

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

2404

2007 SENATE EDUCATION

SB 2404

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 2404

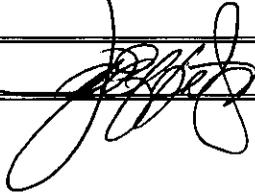
Senate Education Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: January 31, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 2384, 2388

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Freborg opened the hearing on SB 2404, a bill to provide financial assistance to tribally controlled colleges. All members were present.

Senator Marcellais introduced the bill. (Written testimony attached)

Representative Froehlich testified in favor of the bill. He has first hand experience with this; Sitting Bull College is in his district. They offer two year programs and four year programs. He has watched the college grow since infancy. The reservations are poverty stricken and the colleges offer a lot of social programs. If we are going to help the best way is through education. Sitting Bull College does not discriminate and they do educate non-enrolled members. If these students would go into the state university system, it would cost the state more money.

Representative Boucher testified in favor of the bill. (Written testimony attached)

Senator Gary Lee said we have heard the tribal colleges get little or no payment for non-beneficiary students. What is very little?

Representative Boucher said the can charge tuition but there is no assistance for staff, building, maintenance. These costs at the state campuses are covered by state dollars and tuition.

Senator Flakoll asked if some students at the tribal colleges are eligible for the grant program.

Representative Boucher said he thinks so but again, they do not get state dollars.

Senator Flakoll said there was \$4 million put into a grant program for higher education, based on need.

Representative Boucher said he would defer to the campus presidents for an answer.

Representative Charging testified in favor of the bill. Her district is the home of Fort Berthold Community College. She has watched the college grow from humble beginnings to a state of the art facility. Two new programs are nursing and an energy program. This is an opportunity to expand enrollment. This is also a way to offer non tribal citizens a service. The five nations are scattered across North Dakota and they have opened their doors to others in the community.

Jim Davis, President, Turtle Mountain Community College, testified in favor of the bill. (Written testimony attached)

Senator Gary Lee asked how many students are non-beneficiary students.

Dr. Davis said 175 – 180.

Senator Gary Lee asked how they came up with the \$700,000 figure.

Dr. Davis said it could be more. If it were like the funding they receive for their own enrolled students, it would be \$5000 per student. Because of the history of coming to the legislature for funding (they have tried 5 or 6 times) they thought this was a good place to start. It amounts to about \$2000/FTE/year.

Senator Taylor asked if they had ever considered two-tiered tuition.

Dr. Davis said they have never considered that. Last year they had a tuition increase of \$112, from \$888 per semester to \$1000 per semester, the lowest tuition in the state of North Dakota. They have an open door policy. If a student cannot afford to pay, the college will fully or

partially waive tuition for both enrolled and non-beneficiary students. The state system does not do that.

Senator Taylor asked what percentage of students receives a waiver.

Dr. Davis said he does not have those figures. Close to 100% of their students qualify for assistance.

Dr. Laurel Vermillion, President, Sitting Bull Community College, testified in favor of the bill.

(Written testimony attached) She is a product of the Tribal College system. She began her education at what was then Standing Rock Community College. The schools have to be in places where they are accessible. Many of their top notch students leave the community to go to a mainstream college only to return with low grade point averages. They suffer from culture shock and miss the family environment. Their staff helps them regain their self confidence and improve their grades. Their tuition is \$1500 per semester. Through grant writing, they were able to open a new science technology center in January, 2006. In March, 2006, they opened a new family support center that houses their education department and day care center. They have a tribal education consortium of the principals and superintendents from the surrounding schools that meet monthly to discuss important issues such as best practices and retention. They are an information hub for the community. They provide continuing education. Dr. Kathryn Froelich, Education Department Chair at Sitting Bull Community College, testified in favor of the bill. Meter 42:09. She too is a product of a tribal college. She taught elementary school for 15 years. They have 4 year programs in education with articulation with South Dakota schools. They have 40 students in their 4 year special education program and 25% (10) are non-beneficiary students. They do their best to serve the community. They provide professional development for No Child Left Behind. They are the resource in their community.

Dr. Cynthia Lindquist Mala, President, Caddeska Cikana Community College, testified in favor of the bill. (Written testimony attached) Meter 47:00. The tribal colleges are resourceful. She is amazed by what they can accomplish. Their tuition is \$85/credit hour and they are considering an increase to \$90/credit hour. Non-member students feel disenfranchised. The college does not discriminate. They are very good at what they do. In the past, their bills have not gotten out of committee; there is a lot of misunderstanding. They are very accountable; her school has had a clean audit for 4 years. 36% of their graduates transfer to the state university system. Affordability and access are issues. It is hard for some of her people to leave the reservation. 90% of their graduates stay in North Dakota.

David Gipp, President of United Tribes Technical College, testified in favor of the bill. (Written testimony attached) Meter 54:40

Eddie Dunn, Chancellor of the North Dakota University System, testified in favor of the bill. (Written testimony attached)

Chairman Freborg asked what the status of HB 1395 is.

Dr. Dunn said it is being considered this morning.

Senator Flakoll asked if this would count towards the 21%.

Dr. Dunn said no and he has discussed this with the tribal presidents.

Cheryl Bergian, North Dakota Human Rights Coalition, testified in favor of the bill. She asked the committee to help dispel misconceptions and to help with the bill on the floor.

Chairman Freborg closed the hearing on senate bill 2404.

Senator Flakoll reviewed the amendment presented by Dr. Davis to change the definition of a tribal college.

Senator Flakoll moved the amendment presented by Dr. Davis. Senator Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Senator Flakoll moved a Do Pass As Amended and Rerefer to Appropriations, second by Senator Taylor. The motion passed 5-0-0. Senator Bakke will carry the bill.

Senator Gary Lee asked if this will be matched up with the house bill.

Chairman Freborg said he thought so.

**Proposed Amendments to SB 2404:**

On Page 1, Section 1, lines 8-11, substitute for the definition contained in those lines the following definition:

3. "Tribally controlled community college" means an institution of higher education in this state which is formally controlled or has been formally sanctioned or chartered by the governing bed Indian tribe or by any combination of any federally recognized Indian tribes.

On page 1, Section 2, lines 13-15, after the word "for" in line 13, insert the following:

"nonbeneficiary", and strike the remainder of the Section to the period. The section would therefore read as follows:

**SECTION 2. Institutions eligible for grant assistance.** Any tribally controlled community college located in this state is eligible to receive supplemental grant assistance for nonbeneficiary students ~~who do not qualify for federal assistance under the provisions of the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act of 1978.~~

On page 1, Section 3, lines 18-19: After the word "students", strike the remainder of the sentence through the period on line 19. The Section would read as follows:

**SECTION 3. Grant authorization.** The state board of higher education shall make grants to tribally controlled community colleges to defray the costs of education associated with enrollment of nonbeneficiary students ~~for whom federal subsidies are unavailable under the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act of 1978.~~ Grants made pursuant to this section must go directly to the recipient institutions.

On Page 2, Section 5, line 6, after the words "of the" insert the following words:

"expenditures of the grant funds received by the institution under this Act and a copy of the institution's latest audit report"

On Page 2, line 6, delete the words:

~~"institution's operating and maintenance expenses"~~

*adopted  
5-0  
11/31/07*

Section 5, after these amendments, would read as follows:

**SECTION 5. Reporting by recipient institutions.** Each institution receiving a grant under this Act shall annually provide to the state board of higher education an accurate and detailed account of the expenditures of the grant funds received by the institution under this Act and a copy of the institution's latest audit report ~~institution's operating and maintenance expenses~~ and documentation of the enrollment status and ethnic status of each student on whose account financial assistance under this Act is sought.

*Jim Davis*





**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2404: Education Committee (Sen. Freborg, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends DO PASS and BE REREFERRED to the Appropriations Committee (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2404 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.**

Page 1, line 9, replace "except that no more than one institution" with "or by any combination of any federally recognized Indian tribes."

Page 1, remove line 10

Page 1, line 12, after "for" insert "nonbeneficiary"

Page 1, line 13, replace "who do not qualify for federal assistance under the provisions of the Tribally Controlled" with an underscored period

Page 1, remove line 14

Page 1, line 17, remove "for whom federal subsidies are unavailable under the"

Page 1, line 18, remove "Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act of 1978"

Page 2, line 12, replace "institution's operating and maintenance expenses" with "expenditures of the grant funds received by the institution, a copy of the institution's latest audit report."

Renumber accordingly

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2404

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 2404

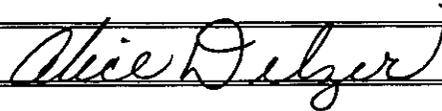
Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 02-12-07

Recorder Job Number: 3375

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

**Chairman Holmberg** opened the hearing on SB 2404 on February 12, 2007 in reference to Financial Assistance to Tribally Controlled Community Colleges. He asked how many people are here to testify in favor of the bill today and how many are here to testify in opposition of the bill. Later during testimony **Vice Chairman Bowman** presided over the hearing.

**Jim Davis, President of Turtle Mountain Community College and President for the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges** presented written testimony (1) and oral testimony in support of SB 2404.

**Senator Bowman** asked if "Nonbeneficiary Students" pay anything to the colleges.

**Jim Davis** stated they pay whatever they can. That varies from college to college. If they are entitled to pell grants, or if they pay out of their own pocket, keep in mind that in these communities the jobs and income are not always that great. He gave an example regarding Turtle Mountain Community College stating sometimes tuition fees have been waived for some of those "Nonbeneficiary Students" because we have an open door policy and they are a part of the community.

**Senator Christmann** Where are most of your 'Nonbeneficiary Students' from?

**Jim Davis** stated they are probably about 20 or 25 miles within the area of the Turtle Mountain College. The exception would probably be for the United Tribes Technical College in

Bismarck, ND. They draw from a number of different states. But how many of those students from out of state are nonbeneficiary students I don't know.

**Written testimony (2) was submitted from Cheryl Crazy Bull, President of Northwest Indian College and American Indian Higher Education Consortium** in support of SB 2404.

**Mike Hillman, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs of the North Dakota University System** presented written testimony (3) and gave oral testimony in support of SB 2404.

**Senator Christmann** asked if we didn't have the money for this and chose to take it out of the 5 hundred million that is still in the general fund in the University System would you be opposed to it.

**Mike Hillman** said the priority of the State Board of Higher Education is to fund our requests first and that would be the 63 million dollar increase. I don't think the general funds are at 500 million dollars.

**Pam Sharp, Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)** I just want to testify through a line technical item in this bill. Should you chose to fund this bill, this bill requires that Higher Education administer the program but OMB distribute the money and I just think it would be more efficient if all of this was done within the same place. Higher Ed is more equipped, the staff is familiar with these kind of plans and OMB is not, and right now, I honestly don't know if it would pass like this if it would require additional FTE or not because I don't know how much work would be involved.

**David Gipp, President of United Tribes Technical College** presented written testimony (4) and gave oral testimony in support of SB 2404.

**Senator Mathern** had questions regarding the amendments handed out by Dr. Davis.

**Cynthia Lindquist Mala, President of Cankdeska Cikana Community College, Ft Totten,**

**Spirit Lake Tribe,** gave oral testimony in support of SB 2404. She referred to testimony (2) and gave information stating the average age of her students is 27 years old, they are typically single parents and they typically are working full time. Most of our students are eligible for student aid in pall grants and many are living below the poverty level. She also explained more fully who the "Nonbeneficiary Students" are. Typically they are residents of a reservation, they are farm and ranch families, they are our neighbors and we try to support each other. Our institutions are very affordable and acceptable for people to get an education. It has been quoted nationally in publications that tribal colleges are under funded challenged. They are miracles in Indian country and in the states we reside and we truly are. We are very resourceful about what we do, we are accredited by the same body that accredits mainstream institutions. We need your help at our state institutions to provide an education for our students who are state citizens. We are asking for a very modest investment of state resources.

**Laura Vermillion, President of Sitting Bull College, Fort Yates, ND** gave oral testimony in support of SB 2404. She shared about Sitting Bull College stating they were chartered and opened their doors in 1973. At that time they were know as Standing Rock Community College. You can look at me if you want to see what happens to students that attend tribal colleges. I got my teaching degree, got my administrative degree and now have a PHD. It is very easy for me to talk to my students about what they need to do to finish their career. Sitting Bull College has about 300 students and about 25 of them are "Nonbeneficiary Students" and that is not a big number but it means a lot..

**Russell Mason, Jr. President of Fort Totten Community College**, gave oral testimony in support of SB 2404. He has been president for two years. He spoke about the need for these students. They had a nursing program several years ago, but that program had to be discontinued because of lack of funding.

**LeAnn Nelson, Director of Professional Development Program In the North Dakota Education Association (NDEA)** gave oral testimony in support of SB 2404.

**Vice Chairman Bowman** asked for further testimony. Seeing none, the hearing closed on SB 2404.

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. **SB 2404**

Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: **February 12, 2007**

Recorder Job Number: **3421**

Committee Clerk Signature

*Janet Pirks*

Minutes:

Is there any way to find out what's to be pushed out up there? If they're sitting there just final, copies of 2003 or isn't there a way to track that?

. Mr Chairman, we do have 2003 now.

Ok, well, we're doing 2404 first.

Motion for a DO PASS S Krauter

Second S Seymour

This is a straight up bill if you've been here before, we've had a bill of this variety.

. I think there are some amendments to adopt first, they were on Dr. Davis' testimony.

. Withdraw my motion

. I move to amend 2404 with those amendments.

The amendments are attached to the testimony and Becky, you don't have it and you didn't adopt these, so they need to be put into right style form.

. I spoke to Kim Sharp about them, and she said they were in the order that she agreed on.

Discussion on Amendments, all in favor "aye" – AYE –[no nay]

Move to DO PASS AS AMENDED from S Krauter

Second by S Mathern

Straight forward, you either agree or you don't agree.

Page 2  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Bill/Resolution No. **SB 2404**  
Hearing Date: **February 12, 2007**

Vote on DO PASS AS AMENDED – 7 – 7 tie

I will make a motion for WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Motion by S Mathern

Second: S Tallackson

Roll Call on WITHOUT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION SB 2404 – 9 – 5 Passed

Carrier: S. Mathern

It goes back to education, it's an education bill.

Date: 2/12/07  
 Roll Call Vote #:

**2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES**  
**BILL/RESOLUTION NO 2404**

Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken Do Pass w amend

Motion Made By Krauter Seconded By Seymour Mathern

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Ray Holmberg, Chrm		✓	Senator Aaron Krauter	✓	
Senator Bill Bowman, V Chrm		✓	Senator Elroy N. Lindaas	✓	
Senator Tony Grindberg, V Chrm		✓	Senator Tim Mathern	✓	
Senator Randel Christmann		✓	Senator Larry J. Robinson	✓	
Senator Tom Fischer		✓	Senator Tom Seymour	✓	
Senator Ralph L. Kilzer		✓	Senator Harvey Tallackson	✓	
Senator Karen K. Krebsbach		✓			
Senator Rich Wardner	✓				

Total (Yes) 7 No 7

Absent \_\_\_\_\_

Floor Assignment \_\_\_\_\_

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Mathern  
Carry amend

Date: 2/12/07  
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2404

Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken WO Comm Rec

Motion Made By Mather Seconded By Tallackson

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Ray Holmberg, Chrm	✓		Senator Aaron Krauter		✓
Senator Bill Bowman, V Chrm	✓		Senator Elroy N. Lindaas	✓	
Senator Tony Grindberg, V Chrm	✓		Senator Tim Mather		✓
Senator Randel Christmann	✓		Senator Larry J. Robinson		✓
Senator Tom Fischer	✓		Senator Tom Seymour		✓
Senator Ralph L. Kilzer	✓		Senator Harvey Tallackson		✓
Senator Karen K. Krebsbach	✓				
Senator Rich Wardner	✓				

Total (Yes) 9 No 5

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Edu

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

*Mather  
Carry amend*

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2404, as engrossed: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Holmberg, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends BE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION (9 YEAS, 5 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).** Engrossed SB 2404 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 14, replace "office of management and budget" with "state board of higher education"

Page 1, line 20, replace "office of" with "board shall distribute to each tribally controlled community college, during each year of the biennium, four thousand five hundred eighty-one dollars for each nonbeneficiary student on a full-time equivalent basis. If the amount appropriated is insufficient, the board shall distribute a prorated amount per nonbeneficiary student on a full-time equivalent basis."

Page 1, remove lines 21 through 24

Page 2, remove lines 1 through 7

Page 2, line 9, replace "office of management and budget" with "state board of higher education"

Page 2, line 15, replace "office of management and budget" with "state board of higher education"

Renumber accordingly

2007 HOUSE EDUCATION

SB 2404

# 2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. **SB 2404**

## House Education Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: **7 March 2007**

Recorder Job Number: **4519 (morning) 4520 (afternoon)**

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

**Chairman Kelsch opened the hearing of SB 2404.**

**Senator Richard Marcellais, District 9, introduced the bill.** I am here to provide testimony on behalf of the tribal community colleges in the state of ND. There are five colleges operating in the state of ND and there are 35 colleges nationwide. ND is the home of 15% of our tribal colleges. They are fully accredited, culturally rich, and 95% of our graduates stay in the state of ND. SB 2404 would provide funding over a two-year period to subsidize non-beneficiary students attending ND tribal colleges. By non-beneficiary students, I mean non-enrolled students—non-Native students that are attending our colleges. The presidents of the tribal colleges urge the State Legislature to make an investment in their tribal colleges by passing SB 2404. Thank you for allowing me to appear before you.

**Representative Karls:** How is this bill different from HB 1395 which we passed?

**Senator Marcellais:** They differ by the funding source. This will take the funding source out of the general fund and the prior bill takes it out of the university system budget.

**Representative Rod Froelich, District 31, spoke on behalf of the bill.** Sitting Bull College is in my district and my wife works at Sitting Bull College and would probably get fired if I didn't get up here and speak. You have heard this bill before and are aware of it. It's still alive in the Senate so between the two of them I think we should be able to work something out.

**Jim Davis, chairman of the board and president, Turtle Mountain Community College, testified in favor of the bill. (Testimony Attached.)**

**Representative Mueller:** In your testimony one of the charts about the amount of money coming from, I assume the federal government which ended up at \$4447. I suppose the attempt was to compare that to ND state appropriation to the ND State University System of \$5602 per student.

**Davis:** There are a couple of things about that: One would be that matching amount would be equivalent to what we receive for our Native students. There is no way that is going to happen. With the number of students that we were referring to is 200 students divided by \$350.0 per year, it going to be \$2.0 per student or less.

**Representative Mueller:** Is that \$4447 the extent of any money then that comes from Washington DC for the efforts of educating your young folks in the colleges.

**Davis:** No. That amounts to about 1/3 of our budget. We work very; very hard to secure grants from the federal government and private sources otherwise we wouldn't be where we are today.

**Representative Mueller:** Can you give us a sense of what the \$4447 would be if you included those federal government grants. What would it be taking those grants in to account for the students that you have at your college?

**Davis:** In our case and probably the case in most colleges because of what we do, it would probably be around \$12.0 per student.

**Representative Mueller:** You have 45 students at Turtle Mountain CC, of those 45 what has history shown would go on to the ND University System?

**Davis:** About 60% of our Native students that would normally not attend a university or college, roughly 10 of those students. In our case we have not kept good documentation as

far as transferring our students. We know that those students that are in a four-year program will transfer. About half of our programs are in that category. Some get in to the certificate, the one year-program or the two-year program not intending to go to a four-year institution, but we have a number only have the intention of coming in to take a one-year program and they get interested in a college life and what it can do for them and they end up in the four-year program. That's an important point to make here because the accessibility and the affordability for these students once they get acclimated to college life and what it is all about and sometimes despite their age, they become interested in a career that is going to provide them a better lifestyle whether it be our Native students or our non-Native students.

**Representative Hanson:** You have two bills here that are just about identical. Do you have a preference?

**Davis:** We don't have a preference.

**Vice Chairman Meier:** Have the tribally controlled college received their federal funding yet.

**Davis:** We have received some—maybe half of what we think we are entitled to.

**Representative Hunskor:** Do you find an increase of non-beneficiary students attending your colleges as your system improves and gets larger? Is that number stable?

**Davis:** It varies. Looking back for the past five years in our case, it has varied from 7% to 16%. As we do a better job of collaborating with the university system that could go up a little bit. That's fine if we can provide that service. We can educate those students at a lesser cost.

**Mike Hillman, vice chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs of the North Dakota University System, testified in favor of the bill. (Testimony Attached.)** The tribal

colleges have the same accreditation standards as the other university system colleges. They serve niches and areas in the state that we are not particularly good at serving and so we think

it is important that the human capital in those areas be developed so those areas of the state are economically prosperous. In answer to a previously asked question, in the Fall of 2006 the ND university system institutions received over 500 students who noted a tribal college as their last institution attended. We work closely with the tribal institutions with a transfer agreement; we have a common course numbering process and they are working with on statewide articulation and transfer agreements. We would prefer that the funding for the tribal colleges, which we think is important, not come out of the university system appropriation bill.

**Representative Mueller:** In your written testimony you talk about \$6 million being available for needs based financial aid and some of the aid is going to the tribal colleges. How much?

**Hillman:** For the current year, we have 110 students at tribal colleges receiving grants for a total of \$66,000 and that is 3% of the total.

**Bill Baird, vice president, United Tribes Technical College, testified in favor of the bill.**

**He presented the written testimony of David Gipp, president, UTTC (attached).**

**Representative Wall:** Do non-beneficiary students pay tuition to tribal colleges?

**Baird:** We do collect tuition from these students. We charge \$89 per credit hour. We are a bargain.

**Laurel Vermillion, president, Sitting Bull College, testified in favor of the bill.** Presently we have about 330 students and about 25 of those students are non-beneficiary students. In our teacher education program we have about 38 graduates. Fifty-five percent of those graduates have gone on to pursue master's degrees. These students that come to our college probably would not have attended college if it wasn't for us. The \$66,000 that Dr. Hillman mentioned that came to the tribal colleges as scholarships is money that goes to the students. The funding we are asking for in SB 2404 would be funding to help the college.

**Chairman Kelsch:** We have been dealing with issues of remedial education when people get to college. How prepared are your students when they are coming in to your college that freshman year.

**Vermillion:** Some are very prepared and some are not. We have students that come to us with GEDs so some of them are lacking in some skills. We do have foundation classes that students are required to take. They are tested when they come in and if they fall below a certain level they are required to take those foundation classes.

**Chairman Kelsch:** Do you have tracking of your students to find out if they are going to the other universities?

**Vermillion:** We don't track them. We are watching the teacher education program closely and we are seeing that the students are continuing on. We have not developed a tracking system but more and more as tribal colleges work together we are looking at developing these things. We know it is important for us to do so.

**LeAnn Nelson, ND Education Association, testified in support of the bill.** We have three main reasons and you've heard them all today: Diversity, help students with financial costs, and get more teachers out there to help those rural communities that are having a hard getting and retaining teachers. The more teachers we can educate in ND and keep in ND the better it will be for our state.

**There was no opposition to SB 2404.**

**Chairman Kelsch:** Mike, I have a question for you. Does the university system have any record or have any data that shows how many students are coming into the university system?

**Hillman:** We have plans to work with K-12, tribal colleges, and private institutions to develop a longitudinal data system for the state. We know Native students move between BIA schools, public school and in and out are particularly hard to track because of the options available to

them. The one snapshot that we have is when students come to our institutions, federal requirements require that we get for financial purposes all of the previous records. What we track is the last institution attended. For the fall of 2006 we had about 540 students that recorded their last institution as a tribal college. That could have been 10 years ago or it could have been spring 2006. It does work both ways too. They get a number of our students, how many I don't know.

**Chairman Kelsch closed the hearing of SB 2404.**

**At a later time on the same day Chairman Kelsch opened discussion on SB 2404.**

**Chairman Kelsch:** Because the higher ed budget is over in the Senate, I've talked to Senator Freborg and they are going to keep HB 1395 alive and try to work on the funding issue. Even if they go in to a general fund appropriation, the budget is there and they will work with it over there. I think we just need one bill. I have talked to Mike Hillman, the tribal colleges and Senator Freborg and I know the university system is a little uncomfortable with the funding source. I have a problem with the university saying it's our money when it's not their money until it is appropriated and we close out. The Senate will work on this and decide where the appropriate fund source is.

**Representative Wall:** Are the powers that be leaning toward the general fund for this?

**Chairman Kelsch:** The university system is. Everyone is saying they can come up with something and work through something. The reason we picked that line item is because believe me the kids that are attending these tribal colleges are still needy kids. They are non-beneficiary kids that are living on or right outside of the reservation for a reason. That line item was increased by \$2.9 million which is a pretty substantial increase. I think the fit is really

good. I know the university system says this is scholarship money for kids and I know this is going to the tribal colleges but it is to help defray the cost of those kids attending the school.

**Representative Karls:** I was looking over my notes from Laurel Vermillion what she stated the \$66.0 was for students.

**Chairman Kelsch:** That was part of that line item of the \$5.9 million and is money that currently goes to Native American students that are attending tribal colleges. The money in this bill, regardless of which bill you are looking at, goes directly to the tribal college to defray the cost of those students. The cost of the enrolled students is paid for by the federal government. The non-Native students are not paid for.

**Vice Chairman Meier:** I move a Do Not Pass.

**Representative Wall:** I second.

**Representative Solberg:** In the event of a do not pass, it is quite certain there will be funding authorized in 1395?

**Chairman Kelsch:** It is funded out of the line item grant. The funding is there. If the Senate says they are not comfortable that, the Senate has committed to me that they will find the funding.

**A roll call vote was taken: Yes: 12, No: 0, Absent: 1 (Herbel)**

**Chairman Kelsch will carry the bill.**

Date: 7 May 06  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2404

House Education Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken do Not Pass

Motion Made By Beier Seconded By stall

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Kelsch	✓		Rep Hanson	✓	
V Chairman Meier	✓		Rep Hunskor	✓	
Rep Haas	✓		Rep Mueller	✓	
Rep Herbel			Rep Myxter	✓	
Rep Johnson	✓		Rep Solberg	✓	
Rep Karls	✓				
Rep Sukut	✓				
Rep Wall	✓				

Total Yes 12 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Kelsch

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)  
March 12, 2007 12:18 p.m.

Module No: HR-46-4951  
Carrier: R. Kelsch  
Insert LC: . Title: .

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

SB 2404, as reengrossed: Education Committee (Rep. R. Kelsch, Chairman)  
recommends **DO NOT PASS** (12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).  
Reengrossed SB 2404 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2007 TESTIMONY

SB 2404

7 /

**Testimony**  
**Senate Bill No. 2404 – Financial assistance to Tribal controlled**  
**community colleges**  
**Education Committee**  
**Senator Freborg, Chairman**  
**January 31, 2007**

**Chairman Freborg, members of the Education Committee, I am Senator Richard Marcellais, from District 9, of Belcourt I am here today to provide you with testimony on behalf of the tribal community colleges in the state of North Dakota.**

**The Native American population in North Dakota is comprised of five reservations, seven tribes, 54,075 tribal members and over 3.8 million acres of land.**

**Tribal Colleges were created over the last 30 years in response to the higher education needs of American Indians and generally serve geographically isolated populations that have no means of accessing education beyond the high school level. Tribal colleges are unique institutions that combine personal attention with cultural relevance in such ways to encourage American Indians – especially those living on reservation – to overcome the barriers in higher education.**

**There are 5 tribal colleges operating in the state of North Dakota and 35 tribal colleges operating nationwide. North Dakota is home to 15% of all tribal college institutions.**

**Tribal Colleges are fully accredited, culturally rich and 90-95% of all graduates from tribal colleges stay in the state of North Dakota as opposed to the out-migration of graduating students who attend State institutions.**

**Tribal Colleges in North Dakota have an open door policy with no enrollment caps ensuring the ability of any students to attend.**

**The only source of funding for Tribal Colleges is the federal government. Fiscal year 2006 appropriation was approximately \$5,000 per Indian student count (ISC).**

**North Dakota provides no funding for the tribal colleges but provides approximately \$16,000 per student attending the State's public institutions. The 175 non-beneficiary students (averages 7 percent annually) that attend North Dakota tribal colleges do not received funding from the State.**

**House Bill 1395 would provide an appropriation of \$700,000 over a two-year period, to subsidize non-beneficiary students currently attending North Dakota Tribal Colleges – a \$2.8 million dollar savings to the state of North Dakota.**

**Students that graduate from tribal colleges make an average of 50% more than those who do not attend.**

**The presidents of the tribal colleges of North Dakota urge the state legislature to make an investment in their tribal colleges by passing Senate Bill # 2404.**

**Thank you very much for the opportunity to appear in support of this bill today.**

TESTIMONY SB 2404

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
SENATOR LAYTON FREBORG

Good Morning Chairman Freborg and members of the Senate Education Committee. I am Representative Merle Boucher D-9. District Nine is the home of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and Turtle Mountain Community College.

I am here to testify in favor of SB 2404

Senate Bill 2404 acknowledges the education services and associated costs that our Tribal College provides to non-beneficiary students. A non-beneficiary student can be defined as a non-Indian and/or a non-enrolled Indian.

Tribal Community Colleges receive federal financial support on a per pupil basis for tribally enrolled Native American Students. The colleges receive no federal support for non-Indian and for Indian's who do not claim tribal enrollment.

The only financial compensation that Tribal Colleges receive from non-beneficiary students would be from tuition and fees. In many situations all or part of these payments are waived.

The intent of SB 2404 is very basic and straight forward. The bill provides for a payment to the colleges, as a partial offset for the costs that the school has incurred to provide education services to non-beneficiary students.

SB 2404 is a statement of "good faith". It's a commitment from the state legislature compensating the Tribal Colleges for services that they have provided to North Dakota citizens and state government.

I respectfully ask that you deliberate very carefully the bill that you have before you today, and that you act favorable on SB 2404.

Thank you for your respectful consideration.

Respectfully submitted:

Representative Merle Boucher, Minority leader  
North Dakota House of Representatives

North Dakota State Legislature  
60<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly

Senate Education Committee

Hearing on SB 2404

January 31, 2007

Testimony of Dr. Jim L. Davis  
President, Turtle Mountain Community College

Good morning to you all. Greetings from the people of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians.

*Frueberg*  
Chairman ~~Richard Marcellais~~ and committee members, thank you very much for giving me this great opportunity to come before you this morning to testify on behalf of the Turtle Mountain Community College and in support SB 2404, a bill for an Act to provide financial assistance to tribally controlled community colleges, and to provide an appropriation.

Today, I come to you to address ~~an~~ issue that Tribal Colleges have been faced with for some twenty years, and that is the issue of funding students at North Dakota's Tribal Colleges who are identified as non-beneficiary students. Non-beneficiary students are those students enrolled at a Tribal College but are not members of a federally-recognized Indian tribe. I am very much in favor of having the State of North Dakota provide financial assistance to non-beneficiary students who attend Turtle Mountain Community College.

Turtle Mountain Community College is a tribally-controlled public institution with annual appropriations made available by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, under the Tribally Controlled Community College and University Assistance Act. By federal law, non-beneficiary students are not entitled to any funding under this Act.

The disparity we face with the non-funding for the non-beneficiary student is that our federally-recognized Indian students for this year will receive approximately \$5,000.00 per full time student while no funding will be available for the non-beneficiary student. The majority of the students who attend Turtle Mountain Community College are federally recognized tribal members, with the majority of these students being enrolled members of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. The non-beneficiary students mentioned earlier are referred to as non-beneficiary for at least two reasons: (1) The Turtle Mountain Community College receives no funding for them from the Bureau of Indians Affairs due to their non-Indian status, and (2) the State of North Dakota has not provided any financial resources to the College for these students.

For well over twenty years, non-beneficiary students have been attending Turtle Mountain Community College at a cost to our college and at no cost to the State of North Dakota. I believe that the State of North Dakota has an obligation to contribute to some of the cost of educating non-beneficiary students attending our college. The annual percentage of non-beneficiary students attending the Turtle Mountain Community College over the past 3.5 years has averaged eleven percent of our total student enrollment. The numbers and percentages of students enrolled at our college since the 2003-2004 academic year is presented in Attachment A.

Non-beneficiary students view Turtle Mountain Community College as affordable, accessible, convenient, friendly, small student-to-faculty ratio, and students realize we offer quality programs. While we primarily offer two-year programs, we also offer two four-year programs. One is the elementary education degree program, and the other is the secondary science teacher education program. The college is fully accredited with the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and all courses and programs meet or exceed state standards. We have articulation agreements with University of North Dakota, North Dakota State University, Minot State University, Dickinson State University, and Bismarck State College. These agreements are intended to collaborate with each other in terms of transferability of courses, credits, and programs to the respective institutions.

The College has the lowest tuition rate of any college or university in North Dakota. Students attending Turtle Mountain Community College pay \$1000 per semester in tuition as a full time student which is a minimum of 12 credit hours. It does not cost the student any more than the \$1000 per semester regardless of how many credits they take beyond the 12 credit hours. It's a bargain!

We value the diversity that non-beneficiary students bring to our campus. It is good for both the federally-recognized Indian students and for the non-beneficiary students. We have an open enrollment policy at our college; we do not refuse anyone from attending.

The approximate \$2000<sup>per</sup> per student per year we could receive from the passage of this legislation means a great deal to the Turtle Mountain Community College. These funds could and should be used for supporting and expanding our tutoring services to students that would help to increase our retention rate and therefore increase our graduation rates. In addition, our technology capabilities can be updated and improved in order to better support the needs of students.

*over 2000 graduates  
5000 attendees*

I strongly recommend to this committee a "do pass" for SB 2404, a decision that would help the non-beneficiary students with some of the college expenses in achieving greater prosperity and success for themselves and their families. Thank you.

Attachment A

**Turtle Mountain Community College  
Student Enrollment**

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 Fall
* Total Enrollment Including Non-Beneficiary	1378	1288	1198	788
Total Enrollment of Non-Beneficiary Students	139	119	154	48
% of Total Enrollment of Non-Beneficiary Students	9.9%	10.8%	7.8%	16.4%
# of Students Enrolled Full-Time Non-Beneficiary	56	46	42	12
# of Students Enrolled Part-Time Non-Beneficiary	83	73	112	36
# of Students Receiving Financial Assistance Non-Beneficiary Only	47	15	33	9
# of Students Receiving Financial Assistance Including Non-Beneficiary	568	601	512	522

\* Includes Full-Time and Part-Time Students.

# NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF TRIBAL COLLEGES

North Dakota State Legislature  
60th Legislative Assembly

Senate Education Committee

Hearing on SB 2404

January 31, 2007

Testimony of North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges  
Board Chairman Dr. Jim Davis  
President, Turtle Mountain Community College

*Mr.* ~~Chairman~~ <sup>Senate</sup> Chairman and members of the ~~House~~ Education Committee: This testimony is provided on behalf of the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges in support of SB 2404, and in support of certain technical amendments to the bill which are attached to this testimony. The North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges, along with their location and tribal affiliation, includes the Fort Berthold Community College (New Town – Three Affiliated Tribes); Sitting Bull College (Ft. Yates – Standing Rock Sioux Tribe); Cankdeska Cikana Community College (Ft. Totten, Spirit Lake Tribe); Turtle Mountain Community College (Belcourt, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa) and United Tribes Technical College (Bismarck, operated by the five federally recognized Indian tribes in North Dakota).

SB 2404, as amended, would provide an appropriation of \$700,000 over a two-year period to provide grants to the five Tribally controlled colleges in North Dakota to help defray the costs of educating nonbeneficiary students at these institutions. "Nonbeneficiary students" are defined in Section 1 as "a student who is enrolled in a tribally controlled community college but is not an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe".

Under Sections 3 and 4 of ~~HB~~ 2404, the grants provided to the Tribal colleges would be administered by the North Dakota board of higher education. We do not believe the cost of administration of this grant program to be significant. Grants are formula driven based on the total number of nonbeneficiary students attending the Tribal colleges, as certified to the board of higher education.

The grant amount per student stated in Section 4 is based on the amount per student received by the Tribal colleges under the Tribally Controlled College or University Assistance Act of 1978 (TCCUAA)<sup>1</sup>. Also in Section 4, Page 2 of the bill, if appropriations are not sufficient to cover the authorized grant amount per student, the amount per student received by the Tribal colleges is prorated each year. Under Section 6, only half of the appropriations can be used in one year.

We also want to explain the proposed amendments. The first three proposed amendments to SB 2404, amending Sections 1, 2 and 3, are necessary to ensure that all of the Tribal colleges in North Dakota are eligible to receive grants, including United Tribes Technical College, the only

<sup>1</sup> This Act was originally called the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act of 1978 (TCCCAA), and is cited this way in HB 1395. The proposed amendments delete any reference to the TCCCAA.

Tribal college in the United States that is operated by more than one tribe. It is our understanding that this bill was introduced with the intention that it be inclusive of all the North Dakota Tribal colleges.

The fourth amendment, relating to Section 5 of HB 2404, clarifies the documentation that each North Dakota Tribal college receiving a grant must provide to the board of higher education each year. If the amendment is adopted, Section 5 would require each Tribal college to provide an explanation of how the funds received have been spent, along with the annual audit of the college. Otherwise, that section would stay the same.

The reasons for seeking funding are many. A brief explanation is provided below.

The Tribal colleges in North Dakota began more than 30 years ago in response to a fundamental need for higher education near the concentrations of populations of tribal and state citizens on the state's Indian reservations. All of the Tribal colleges in North Dakota are fully accredited colleges, offering two year associate degrees, and two have developed four year programs in certain disciplines. Approximately 2,600 students attend the Tribal colleges, and of those, approximately 7%, or 180 students, are nonbeneficiary students.

The Tribal colleges are funded by the Federal government through annual appropriations under the TCCUAA, except that United Tribes Technical College receives funds directly from the Bureau of Indian Affairs for its core operations. The TCCUAA only provides funds for enrolled members of federally recognized Indian tribes. The TCCUAA provided approximately \$4,600 per Indian student in the current fiscal year.

Tuition is reasonable at the Tribal colleges, so as to allow more students to attend. The tuition charged does not begin to cover the cost of education. Nonbeneficiary students pay the same tuition as Tribal citizens. The state of North Dakota currently does not contribute in any way to the cost to the Tribal colleges of educating their students. The North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges has estimated that the total cost to the five North Dakota Tribal colleges of educating nonbeneficiary students is approximately \$780,000 per year, or \$1.56 million per biennium. As mentioned above, SB 2404 does not request the full cost of educating nonbeneficiary students at the Tribal colleges.

The Tribal colleges generally admit all qualified students who apply, Indian or non-Indian. Essentially, they serve geographically isolated populations that have no other means of accessing education beyond the high school level, including both the reservation and surrounding areas. Tribal colleges are unique institutions that combine personal attention with cultural relevance so as to encourage American Indians to acquire education past high school.

Many North Dakota Tribal college graduates go on to North Dakota public four year institutions. Approximately 90 to 95% of all North Dakota Tribal college graduates stay in the state, a much higher retention rate than for those who graduate from State institutions.

Tribal college graduates make an average of more than 50% of those who do not attend institutions of higher learning. The return on the investment in Tribal college graduates is

significant. For example, a recent (2005) study at United Tribes Technical College shows a 20-1 return on investment as measured by the cost of education divided into the lifetime earnings of a graduate that exceed what the graduate would have earned without a college degree.

We believe an investment in nonbeneficiary students at North Dakota Tribal colleges is a good investment for the future of the state of North Dakota. For the reasons stated above, the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges and the Presidents of the North Dakota Tribal colleges urge this committee to give a DO PASS recommendation on SB 2404, and further, to support an appropriation of the funding required to make SB 2404 useful for the Tribal colleges.

The purpose of these amendments is to:

- 1) In Section 1, to change the definition of tribally controlled community college to allow United Tribes Technical College to receive funds under this Act; and
- 2) In Sections 2 and 3, to make it clear that it is "nonbeneficiary students" that allow the tribally controlled community college to receive grant funds, without any qualification based on the Tribally Controlled Community College Act. This allows United Tribes Technical College to benefit from the grant funds.
- 3) In Section 5, to provide relevant and standard information regarding the grants for each Tribal college. The terms "operating and maintenance expenses" are not necessarily relevant to how the Tribal College will expend funds received from the grants under the Act. Rather, as in any other grant received by the College, the grant report should indicate how the funds received from the state have been spent. The audit report provides a commonly accepted framework for understanding the finances of each Tribal College receiving funds under the Act.

# The Bismarck Tribune

January 15, 2006

## Indian Schools Deserve Funds

North Dakota's tribal colleges and universities are the stepchildren of education.

Often ignored, they have been left to fend for themselves. Through federal funding and donations they have been able to grow, filling an important role in the education of American Indians.

The five schools in the state are Sitting Bull College, Fort Yates; United Tribes Technical College, Bismarck; Fort Berthold Community College, New Town; Turtle Mountain Community College, Belcourt; and Cankdeska Cikana Community College, Fort Totten.

While the focus of the schools remains the education of Indians, they also serve others. Students also are non-enrolled Indians and are non-Indians from the surrounding communities. They are called non-beneficiary students because the colleges don't receive federal funding for them.

But the colleges welcome them. They provide diversity for the campuses. And the education they receive make them more valuable members of their communities.

At the moment there are 175 non-beneficiary students attending the five colleges. According to the colleges, last year they received about \$5,000 per Indian student from the federal government.

The colleges would like the state to provide them help in educating the non-beneficiary students. They are asking, through House Bill 1395, for \$700,000 over the next two years to help defray the costs of the non-beneficiary students.

This isn't the first time the Legislature has been asked to help. But in the past, the requests were rejected.

The colleges argue the bill isn't a precedent-setter. Since the non-beneficiary students aren't covered by federal funding, the schools absorb the costs of educating them.

If these students were attending other state schools, those schools would be covering the costs.

The costs involve the number of staff and supplies needed by the schools.

Some argue the state shouldn't get involved in Indian schools. That they are separate, like Jamestown College and the University of Mary.

However, the Indian schools don't fit the same mold.

While they receive federal funding, there are strings attached. One of the strings says non-beneficiary students aren't covered.

And the funding they receive isn't automatic.

Every year, UTTC goes through a dance with the Bush administration to get funds included in the budget for the school.

That dance is going on right now.

It's unsettling for a school to never know how much, if any, money it will receive each year.

HB1395 would provide a little reassurance to the five schools providing an education for their communities. An education that hopefully should help lift the areas out of the economic doldrums.

The bill will be heard at 10 a.m. Tuesday in the Pioneer Room by the House Education Committee.

Lawmakers should give it serious consideration and a do-pass recommendation.

# The Forum

January 22, 2007

## Tribal Colleges Seek Funding

*By Amy Dalrymple*

The state Board of Higher Education has changed its stance on a proposal that would give state dollars to North Dakota's tribal colleges.

A bill sponsored by a Fargo legislator would give \$700,000 over two years to non-Indian students who attend North Dakota's five tribal colleges.

The colleges, with combined enrollment of about 2,600 students, receive about \$4,600 in federal money for each student who is an enrolled member of an American Indian tribe.

The schools receive no money for about 175 students who are non-beneficiary students, or North Dakota residents who are not enrolled members of a federally recognized Indian tribe.

The tribal colleges have never received state funding. The proposed legislation would give about \$2,000 in state funding for each non-beneficiary student.

In 2005-07, the state spent \$4,581 per year on each full-time student in the North Dakota University System, not including money spent on major capital projects, said Laura Glatt, vice chancellor for administrative affairs.

Laurel Vermillion, president of Sitting Bull College in Fort Yates, an alumna of the college, said graduates of the tribal colleges increase their annual income by 50 percent.

Ninety percent of tribal college graduates stay in North Dakota, presidents say.

"We impact the future. We impact the state of North Dakota," said Cynthia Lindquist,

president of Little Hoop Community College in Fort Totten.

This is the fifth time the tribal colleges have made such a request to the Legislature. It last failed in 1999.

In past years, the state Board of Higher Education opposed the bill or took a neutral stance, said Pat Seaworth, attorney for the North Dakota University System.

Board members opposed it when the state had limited money to allocate because they were concerned it would take away money for the 11 state colleges and universities, Seaworth said.

They also had philosophical differences about whether tribal colleges should receive state funding, he said.

This year, Board members and presidents of state colleges and universities support the bill.

With additional funding, the college could do more to serve students by hiring tutors, more faculty and staff and a counselor, Vermillion said.

Rep. Jim Kasper, R-Fargo, is sponsoring the tribal college funding bill. He said the funding would have a positive impact on young people and would be a good use of some of the state's projected \$527 million surplus.

A hearing is scheduled for Tuesday before the House Education Committee.

*Grand Forks Herald reporter Joseph Marks contributed to this report.*

## OUR OPINION: *North Dakota Should Support Tribal Colleges*

*Tribal colleges need the state's help –  
And have earned it by building up a decades-long record of steady success*

*By Tom Dennis for the Herald*

He was "never considered a friend of Indian causes," a 2002 story in the Tribal College Journal recalled.

But something happened to the chairman of the House Interior Committee, Congressman Wayne Aspinall, D-Colo., that day in 1970 on the occasion of the groundbreaking for America's first tribal college: Navajo Community College in Tsaile, Ariz.

"At the groundbreaking, Aspinall and several others held onto the gish, the traditional digging stick," the story reported.

"The day was hot; the congressman was elderly; and Aspinall was stooped over, his hands below the others on the gish.

"At the end, he released the stick and slowly stood up. . . . 'I have been to mosques,' he said. 'I have been to synagogues. I have been to churches all over the world.

"But I felt God when I felt that stick. You will get your college," the congressman declared.

Now, maybe Aspinall really did feel God's presence and maybe he didn't. But it's a good bet he felt some kind of positive energy that day, judging by tribal colleges' successes since then.

Like casinos, tribal colleges have grown tremendously since the 1970s and now play a key role in reservation life. Unlike casinos, tribal colleges have managed this growth without scandal or controversy.

Just the opposite: Tribal colleges now stand as one of the most respected institutions in Indian Country, "under funded miracles," in the words of one college president.

This week, North Dakota will be asked to support the tribal colleges in the state by helping to pay for their students who aren't enrolled tribal members. The request is reasonable, the amount involved is modest, and the cause is an unabashed good one. North Dakota lawmakers should grant the tribal colleges' request.

"Out of about 2,600 students attending the state's five tribal colleges, about 175 are not enrolled tribe members," Herald staff writer Joseph Marks reported last week.

"A bill introduced in the House Education Committee would grant the tribal colleges \$700,000 to help educate those students at about \$2,000 apiece each year."

Two thousand dollars is less than half of the per-student amount that North Dakota gives its state higher-education institutions. The sum is a bargain - as is tuition at the tribal colleges, which averages about \$1,000 a semester and makes the schools the most affordable in the state.

Affordable - yet successful, too, even considering the college's shoestring budgets. "A 1997 survey of graduates from Stone Child College on the Rocky Boy reservation in Montana found that 15 percent of graduates were unemployed, compared with an overall unemployment rate of 72 percent on the

reservation," reports the March 2006 issue of Fedgazette, the newsletter of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

"A similar study of Turtle Mountain Community College (N.D.) found an unemployment rate of 13 percent for graduates, less than a third of that reservation's 45 percent unemployment rate."

As a report by the Institute for Higher Education Policy and the American Indian Higher Education Consortium concluded in 2000, "tribal colleges are vital components of the process of building a foundation for future growth on Indian reservations and are strongly contributing to the economies of this nation's most disadvantaged areas."

Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer agrees. "We will invest in tribal colleges," he said while delivering the commencement speech at a tribal college in Montana in 2005. And Montana did, too: The state passed a bill similar to the one North Dakota lawmakers now are considering.

North Dakota should join Montana in supporting tribal colleges - standout success stories in places that need and appreciate them.

January 21, 2006

## Forum Editorial: N.D. Tribal Colleges Earn Help

The North Dakota Legislature's House Education Committee should give a do-pass recommendation to a bill that would provide state funds a specific category of students at the state's tribal colleges.

On Tuesday representatives for the five schools will make the pitch for funds to help educate approximately 175 students who are classified as "non-beneficiary" students. They don't receive the federal per-student funding other tribal college students get because they are either not enrolled tribal members or not American Indians. The colleges are open to all students, Indian and non-Indian, but receive no public support for the non-beneficiary students.

That's counterproductive, not only for the tribal campuses but also for the long-term educational future of North Dakota. More students, some of whom choose not to go to school if they can't go to a nearby tribal college, would receive the start of a college education if the state funding were available. Furthermore, some of those students might go to other public colleges and actually cost the state more than if they were supported on the tribal campuses.

Let's be clear: Tribal colleges are public colleges. They are not part of the state University System but there is no doubt they perform a vital higher education service for North Dakotans. The federal funding they receive hardly covers the cost of educating their enrolled students. But they still do a good job and more than 90 percent of graduates stay in North Dakota either to work or go on to one of the state's four-year universities.

Most of the tribal schools are in remote reservation locations, so they afford potential students who live in those areas educational opportunities they might not otherwise have.

The legislation, House Bill 1396, has impressive bipartisan support, including Rep. Jim Kasper, R-Fargo, Sen. Rich Wardner, R-Dickinson, and Sen. Tim Flakoll, R-Fargo. Flakoll is vice chairman of the Senate Education Committee.

Tribal colleges will be making their fifth run at the funding at Tuesday's hearing. Their cause is sound. It's about extending educational opportunities to more North Dakotans – this time at public tribal colleges operated by local tribal governments. The two-year cost would be about \$700,000 – a wise investment in North Dakota higher education.

Forum editorials represent the opinion of Forum management and the newspaper's Editorial Board.

## N.D. LEGISLATURE: Tribal Colleges Ask State For Help With Non-Native Students

By Joseph Marks, Herald Staff Writer

Presidents of North Dakota's tribal colleges are asking the state Legislature to help pay the cost of educating students who aren't enrolled tribe members.

Out of about 2,600 students attending the state's five tribal colleges, about 175 are not enrolled tribe members, tribal college presidents said. A bill introduced in the House Education Committee would grant the tribal colleges \$700,000 to help educate those students at about \$2,000 a piece each year.

Many non-enrolled tribal college students are American Indians who don't meet enrollment requirements or non-Indians who are married to tribe members, said Laurel Vermillion, president of Sitting Bull College on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation. Other non-enrolled students are local farmers, ranchers and other community members who want to attend college but have strong ties to the area, Vermillion said.

Enrolled and non-enrolled members alike pay about \$100 a credit to attend, Vermillion said.

"They're members of our community, so they can come to our college," said Cynthia Lindquist Mala, president of Cankdeska Cikana Community College on the Spirit Lake Sioux Reservation. "We don't discriminate."

### Call it a Bargain

The vast majority of tribal college funding comes from the federal government through the 1978 Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act. Through that legislation, the nation's 34 tribal colleges receive between \$4,500 and \$5,000 per student each year, Mala said.

The problem, she said, is those funds are only distributed for students who are enrolled tribe members. Mala and other tribal college presidents argue the state would be funding those students' education at a higher rate than \$2,000 if they were attending schools in the North Dakota University System.

The state's higher education appropriation for 2005 through 2007 equaled about \$4,500 per student per year, excluding the cost of major building projects, said university system Vice Chancellor Laura Glatt.

Tribal colleges have asked the Legislature for help with non-Indian student costs several times during the past 20 years, college presidents said, most recently in 1999. Sen. Ray Holmberg, R-Grand Forks, said legislators' principal objection to the bill in 1999 was that the state is not constitutionally required to fund tribal colleges.

He said legislators felt they had a greater obligation to channel money to students attending the state's 11 public colleges and universities.

*"Education is a key foundation to helping people achieve their potential... a lot of these people would not go to college if they didn't go to a tribal college first."*

— Rep. Jim Kasper, R-Fargo

Rep. Jim Kasper, R-Fargo, is sponsoring the tribal college funding bill. He said the funding would have a positive impact on young people and would be a good use of some of the state's projected \$527 million surplus.

"Education is a key foundation to helping people achieve their potential," Kasper said, "and a lot of these people would not go to college if they didn't go to a tribal college first. I think it's an issue of fairness and it's a way to help young people get educated and help tribal colleges with their funding needs."

### Board Support

The State Board of Higher Education adopted a resolution supporting the bill during a board meeting Thursday, Board President John Paulsen said, with the provision that the money be distributed through the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission in the governor's office, not through the state board.

Paulsen said funding the tribal colleges through the governor's office would mean the money would not be counted against the university system's budget and their goal of receiving 21 percent of the state's general fund.

Tribal colleges in four states receive some state funding, said Gerald Gipp, executive director of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium. With the exception of Arizona, Gipp said, that funding is small enough to make little difference.

"Our colleges end up paying for those (non-Indian) students," Gipp said, "so it's a worthwhile investment. Most of our schools are small and resource poor, so every little bit would help."

Gipp estimated about 20 percent of tribal college students nationwide are not enrolled members of a tribe. The bill is HB1395. It comes up for a hearing Tuesday in the House Education Committee.



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January 26, 2007

North Dakota State Legislature  
60<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly  
State Capital Building  
600 East Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505

RE: Support for Senate Bill 2404, to provide financial assistance to tribally controlled community colleges; and to provide an appropriation

Dear State Legislators:

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, employees, and students of Sitting Bull College (SBC), I would like to submit this letter of support for Senate Bill 2404. This bill will provide funds for our nonbeneficiary students attending SBC.

Sitting Bull College, formerly Standing Rock Community College, has been chartered by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe since 1973 and fully accredited through the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Higher Education since 1984. SBC continued to receive accreditation in 1987, 1991, 1996, and most recently in 2004 we received our second consecutive 10-year accreditation with approval to begin offering Bachelor of Science Programs in Business Administration and Elementary Education.

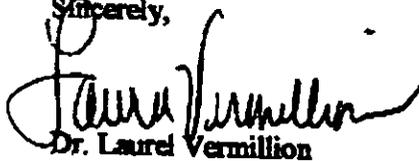
Our student enrollment consistently averages above 300 students per semester. We offer eighteen associate degrees and four bachelor degrees, two of which are through articulation agreements. Our student persistence rate averages at approximately 64%. Approximately 30% of our graduates receiving an associate degree go on to pursue a bachelors degree, the majority of these students attending transferring on to colleges in North Dakota. It is important to also note that 50% of our Teacher Education students who have graduated with a bachelors degree have continued on to pursue a masters degree, again the majority of these students are or have attended colleges in North Dakota.

Sitting Bull College understands the importance of providing higher education for our community members, both Indian and non-Indian. Each semester an average of approximately twenty-five nonbeneficiary students attend our College. These students, for a variety of reasons, have chosen to pursue their higher education degrees at our institution. We do not receive federal appropriations for these students, as we do for our Indian students. Currently, we do not receive state funding for these students and this is what Senate Bill 2404 will begin providing to us.

If passed, Senate Bill 2404 will provide (based on our current nonbeneficiary student enrollment) approximately \$50,000 to SBC. This additional funding to our College would mean we could employ two more tutors for our students, or we could employ another faculty member for our student support services. Here at Sitting Bull College we have learned to be very resourceful with what little funding we do receive and we will continue to use any additional funding to enrich and enhance the educational opportunities for our students.

In closing, I want to thank you for considering our request. By passing Senate Bill 2404, you will be providing much needed funding resources to our institution and our nonbeneficiary students.

Sincerely,



Dr. Laurel Vermillion  
President  
Sitting Bull College

22



**AMERICAN INDIAN  
HIGHER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM**

121 Oronoco Street • Alexandria, VA 22314 • 703.838.0400 • FAX: 703.838.0388

Gerald E. Gipp, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Hunkpapa Lakota

January 29, 2007

**MEMBERSHIP:**

**ARIZONA**

Diné College  
Tohono Oodham Community College

**KANSAS**

Haskell Indian Nations University

**MICHIGAN**

Bay Mills Community College  
Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College  
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College

**MINNESOTA**

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College  
Leech Lake Tribal College  
White Earth Tribal and Community College

**MONTANA**

Blackfeet Community College  
Chief Dull Knife College  
Fort Belknap College  
Fort Peck Community College  
Little Big Horn College  
Salish Kootenai College  
Stone Child College

**NEBRASKA**

Little Priest Tribal College  
Nebraska Indian Community College

**NEW MEXICO**

Crownpoint Institute of Technology  
Institute of American Indian Arts  
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

**NORTH DAKOTA**

Cankdeska Cikana Community College  
Fort Berthold Community College  
Sitting Bull College  
Turtle Mountain Community College  
United Tribes Technical College

**OKLAHOMA**

Comanche Nation College

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

Oglala Lakota College  
Sinte Gleska University  
Sisseton Wahpeton College

**WASHINGTON**

Northwest Indian College

**WISCONSIN**

College of Menominee Nation  
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College

**WYOMING**

Wind River Tribal College

**ALBERTA, CANADA**

Red Crow Community College

**An Open Letter to:**

**The Governors and State Legislatures of States  
in which Tribal Colleges and Universities are located**

On behalf of the 34 U.S.-based Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities that comprise the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC), I am writing to express our collective support for state legislation to help defray the costs our institutions incur each year when we provide higher education opportunities to hundreds of the citizens of your states who may or may not be enrolled members in federally recognized Indian tribes.

Since the first tribal college was established by the Navajo Nation in the late 1960s as a public institution of higher education, Tribal Colleges and Universities have had an "open door" policy of admission: We gladly welcome all students – regardless of race, religion, economic status, gender, or age. All that is required is a willingness to learn and a desire to contribute to the community. This policy has served us well over the years. We have grown from one institution in the late 1960s to 34 Tribal Colleges and Universities in 13 states today, serving nearly 27,000 academic students -- Indians and non-Indians -- each year and thousands more through community based education, cultural, health and wellness programs as well as professional development and other career training and lifelong learning programs.

But this service comes at a financial cost to our institutions – and that cost is growing every year. Unlike state institutions, our primary source of funding for institutional operations comes from the Federal government, based on the Federal trust responsibility arising from treaty obligations between the U.S. government and American Indian tribes. The trust responsibility does not extend beyond enrolled members of federally recognized Indian tribes, however, and in calculating institutional operations funding levels, the federal government specifically *excludes* students attending our institutions who are not enrolled members of federally recognized Indian tribes (called "non-beneficiary students"). Currently, these students account for about 21 percent of tribal college enrollments annually.

For over three decades, states have used the "federal trust responsibility" as a justification for rejecting requests to help offset the costs that Tribal Colleges and Universities incur for educating students, including non-beneficiary students. Yet, if those same students attended state institutions, the institutions would receive operational funding from the respective state for those students. We can understand why the state would not offset operational costs for state citizens who chose to attend a private institution of higher education in that state. However, as stated earlier, Tribal Colleges and Universities are *public* institutions, chartered by American Indian tribal governments and accredited by the same regional accrediting bodies that monitor state institutions. We are located primarily in rural and remote areas, where few – if any – other higher education opportunities exist. In short, we serve regions and people largely missed by mainstream state higher education systems. And we welcome all students.

It is time for each one of the states in which Tribal Colleges and Universities are located to work in partnership with us to educate all of our citizens. Part of that partnership is a financial commitment to cover the costs of educating students at Tribal Colleges and Universities. Certainly, the states are already reaping the benefits. For example, a recent survey of the five tribal colleges in North Dakota revealed that more than 90 percent of tribal college graduates stayed in the state -- a much higher state retention rate than those who graduate from state institutions. The vast majority of these graduates are working in the state or continuing their education at a state institution. A recent study at United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, North Dakota, documented a 20-1 return on investment as measured by the cost of education divided into the lifetime earnings of a graduate. Other studies show that tribal college graduates make average salaries more than 50 percent higher than those who do not pursue postsecondary education. Without question, partnering to serve all citizens is a wise investment of federal, state, and tribal resources.

On behalf of the Tribal Colleges and Universities and *all* of our students, I urge you to consider and approve legislation addressing this critical issue. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

*Cheryl Crazy Bull*

Cheryl Crazy Bull  
President  
Northwest Indian College and  
American Indian Higher Education Consortium

North Dakota State Legislature  
60<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly

Senate Education Committee

Hearing on SB 2404  
January 31, 2007

Testimony of Dr. Cynthia Lindquist Mala  
President, Cankdeska Cikana Community College

Members of the Senate Education Committee thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2404, a bill to provide financial assistance to the North Dakota tribal colleges in support of non-beneficiary students. Non-beneficiary students are non-Indians or Indians who are not enrolled in a Tribe.

Cankdeska Cikana Community College was chartered by the Spirit Lake Nation in 1974. For the past three years we have had an average enrollment of approximately 210 students including about 5 percent non-beneficiary students. The average age of CCCC students is 27 years old. Most work full time and are parents. The majority of our students live below the poverty level and 95 percent of our students are eligible for federal financial aid.

Funding for tribal colleges comes from the federal government via legislation (Tribally controlled Community College and University Assistance Act) and Congressional appropriations. The legislation provides a formula that is based on Indian Student Count – students who are enrolled members of federally recognized tribes. Though the legislation is authorized at \$6,000 per FTE (Full-Time Equivalent), it has only been in the last couple of years that the appropriation level has crept to about \$5,000 (fiscal year 06) per FTE. Non-beneficiary students are not eligible as the legislation is intended for American Indians.

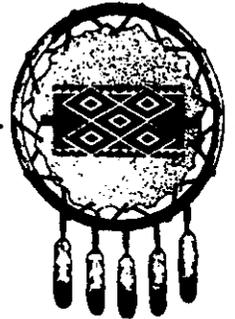
The North Dakota tribal colleges all have open-door policies for enrollment. Typically our non-beneficiary students are Indians who do not qualify for enrollment, they have family relationships and/or close ties to the tribal community, or they are non-Indian neighbors who live within the reservation boundaries and who choose to attend the local, affordable tribal college. We estimate that there are approximately 200 non-beneficiary students attending the five North Dakota tribal colleges.

SB 2404 requests an appropriation for \$700,000 for the biennium beginning July 2007. This legislation is an economic investment in a future that is mutually beneficially – the support and success of North Dakota college students who stay and work in North Dakota.

I highly recommend a 'do pass' for SB 2404 and thank the Committee members for their thoughtful deliberations.



UNITED TRIBES TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
3315 UNIVERSITY DRIVE  
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58504 • PHONE 701-255-3285 • FAX 701-530-0605



**North Dakota State Legislature  
60th Legislative Assembly**

**Senate Education Committee**

**Hearing on SB 2404**

**January 31, 2007**

**Testimony of United Tribes Technical College  
in Support of SB 2404**

**David M. Gipp, President**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Education Committee. This testimony is provided on behalf of the United Tribes Technical College (United Tribes) in support of SB 2404, as it is proposed to be amended, and in support of the testimony being provided by the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges, of which we are a member.

United Tribes Technical College, founded in 1968, with classes beginning in 1969, is one of the oldest of the approximately 35 tribal colleges in the United States. We are unique in that we are the only Tribal college operated by more than one tribe – our board of directors is composed of the Chairperson and one other representative from each of the five federally recognized Tribes in North Dakota, including the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, the Three Affiliated Tribes, the Spirit Lake Tribe, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, and the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyaté.

We are also unique because we are not funded by the Tribally Controlled College or University Assistance Act of 1978 (TCCUAA, Title 25, United States Code, Sections 1801 et seq.). That Act allows only one institution to be sponsored by each Tribe. Since we are operated by five Tribes, all of which have a tribal college, we are not eligible for TCCUAA funding. Instead, we continue to be funded directly by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) under a P.L. 93-638 Self-Determination contract with the BIA. We also receive discretionary funding under a special section of the federal Carl Perkins Act for our career and technical education programs.

However, just like the other Tribal colleges, we do not receive any funding for non-Indian students; our federal funding is based on our Indian student count. Just like the other Tribal colleges, we admit non-Indian students for whom we receive no additional funding other than tuition. Just like the other Tribal colleges, we do not receive any state funds for our non-Indian students, and the tuition paid by any of our students is not adequate to meet the cost per student of providing education. Just like the other Tribal colleges, our graduates often go on to four

year schools in the state. Our studies show that 20% of our graduates go on to further their education at other four year institutions and beyond.

Like the other Tribal colleges, we also know that we provide quality education to our students, more than 1,000 each year. Our disciplines include career and technical education areas that are much needed in North Dakota, such as our nursing program, construction trades and criminal justice programs, to name just a few of the 20 accredited programs offered at United Tribes. Our injury prevention curriculum is unique in the United States among two year colleges. Our on-line courses in several areas are also among the only ones offered at Tribal colleges.

United Tribes is also unique in other ways. We provide a residential, campus based setting for most of our students, with services such as a K-8 elementary school, day care for students' children, 24 hour security, a cafeteria, dormitories, family housing, local transportation, counseling – including for substance abuse, a health clinic and wellness center, cultural programming and many other services.

United Tribes has recently conducted a study to determine the return on investment of our graduates. Our study shows a 20 to 1 return on investment, based on the total cost of education for a graduate divided into the expected lifetime earnings of a graduate that are greater than what the graduate would earn without a college degree. This return on investment means that our graduates become taxpaying citizens who contribute significantly to their reservations and to the communities in which they are able to find employment, often in North Dakota.

Our non-Indian students contribute greatly to the diversity of our campus. With our funding always subject to the whims of Congress, we would very much appreciate the opportunity to receive a part of that funding from the State of North Dakota.

For these reasons, we support SB 2404, with the amendments as attached to the testimony of the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges. The first three of these proposed amendments are critical to us. These amendments do the following:

- 1) redefine "tribally controlled college" to include United Tribes by including any college that is sanctioned by "any combination of any federally recognized Indian tribes", which describes United Tribes.

- 2) remove the references to the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act of 1978 in Sections 2 and 3 since United Tribes does not qualify for funding under that Act.

Like the other Tribal colleges, we believe an investment in the nonbeneficiary students who attend United Tribes is a good one for North Dakota. For the reasons stated herein, United Tribes urges the Senate Education Committee to give a DO PASS recommendation to SB 2404, as amended, to the North Dakota Senate.

North Dakota State Legislature  
60th Legislative Assembly

Senate Education Committee

Hearing on SB 2404

January 31, 2007

Testimony of Russell Mason Jr.  
President  
Fort Berthold Community College

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee: Today, as President of Fort Berthold Community College I am offering this testimony in support of SB 2404. This bill provides support for the non-Tribal members that are attending our Tribal colleges. Fort Berthold Community College is a public institution of higher learning that serves the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation and surrounding area. Although we are a tribal college, we have an open admissions policy that grants admissions to all individuals regardless of ethnicity.

We have been an accredited institution since 1987 and recently received 10 year continued accreditation status on July 12, 2006. I have been President a little over 2 years. I have worked for Fort Berthold Community College for over 20 years. I have been the Admissions Director, Registrar, Financial Aid Director and Dean of Students. I believe that I have first hand knowledge on the effects that this bill would have on our institution and our non-Indian students.

On the average FBCC expends 8% of its annual budget on non-Indian students. Between 1996 and 2006, 33% of our graduates were non-Indian. Last year 19% of our graduating class was non-Indian. Of that percentage 100% continue to reside in the state of North Dakota. Most of our 2 year graduates transfer to 4 year state institutions. In the past 2 years FBCC has signed partnership agreements with Minot State University and Williston State College. These partnerships benefit both state and tribal institutions.

If this bill is passed we would be able to provide scholarships for non-Indian students. Let tell you why this is important.

Scholarships for non-Indian students are virtually zero. Most of the scholarships awarded to our institution are specifically earmarked by the grantor for Native American students. Currently none of the tribal colleges in the state offer student loans. This leaves the Federal PELL grant or SEOG to cover the cost of tuition, books, fees, room and board. The maximum PELL award for eligible students is \$2025 per semester and maximum PELL is only awarded to those individuals that are borderline poverty level. With the average cost of attendance around \$5000 per semester this leaves little or nothing for our students to survive. The passing of this bill would provide an equitable financial aid package for our non-Indian students and encourage all other students regardless of ethnicity to attend our tribal colleges and continue on with their education within the state of North Dakota.

For the reasons stated above, I urge the Senate Education Committee to give a DO PASS recommendation to SB 2404.

Thank you for your time.

*from Dr. Davis*

# **Testimony to Senate Education Committee on SB 2404**

**by Chancellor Eddie Dunn  
North Dakota University System**

*January 31, 2007*

---

Chairman Freborg and members of the Senate Education Committee. For the record, I am Eddie Dunn, Chancellor of the North Dakota University System.

I am pleased to report the State Board of Higher Education has taken a position in support of SB 2404. This action is in recognition of the fact that the single most important factor that will determine the success of North Dakota will be its human capital – people with the knowledge and skills required to fill positions in the knowledge-based technology-driven economy we are experiencing today. Second, and equally as important is the fact that the primary vehicle for attracting and developing the human capital needed to create a brighter future for North Dakota is its education system – particularly higher education. The Tribal Colleges, along with the 11 colleges and universities within the North Dakota University System play a critical role in providing educational opportunities and thereby developing this critical asset for the state.

I do need to mention that the SBHE has established a set of priorities for the 2007 Legislative Session. The highest of those priorities is achieving sufficient base funding to support the core function of the NDUS colleges and universities. The University System, in collaboration with the 17 private sector members of the Roundtable on Higher Education, have defined “sufficient funding” as a minimum of 21 percent of state general funds, or an additional \$63 million for the 2007-09 Biennium. This means the SBHE is supportive of the funding to the Tribal Colleges provided for in SB 2404 with the qualification that such funding is not to be included in the \$63 million in additional base funding requested in HB 1003, the appropriations bill for the University System.

Because of the similarities of this bill and HB 1395, it is recommended the two bills be merged and reconciled. The University System would offer to work with the bill sponsors and this committee in that process. The one area where we would want to have input is in Section 4, which would require the University System to administer the grant program. This would add to the workload of the University System staff, which is already at capacity.

I am also pleased to report that the state and the NDUS currently provide substantial support to students attending tribal colleges as well as Native American students attending NDUS campuses. The State of ND provides \$380,626 (proposed 07-09 budget) for merit and need-based aid to Native American students. The state also provides almost \$6.0 million in needs-based financial aid for students attending higher

education institutions in North Dakota, including those attending Tribal Colleges. Lastly, the NDUS provides almost \$1.0 million in tuition waivers to Native American students attending NDUS campuses.

In addition, all Tribal Colleges in the state participate in the State Board of Higher Education General Education Requirements Transfer Agreement and the Common Course Numbering System. These colleges have also been invited and are participating in statewide articulation agreements. This means students can move freely among tribal colleges and system institutions. Even with an eleven institution delivery system, the NDUS is not well positioned to serve all geographic areas of the state. The five tribal colleges contribute greatly to geographic access to higher education in North Dakota.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. I will be happy to answer any questions.

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# UNITED TRIBES NEWS

WWW.UTTC.EDU

VOL. 16 NO. 2

UNITED TRIBES TECHNICAL COLLEGE • BISMARCK, ND

FEBRUARY 2007

## UTTC not an earmark

BISMARCK (UTN) – Funding for United Tribes Technical College is not an earmark in the Federal budget. At least not in the style of those now under scrutiny by Congress.

“We are not a pet project,” said David M. Gipp, UTTC President. “We are not a shady deal that nobody knows about.”

UTTC’s \$3.5 million annual appropriation was omitted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the FY 2007 budget.

For the fifth year in a row that the college has been forced to seek restoration through congressional action.

“Our budget has been restored with bipartisan support under the leadership of the North Dakota Congressional delegation,” said Gipp. “It certainly isn’t a boondoggle.”

As one of the oldest of the nation’s 35 tribal colleges, UTTC served 1,100 students last year from 66 different tribes around the country.

“If anything, our funding difficulties stem from a failure in the federal bureaucracy,” said Gipp. “Each time our funding is restored, Congress is correcting a BIA violation of a long series of contracts we’ve had for educational services under the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act.”

Now in its fourth decade, the act is regarded as one of the most productive pieces of Indian legislation in modern

Continued page 3

## Back to School Powwow



UTN Photo Alycia Madison

**DANCING THEIR STYLE:** In the arena at the James Henry Community Gymnasium on January 6 for the United Tribes Back to School Powwow, from left, Ivy Longie, Cody Two Bears, P-Nut Iron Star (foreground), and Todd Trottier (at rear)

First place dance category winners:  
 Adult Men – Wayne Fox; Adult Women – Kelly Walker; Teen Boys – Michael Johnson; Teen Girls – Sheyenne Fox; Junior Boys – Eddie Johnson; and Junior Girls – Shani Village Center.

Contact United Tribes for copy

## United Tribes February Calendar

January 19 ..... Presidents' Day  
 Feb. 26 - Mar. 2 ..... Mid-Term Exams

Detailed activities schedule available on page 5

### EXPLORE INSIDE:

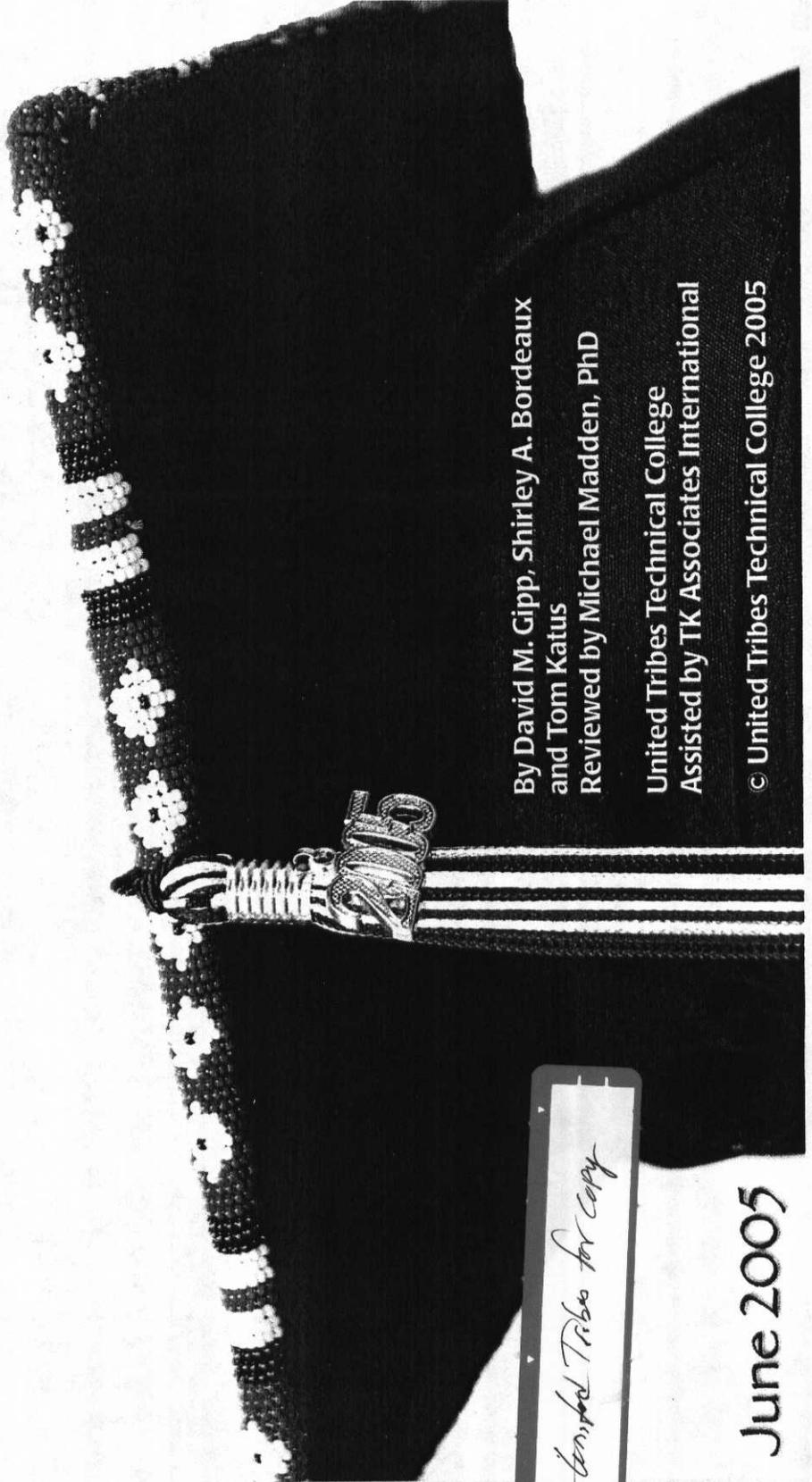
- ND Tribal Leaders ..... p. 2
- Scholarship Donors ..... p. 4
- Child Care ..... p. 6
- Spring Term ..... p. 9

David Gipp

# Projected

## (ROI) Return on Investment of United Tribes Technical College

2004-2005 Graduates | Associate of Applied Science (AAS) and Bachelor of Science (BS) Degrees



By David M. Gipp, Shirley A. Bordeaux  
and Tom Katus  
Reviewed by Michael Madden, PhD  
United Tribes Technical College  
Assisted by TK Associates International  
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Account - United Tribes for copy

June 2005

David Gipp

# NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF TRIBAL COLLEGES

North Dakota State Legislature  
60th Legislative Assembly

Senate Appropriations Committee

Hearing on SB 2404

February 12, 2007

Testimony of North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges  
Board Chairman Dr. Jim Davis  
President, Turtle Mountain Community College

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee: This testimony is provided on behalf of the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges in support of SB 2404, and in support of certain technical amendments to the bill, related to the impact on appropriations for the North Dakota board of higher education, partially responsible for administering this bill, attached to this testimony. The North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges, along with their location and tribal affiliation, includes the Fort Berthold Community College (New Town – Three Affiliated Tribes); Sitting Bull College (Ft. Yates – Standing Rock Sioux Tribe); Cankdeska Cikana Community College (Ft. Totten, Spirit Lake Tribe); Turtle Mountain Community College (Belcourt, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa) and United Tribes Technical College (Bismarck, operated by the five federally recognized Indian tribes in North Dakota).

SB 2404, as amended, would provide an appropriation of \$700,000 over a two-year period to provide grants to the five Tribally controlled colleges in North Dakota to help defray the costs of educating nonbeneficiary students at these institutions. "Nonbeneficiary students" are defined in Section 1 as "a student who is enrolled in a tribally controlled community college but is not an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe".

At present, the bill seeks to have the grants made under this bill to be administered by the state office of management and budget. However, under Section 4 of the bill, the state board of higher education is the entity that determines how much each tribal college will receive for non-beneficiary students, under a complicated formula. In previous testimony concerning this bill in the Senate Education Committee, the state board of higher education has indicated that they believe administration of the grants under SB 2404, given the complications of the formula contained in the bill, would result in an additional FTE to administer the grant process.

Instead, the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges, along with the state board of higher education, recommend that the process for administering the grants be the same as provided in a different version of this bill now pending in the House, HB 1395. This process allows the Tribal colleges to certify their count of nonbeneficiary students to the state board of higher education. The verification of the student numbers so certified by the tribal colleges is provided each year by each Tribal college. Each college thus receives a grant at a set amount per student, pro-rated if the appropriated amount is insufficient, to assist the colleges to cover the costs of nonbeneficiary students attending their institutions.

Therefore, to simply administration, and reduce the need for an additional FTE, the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges recommends that the attached amendments be adopted. These amendments would provide, in Sections 2 and 3, that the state board of higher education administer the bill, and that the simpler process of administration of the grants of HB 1395 be adopted. Because these amendments reduce the need for an additional FTE by the state board of higher education, and therefore affect appropriations, we are asking the Appropriations Committee to adopt these amendments.

The grant amount provided in Section 4, if amended, is based on the amount per student received by the Tribal colleges under the Tribally Controlled College or University Assistance Act of 1978 (TCCUAA). Also in the amended Section 4, if appropriations are not sufficient to cover the authorized grant amount per student, the amount per student received by the Tribal colleges is prorated each year. Under Section 6, only half of the appropriations can be used in one year.

The reasons for seeking funding are many. A brief explanation is provided below.

The Tribal colleges in North Dakota began more than 30 years ago in response to a fundamental need for higher education near the concentrations of populations of tribal and state citizens on the state's Indian reservations. All of the Tribal colleges in North Dakota are fully accredited colleges, offering two year associate degrees, and two have developed four year programs in certain disciplines. Approximately 2,600 students attend the Tribal colleges, and of those, approximately 7%, or 180 students, are nonbeneficiary students.

The Tribal colleges are funded by the Federal government through annual appropriations under the TCCUAA, except that United Tribes Technical College receives funds directly from the Bureau of Indian Affairs for its core operations. The TCCUAA only provides funds for enrolled members of federally recognized Indian tribes. The TCCUAA provided approximately \$4,600 per Indian student in the current fiscal year.

Tuition is reasonable at the Tribal colleges, so as to allow more students to attend. The tuition charged does not begin to cover the cost of education. Nonbeneficiary students pay the same tuition as Tribal citizens. The state of North Dakota currently does not contribute in any way to the cost to the Tribal colleges of educating their students. The North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges has estimated that the total cost to the five North Dakota Tribal colleges of educating nonbeneficiary students is approximately \$780,000 per year, or \$1.56 million per biennium. As mentioned above, SB 2404 does not request the full cost of educating nonbeneficiary students at the Tribal colleges.

The Tribal colleges generally admit all qualified students who apply, Indian or non-Indian. Essentially, they serve geographically isolated populations that have no other means of accessing education beyond the high school level, including both the reservation and surrounding areas. Tribal colleges are unique institutions that combine personal attention with cultural relevance so as to encourage American Indians to acquire education past high school.

Many North Dakota Tribal college graduates go on to North Dakota public four year institutions. Approximately 90 to 95% of all North Dakota Tribal college graduates stay in the state, a much higher retention rate than for those who graduate from State institutions.

Tribal college graduates make an average of more than 50% of those who do not attend institutions of higher learning. The return on the investment in Tribal college graduates is significant. For example, a recent (2005) study at United Tribes Technical College shows a 20-1 return on investment as measured by the cost of education divided into the lifetime earnings of a graduate that exceed what the graduate would have earned without a college degree.

We believe an investment in nonbeneficiary students at North Dakota Tribal colleges is a good investment for the future of the state of North Dakota. For the reasons stated above, the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges and the Presidents of the North Dakota Tribal colleges urge the Senate Appropriations committee to give a DO PASS recommendation on SB 2404 and to support the appropriation of funds contained in the bill. Passage of this bill will mean a brighter day for many North Dakota students.

**Proposed Tribal College Amendments to First Engrossment of SB 2404 that will provide a simpler method of administration, lessening the need for additional staff at the state board of higher education to administer the grant process.**

**1. On page 1, Section 3, line 14: Strike the phrase "office of management and budget" and replace with "state board of higher education".**

**SECTION 3. Grant authorization.** ~~The office of management and budget~~ state board of higher education shall make grants to tribally controlled community colleges to defray the costs of education associated with enrollment of nonbeneficiary students. Grants made pursuant to this section must go directly to the recipient institutions.

**On Page 1, Section 4, replace all after the first sentence with the following:**

If an application is approved, the board shall distribute to each tribally controlled community college, during each year of the biennium, four thousand five hundred eighty-one dollars for each nonbeneficiary student on a full-time equivalent basis. If the amount appropriated is insufficient, the board shall distribute a prorated amount per nonbeneficiary student on a full-time equivalent basis.

**Section 4 will then read as follows:**

In order to qualify for a grant under this Act, an institution shall submit an application in the manner required by the state board of higher education. If an application is approved, the board shall distribute to each tribally controlled community college, during each year of the biennium, four thousand five hundred eighty-one dollars for each nonbeneficiary student on a full-time equivalent basis. If the amount appropriated is insufficient, the board shall distribute a prorated amount per nonbeneficiary student on a full-time equivalent basis.

All other sections would remain the same.

# Testimony to Senate Appropriations Committee on SB 2404

by Vice Chancellor Mike Hillman  
North Dakota University System

*February 12, 2007*

---

Chairman Holmberg and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee. For the record, I am Mike Hillman, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs of the North Dakota University System.

I am pleased to report the State Board of Higher Education has taken a position in support of SB 2404. This action is in recognition of the fact that the single most important factor that will determine the success of North Dakota will be its human capital – people with the knowledge and skills required to fill positions in the knowledge-based technology-driven economy we are experiencing today. Second, and equally as important is the fact that the primary vehicle for attracting and developing the human capital needed to create a brighter future for North Dakota is its education system – particularly higher education. The Tribal Colleges, along with the 11 colleges and universities within the North Dakota University System play a critical role in providing educational opportunities and thereby developing this critical asset for the state.

I do need to mention that the SBHE has established a set of priorities for the 2007 Legislative Session. The highest of those priorities is achieving sufficient base funding to support the core function of the NDUS colleges and universities. The University System, in collaboration with the 17 private sector members of the Roundtable on Higher Education, have defined “sufficient funding” as a minimum of 21 percent of state general funds, or an additional \$63 million for the 2007-09 Biennium. This means the SBHE is supportive of the funding to the Tribal Colleges provided for in SB 2404 with the qualification that such funding is not to be included in the \$63 million in additional base funding requested in HB 1003, the appropriations bill for the University System.

Because of the similarities of this bill and HB 1395, it is recommended the two bills be merged and reconciled. The University System would offer to work with the bill sponsors and this committee in that process. The one area where we would want to have input is in Section 4, which would require the University System to administer the grant program. This would add to the workload of the University System staff, which is already at capacity.

I am also pleased to report that the state and the NDUS currently provide substantial support to students attending tribal colleges as well as Native American students attending NDUS campuses. The State of ND provides \$380,626 (proposed 07-09 budget) for merit and need-based aid to Native American students. The state also

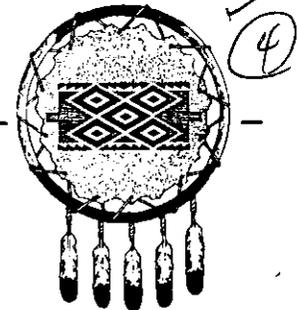
provides almost \$6.0 million in needs-based financial aid for students attending higher education institutions in North Dakota, including those attending Tribal Colleges. Lastly, the NDUS provides almost \$1.0 million in tuition waivers to Native American students attending NDUS campuses.

In addition, all Tribal Colleges in the state participate in the State Board of Higher Education General Education Requirements Transfer Agreement and the Common Course Numbering System. These colleges have also been invited and are participating in statewide articulation agreements. This means students can move freely among tribal colleges and system institutions. Even with an eleven institution delivery system, the NDUS is not well positioned to serve all geographic areas of the state. The five tribal colleges contribute greatly to geographic access to higher education in North Dakota. Thus helping to meet the human capital needs of all areas of the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. I will be happy to answer any questions.



UNITED TRIBES TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
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North Dakota State Legislature  
60th Legislative Assembly

Senate Appropriations Committee

Hearing on SB 2404

February 12, 2007

Testimony of United Tribes Technical College  
in Support of SB 2404

David M. Gipp, President

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee. This testimony is provided on behalf of the United Tribes Technical College (United Tribes) in support of SB 2404, as it is proposed to be amended, and in support of the testimony being provided by the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges, of which we are a member.

United Tribes Technical College, founded in 1968, with classes beginning in 1969, is one of the oldest of the approximately 35 tribal colleges in the United States. We are unique in that we are the only Tribal college operated by more than one tribe – our board of directors is composed of the Chairperson and one other representative from each of the five federally recognized Tribes in North Dakota, including the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, the Three Affiliated Tribes, the Spirit Lake Tribe, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, and the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyaté.

We are also unique because we are not funded by the Tribally Controlled College or University Assistance Act of 1978 (TCCUAA, Title 25, United States Code, Sections 1801 et seq.). That Act allows only one institution to be sponsored by each Tribe. Since we are operated by five Tribes, all of which have a tribal college, we are not eligible for TCCUAA funding. Instead, we continue to be funded directly by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) under a P.L. 93-638 Self-Determination contract with the BIA. We also receive discretionary funding under a special section of the federal Carl Perkins Act for our career and technical education programs.

However, just like the other Tribal colleges, we do not receive any funding for non-Indian students; our federal funding is based on our Indian student count. Just like the other Tribal colleges, we admit non-Indian students for whom we receive no additional funding other than tuition. Just like the other Tribal colleges, we do not receive any state funds for our non-Indian students, and the tuition paid by any of our students is not adequate to meet the cost per student of providing education. Just like the other Tribal colleges, our graduates often go on to four

year schools in the state. Our studies show that 20% of our graduates go on to further their education at other four year institutions and beyond.

Like the other Tribal colleges, we also know that we provide quality education to our students, more than 1,000 each year. Our disciplines include career and technical education areas that are much needed in North Dakota, such as our nursing program, construction trades and criminal justice programs, to name just a few of the 20 accredited programs offered at United Tribes. Our injury prevention curriculum is unique in the United States among two year colleges. Our on-line courses in several areas are also among the only ones offered at Tribal colleges.

United Tribes is also unique in other ways. We provide a residential, campus based setting for most of our students, with services such as a K-8 elementary school, day care for students' children, 24 hour security, a cafeteria, dormitories, family housing, local transportation, counseling -- including for substance abuse, a health clinic and wellness center, cultural programming and many other services.

United Tribes has recently conducted a study to determine the return on investment of our graduates. Our study shows a 20 to 1 return on investment, based on the total cost of education for a graduate divided into the expected lifetime earnings of a graduate that are greater than what the graduate would earn without a college degree. This return on investment means that our graduates become taxpaying citizens who contribute significantly to their reservations and to the communities in which they are able to find employment, often in North Dakota.

Our non-Indian students contribute greatly to the diversity of our campus. With our funding always subject to the whims of Congress, we would very much appreciate the opportunity to receive a part of that funding from the State of North Dakota.

For these reasons, we support SB 2404, with the amendments as attached to the testimony of the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges that will allow the legislation to be the same as HB 1395. The amendments provide for a simpler means of administration of the grant process, reducing the need for any additional staff at the state board of higher education.

Like the other Tribal colleges, we believe an investment in the nonbeneficiary students who attend United Tribes is a good one for North Dakota. For the reasons stated herein, United Tribes urges the Senate Education Committee to give a DO PASS recommendation to SB 2404, as amended, to the North Dakota Senate.

# Testimony to House Education Committee on SB 2404

by Vice Chancellor Mike Hillman  
North Dakota University System

*March 7, 2007*

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Madame Chair and members of the House Education Committee. For the record, I am Mike Hillman, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs of the North Dakota University System.

I am pleased to report the State Board of Higher Education has taken a position in support of SB 2404. This action is in recognition of the fact that the single most important factor that will determine the success of North Dakota will be its human capital – people with the knowledge and skills required to fill positions in the knowledge-based technology-driven economy we are experiencing today. Second, and equally as important is the fact that the primary vehicle for attracting and developing the human capital needed to create a brighter future for North Dakota is its education system – particularly higher education. The Tribal Colleges, along with the 11 colleges and universities within the North Dakota University System play a critical role in providing educational opportunities and thereby developing this critical asset for the state.

I do need to mention that the SBHE has established a set of priorities for the 2007 Legislative Session. The highest of those priorities is achieving sufficient base funding to support the core function of the NDUS colleges and universities. The SBHE is supportive of the funding to the Tribal Colleges provided for in SB 2404 with the qualification that such funding is not to be included in the \$63 million in additional base funding requested in HB 1003, the appropriations bill for the University System.

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I am also pleased to report that the state and the NDUS currently provide substantial support to students attending tribal colleges as well as Native American students attending NDUS campuses. The State of ND provides \$380,626 (proposed 07-09 budget) for merit and need-based aid to Native American students. The state also provides almost \$6.0 million in needs-based financial aid for students attending higher education institutions in North Dakota, including those attending Tribal Colleges. Lastly, the NDUS provides almost \$1.0 million in tuition waivers to Native American students attending NDUS campuses.

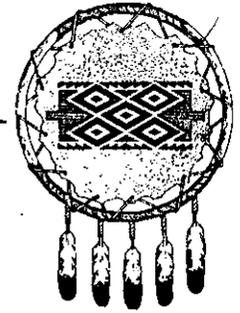
In addition, all Tribal Colleges in the state participate in the State Board of Higher Education General Education Requirements Transfer Agreement and the Common Course Numbering System. These colleges have also been invited and are participating in statewide articulation agreements. This means students can move freely among tribal colleges and system institutions. Even with an eleven institution delivery system, the NDUS is not well positioned to serve all geographic areas of the state. The five tribal colleges contribute greatly to geographic access to higher education in North Dakota, thus helping to meet the human capital needs of all areas of the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. I will be happy to answer any questions.

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North Dakota State Legislature  
60th Legislative Assembly

House Education Committee

Hearing on SB 2404

March 7, 2007

Testimony of United Tribes Technical College  
in Support of SB 2404

David M. Gipp, President

Madam Chairman and members of the House Education Committee. This testimony is provided on behalf of the United Tribes Technical College (United Tribes) in support of SB 2404, and in support of the testimony being provided by the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges, of which we are a member.

We have previously submitted testimony to you regarding a nearly identical bill, HB 1395, which this committee reported out favorably, with amendments, and which the House passed, prior to crossover. I will not repeat that testimony here, which provides some background about United Tribes Technical College and our needs, as well as our programs and how they serve nonbeneficiary students at our institution.

The reason for two bills was to allow us to seek support simultaneously from the North Dakota House and Senate for funding to assist the colleges cover the costs of educating nonbeneficiary students, as they are termed in the legislation. These are students who are not enrolled in an Indian tribe, and generally are the non-Indians who attend our colleges. We realize that one bill will have to be defeated in order for the legislation to go forward.

The differences between the bills, as they have been reengrossed, is that the bill before you today, SB 2404, provides a general appropriation for the funds requested, \$700,000, and in HB 1395, in Section 6, as passed by the House, the funds requested are coming from the "student financial assistance grants line item in section 3 of House Bill No. 1003", which contains approximately \$ 6 million. Otherwise, the bills are identical. Concerns have been raised to the Tribal College Presidents by the state board of higher education and others about the source of the funds because the scholarship funds are very much in demand by needy students, some of whom are American Indians. We have also received the support of the Governor for these funds, regardless of the source.

We would prefer, if possible, that the funds requested come from the general fund of the state, to avoid any conflicts with the scholarship funds, as provided in SB 2404. Therefore, we would ask that this Committee continue to support SB 2404 with a DO PASS recommendation so that we can have a chance to resolve this issue, probably before the bill reaches the Appropriations Committee.

# NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF TRIBAL COLLEGES

North Dakota State Legislature  
60th Legislative Assembly

House Education Committee

Hearing on SB 2404

March 7, 2007

Testimony of North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges in Support of SB 2404

Jim Davis, Chairman of the Board  
and President, Turtle Mountain Community College

Madam Chairman and members of the House Education Committee. This testimony is provided on behalf of the North Dakota Association of Tribal Colleges in support of SB 2404, as it has been amended in the Senate.

Thank you for listening to us once again regarding the needs of our nonbeneficiary students attending the Tribal colleges. The nonbeneficiary students, mostly non-Indian, although not a large number, are a vital part of our tribal college student bodies. They are most often from our local communities and have strong family ties. They often go on to the North Dakota University System, and most stay in the state of North Dakota.

The testimony we provided to this committee earlier on a nearly identical bill, HB 1395, will not be repeated here today. I have attached to my testimony two charts that (1) show the difference between what the Tribal colleges receive on a per Indian student basis to what is received by the colleges in the North Dakota University System (NDUS), and (2) show the difference between the total cost to educate our nonbeneficiary students and what is received by NDUS for an equivalent number of students over the past two years. We would also note that our request for \$700,000 in appropriated funds is less than half of what the Tribal colleges actually spend to educate nonbeneficiary students.

The reason for two bills was to allow us to seek support simultaneously from the North Dakota House and Senate for funding to assist the colleges cover the costs of educating our nonbeneficiary students. We realize that one bill will have to be defeated in order for the legislation to go forward.

The differences between the bills, as they have been reengrossed, is that in SB 2404, the funds come from a general appropriation. In HB 1395, in Section 6, which this committee considered earlier, the funds are coming from the "student financial assistance grants line item in section 3 of House Bill No. 1003". The line item referred to contains approximately \$ 6 million. This amendment was proposed to the House Appropriations Committee by your Education Committee Chairman after the bill was considered by this committee, and that amendment was then incorporated into the bill as it passed the House.

At this time, we are not proposing any amendments to SB 2404, in light of concerns that have been raised about the source of the funds, which come from the "student financial assistance grants" line item of the proposed higher education budget. As you may hear today, the higher education board supports our bill still, but does not want the funds to come from their budget.

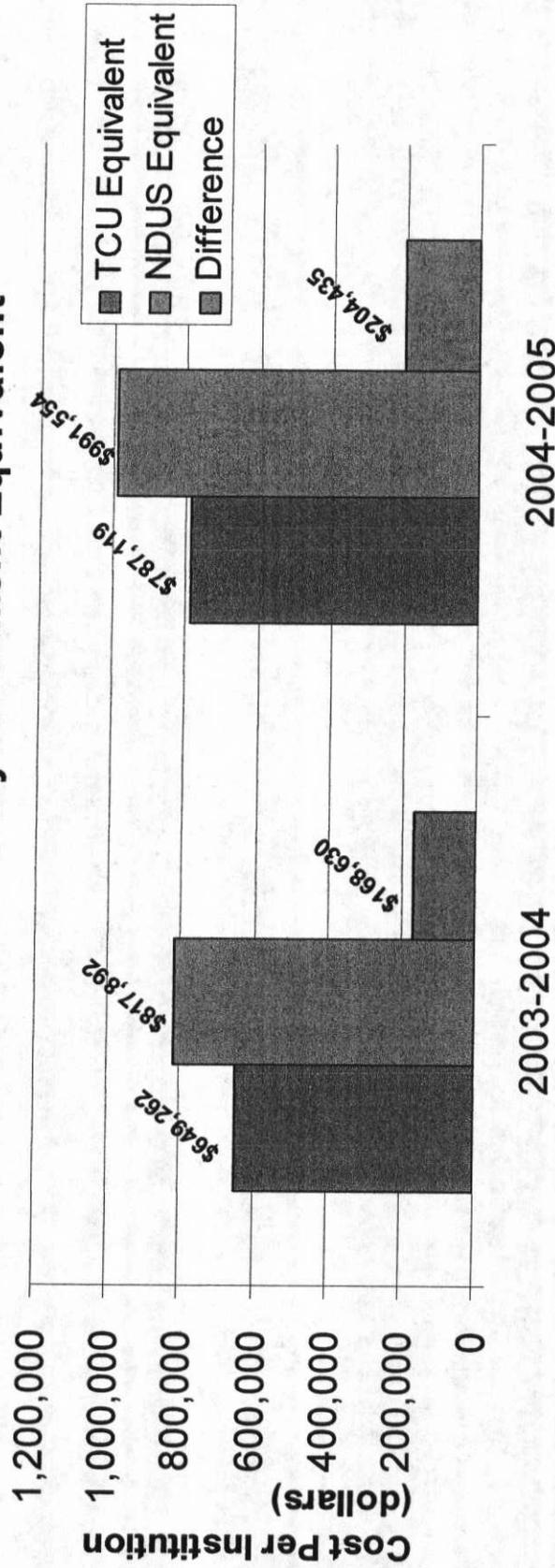
We are hopeful of determining where the funds should come from to help support the nonbeneficiary students at the Tribal colleges very soon. Therefore, we are requesting that SB 2404 be given a DO PASS by the Committee to give legislators the necessary time to resolve the issue.

### Equivalent Non-beneficiary Enrollment Cost

Academic Year	Individual TCU Non-Beneficiary Enrollment				Equivalent Non-beneficiary Enrollment Cost				
	sbc	fbcc	tmcc	uttc	cccc	Total Nonbeneficiary Enrollment (1 year)	TCU Equivalent total cost (1 year)	NDUS Equivalent total cost (1 year)	Difference
2003-2004	23	3	69	37	14	146	649,262	817,892	168,630
2004-2005	50	7	72	38	10	177	787,119	991,554	204,435
2 Year Composite						323	1,436,381	1,809,446	373,065

This Chart gives a comparison of the cost of nonbeneficiaries for the TCUS to the cost to educate students for the NDUS.

### NDATC Non-Beneficiary Enrollment Equivalent



Academic Year

Assuming NDUS Appropriation Equal from 2003 - 2006

Source: TCU AIMS data and NDUS 2006 Accountability Report

**Cost per Student**

Congressional Approved 471 Monies 2005  
Actual 2005 Congressional Allocation  
ND State Appropriation to NDUS in 2006

6000  
4447  
5602

This chart compares authorized Congressional funding for TCU to actual appropriations and the state's appropriation of funds to the NDUS (FY06)

**Cost per Student: NDUS vs. TCU**

