

Miami University

REPORT &  
RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee on Relationships  
Between Miami University and the  
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

April, 1994

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PREFACE

The Committee on Relationships Between Miami University and the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma was appointed by the President in January, 1994. The charge to the Committee was to develop a comprehensive plan to establish "a program of educational and support activities, with advice from the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, which would enhance relationships with the Miami Tribe; educational programs about the Tribe and other American Indian peoples for students, staff, and faculty of Miami University; and to seek to attract members of the Miami Tribe as well as other American Indian students to Miami University."

The Committee held its first meeting on February 24 and met each week since that time except for March 15 (the week of spring break). The last meeting was held on April 19. At its first meeting, the Committee organized itself into three subcommittees: subcommittee on technology, subcommittee on educational programs, and a third subcommittee on administrative and other issues. The subcommittees were encouraged to consult with other members of the community who might have interest in the Committee's work. The chair acknowledges, with gratitude, the hard work and commitment of all Committee members.

In keeping with the President's charge that the Committee seek "advice from the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma," the chair and Cory Foster met with the Chief of the Miami Tribe to discuss a number of ideas generated by the total Committee at its first meeting and to ask his advice on issues of most importance to the Tribe. In addition, the minutes of each meeting were shared with the Chief of the Miami Tribe. We have provided estimated costs and possible sources of funding, and suggested implementation responsibilities where possible. In addition, we suggest implementation timetables for some recommendations and indicate that several recommendations are for long-term program development. Unless indicated, all other recommendations should be part of short-term program development strategy.

The Committee on Relationships Between Miami University and the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, having considered a wide range of opportunities, recommends to the President the plan and recommendations included in this report. We urge the adoption of these recommendations. We believe that we have responded fully to the charge given us and that implementation of the recommendations will more closely bind the ties of the combined heritages of the Miami Tribe and Miami University, as well as provide education about other American Indian peoples. We, too, share the hope voiced by the Miami Tribe that Moneto will bless "our mutual and cherished heritage as long as the winds shall blow."

April, 1994

Myrtis H. Powell, Chair, and Vice President for Student Affairs  
Turtle Burkybile, Undergraduate Student and Member, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma  
Cara A. DeBuysser, Undergraduate Student and Vice President for Diversity Affairs, ASG  
Cory K. Foster, Senior Associate Director, Alumni and Parent Programs  
Kristin A. Froehlke, Associate Provost for Miami Computing and Information Services  
Rachel J. Hall, Graduate Student and Member, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma  
James F. Hamill, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Joseph W. Leonard, Assistant Professor, Department of Management  
James R. Pollicita, Director of Continuing Education  
Judith A. Sessions, Dean and University Librarian  
Gary S. Wheeler, Professor, Department of Art  
Floyd E. Leonard, Adviser, Chief, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### I. A PROGRAM OF EDUCATIONAL AND SUPPORT ACTIVITIES WHICH WOULD ENHANCE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE MIAMI TRIBE (pp. 1-4)

#### A. TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT FOR MIAMI TRIBE-MIAMI UNIVERSITY CONNECTION (pp.1-2)

1. Computing equipment long-term loan

2. OARNet dial-up connection; InterNet dedicated connection

*Kris Fracklin*

#### B. MIAMI TRIBE ETHNO-HISTORY (pp.2-3)

1. Ethno-history program

a. Ethno-History Methods course

b. Field school in Northeast Oklahoma

c. Program director for ethno-history program

2. Ethno-history field school extension to Indiana and relevant Great Lakes locations (long-term development)

#### C. MUTUAL ASSISTANCE (pp. 3-4)

1. Internships

2. Consultancies

3. Volunteerism/service

4. Economic

### II. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ABOUT THE TRIBE AND OTHER AMERICAN INDIAN PEOPLES (p. 4-9)

#### A. MIAMI CENTER FOR NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE AND LEARNING (MCNACL)

1. Establish MCNACL

a. Director of MCNACL

b. Secretarial assistance

c. Space, furniture, equipment

- B. NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION (p. 5)
  - 1. Develop a Native American student organization
- C. UNIVERSITY GROUP VISITS TO MIAMI OKLAHOMA (pp. 5-6)
  - 1. Visit policy
  - 2. Orientation program for University-sponsored visits
  - 3. Documentation of visits/archives; sharing information about visits
- D. MIAMI TRIBE AND NATIVE AMERICAN SPECIAL EVENTS (pp. 6-7)
  - 1. Native American Month celebration
  - 2. Cooperative event scheduling
  - 3. Native American arts, crafts, culture celebration
- E. ACADEMIC PROGRAMS (pp. 7-8)
  - 1. Thematic sequences in Native American cultures
  - 2. Interdisciplinary minor in Native American Studies (long-term development)
  - 3. Major and graduate degree programs (long-term development)
  - 4. Native American Artist-in-Residence (long-term development)
  - 5. Support fund for Tribal visits to Miami
  - 6. Native American resource data base
  - 7. University chair in Native American Studies (long-term development)
- F. RECRUIT NATIVE AMERICAN FACULTY (p. 8)
  - 1. Visiting professorships; Native American scholars for Native American Studies program (long-term development)
- G. EDUCATIONAL/ORIENTATION PROGRAMS ABOUT MIAMI TRIBE AND NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURES (pp. 8-9)
  - 1. Functional Mission Statement revision

2. Orientation programs regarding University-Tribe connection/history
  - a. Videotape
  - b. Speakers bureau/data base resources
  - c. Interactive/multimedia program
3. Summer Reading Program
4. Library subscriptions
5. University publications, media, Native American press

H. RESEARCH/SCHOLARSHIPS (p. 9)

1. Faculty research opportunities

I. MEMBERSHIP/INVOLVEMENT WITH NATIVE AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (p. 9)

1. Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Minnestrista Council for Great Lakes Native American Studies, etc.
2. University delegates to Native American Council and other meetings
3. Relationships with Oklahoma colleges, universities, institutions with Native American programs

J. RESIDENCE LIFE PROGRAMMING (p. 9)

1. Co-curricular programs
2. Special interest corridor/hall (long-term development)

III. ATTRACT MEMBERS OF THE MIAMI TRIBE/OTHER NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS TO MIAMI (pp. 10-11)

1. Targeted outreach program
  - a. Pre-college program for Miami Tribe students, using Tribe's data base
  - b. Major college fairs in Miami, Oklahoma; paid on-site Tribe member as recruiter
  - c. Major Miami Tribe functions

- d. Campus visitation program--junior/senior high schools
  - e. Special recruitment mailings
  - f. Information tables/representation at Native American celebrations/conferences
  - g. Native American month recruitment weekend
  - h. Advertising
  - i. Native American junior/community college recruitment-transfer student program
2. Faculty-to-faculty relationships with Native American junior/community colleges
  3. Retention/mentor program

#### **IV. OTHER ISSUES TO ENHANCE RELATIONSHIPS (pp. 11-13)**

##### **A. NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT (NAGPRA) (p. 11)**

1. University conformance
2. Assist Miami Tribe in processing NAGPRA reports and housing of repatriated artifacts

##### **B. EXHIBITS/DISPLAYS (p. 12)**

1. Rotate Shriver Center exhibits; encourage others to display Native American materials

##### **C. SYMBOLS AND IMAGES (p. 12)**

1. Analyze/document University symbols/images regarding Miami Tribe and other Native American cultures
2. Discontinue use of "Res," etc.
3. Equestrian program (horse/rider) at athletic events
4. Music Department

##### **D. "CHIEF MIAMI" (pp. 12-13)**

1. Decision regarding continued use; transfer responsibility for, if to be continued

**V. MIAMI UNIVERSITY-MIAMI TRIBE RELATIONSHIP STEERING COMMITTEE AND NATIVE AMERICAN ADVISORY COUNCIL (p. 13)**

1. Steering committee for implementation/monitoring
2. Native American Advisory Council
3. Relationships with Miami Indian Nation, Indiana (long-term development)

**VI. FUNDING (p. 13)**

1. Funds to implement short-term recommendations; fund-raising strategy for long-term program developments