Memorandum of Understanding between the Intertribal Timber Council and the School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University

August 1, 2017 – July 31, 2020

The School of Forestry (SOF), an academic unit within the College of Engineering, Forestry and Natural Sciences at Northern Arizona University, seeks to provide baccalaureate (BS) and graduate degrees (MF, MS, and PhD) to Native American students. For more information on SOF’s degree programs, see http://nau.edu/CEFNS/Forestry/Degrees/.

In order to increase the recruitment and retention of Native American students in the SOF, we agree to augment the Intertribal Timber Council (ITC) Truman D. Picard Scholarship Program. The ITC will provide $2,000 to selected graduating senior high school students and $2,500 to selected students who are currently enrolled in a SOF degree program. The SOF will provide an additional $2,500 for up to four of the ITC scholarship recipients who are enrolled in one of its degree programs and provide acceptable documentation of their membership in any federally recognized tribe (i.e., tribes that are currently listed in Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations). If more than four students are eligible at any given time, the SOF Scholarship Committee will select the four students to receive the additional funds.

Students will qualify for resident tuition if they are a member of a tribe recognized by the State of Arizona for this purpose. These include the Ak Chin Indian Community of the Maricopa (Ak Chin), Cocopah Tribe of Arizona, Colorado River Indian Tribes of the Colorado River Indian Reservation, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Gila River Indian Community, Havasupai Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Hualapai Indian Tribe, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, Navajo Nation, Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Pueblo of Zuni, Quechan Tribe, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, San Carlos Apache Tribe, San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, Tohono O’odham Nation, Tonto Apache Tribe, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Yavapai-Apache Nation, Yavapai-Prescott Tribe. Students from other tribes may also qualify for resident tuition if they meet the University’s residency requirements (http://nau.edu/Registrar/Student-Resources/Arizona-Residency/).

Students who are enrolled in a SOF degree program and meet eligibility requirements (e.g., full-time status, good academic standing) will be able to apply for additional SOF, NAU, and other scholarships and fellowships. All other scholarships and fellowships will follow standard application procedures and deadlines.

The ITC and SOF commit to effective collaboration and communication in order to implement this MOU and to meet our shared goal of increasing Native American enrollment in higher education.

Philip Rigdon, President
ITC Executive Board

Rita Hartung Cheng, President
Northern Arizona University

Date 8-3-2017

Date 8-2-2017