indian Education (ATUIE)
- Arizona Innovation Alliance (AIA) lead on Indigenous Student Support Services Learning Studio project

Enhance visibility and representation of Native Nations, students, faculty and staff.

- Native American Advancement, Initiatives, and Research web portal
- Native American representation in university materials and media
- Indigenous Circle campuswide professional network
- Participation in Diversity Coordinating Council, Senior Leadership Team, and Provost Council

SP 3: Native faculty are represented across disciplines and are engaged in academic excellence.

Grow faculty representation across colleges and disciplines.

- Collaborate with Faculty Affairs to create systematic reports on Native faculty representation

Expand leadership and advancement opportunities for faculty across campus.

- Native American Faculty (NAF) Group monthly meetings
- Funding support for NAF initiatives

Build a learning community that is safe, respectful and welcoming.

- New faculty welcome
- New faculty orientations with focus on significance of being a land grant university
- *Skoden* Native American Faculty & Staff affinity group

SP 4: Partnerships promote nation building, infrastructure and workforce opportunities.

Connect students with career development opportunities with and for Native Nations.

- Met with AVP of Access, Engagement & Opportunity to discuss post-grad pathways, career fairs, and internships

Strengthen relationships with tribal education departments and tribal colleges.

- Host tribal education and tribal college staff visitations to campus
- USDA grant with Diné College to support STEAM students
- Tribal education staff directory & communications
- Facilitate articulation and transfer between Tohono O'odham Community College (TOCC) & UA

Support Native American Advancement & Tribal Engagement outreach efforts.

- "Unity Plaza" (Native American Advisory Council)
- Visioning of new Indigenous Student Center
- Tribal Leader Summits