Mission: Symposium

Should you choose to accept?
Your Mission

To develop a strategic workshop for all 1994 Institutions to help them become centers of scientific inquiry and repositories of cultural, indigenous and scientific data for their reservation community.

Identify the research strengths and areas for improvement within the 1994 Land Grant community. Data will be used to develop an action plan for USDA to partner with the 1994 Land Grants in research.
Assignment One: Assemble The Team

Field Agents: 1994 Land Grant

1862/1890 partner (required)       Other 1994 Land Grants (optional—up to four)

Headquarters: National Institute of Food and Ag

Other USDA science agencies       First American Land Grant and Consortium

Potential Assets: Greater Community

NGOs, BIA, IHS, Tribal Communities, AISES, SACNAS
Assignment two: Capture The Grant

Read the RFA—it looks easy, but it’s a lot of work

Budget: $75,000–$100,000, plus indirect costs--up to 19 percent of direct costs or your negotiated indirect cost rate (whichever is lower)

Narrative: Make the case why your school(s) should administer the conference—and why your 1862/1890 partner is the right choice

Survey: Recipient’s first job will be to get input from all 32 schools don’t do the survey, but start planning now
Assignment three:
Reconnaissance: check informants

• For the proposal, applicants will describe how they plan to obtain input from the faculty at the other 1994 Land Grant institutions to guide their conference development. They need not provide actual data from their colleagues prior to funding.

• Upon being awarded the grant, the recipient will need to get stakeholder input from the 1994 Land Grant community. They will ask their colleagues about priority research areas and gather other details such as optimal dates for the symposium. This information will be used to help develop a conference agenda.
Assignment four: Washington Rendezvous

- All Land Grants—both the 1994 and the 1862/1890 institution partner receiving this award—will also need to budget travel money for a planning meeting with USDA representatives.

- This meeting will set the foundation for coordination among partners. The budget submitted with this application must include these travel funds.
Assignment five: Engage strategy

- Applicants should choose a location that will best serve their needs, and will not be required to host the symposium at either Land Grant Institution.

- All registration fees should be used to cover expenses relating to the conference that cannot be covered by a NIFA grant due to funding restrictions.

- Recipient will promote the conference and recruit participants, manage registration records and accommodations and work with USDA to plan agenda.
Assignment five: Secure Documentation

• **Symposium Data:** CRIS report should discuss impact of the conference, provide standard information such as attendees, presentations and institutions represented.

• **Participant Data:** The main evaluation, however, will be the action plan for USDA, which outlines the current state of research capacity of the 1994 Land Grant Institutions, done with the 1890/1862 Land Grant.
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Remind me, Seriously: Why Would I Want to Do All This?

• **The Tribal College Research Grant Is On the Line:** All spy movie jokes aside--you help us make this program work; you help everybody.

• **Great Things Will Be Expected of Tribal Colleges:** Quite of few schools already lead their Reservation Community in the sciences. Some don’t. Some can’t. If we leave them behind—what happens to their students/community? We need to stand up as one Land Grant System and bring everybody one step forward—even if that means helping some people take smaller steps.

• **ARS May Be A Partner Option In This Grant Some Day—As An Alternative to 1862/1890 Schools:** 1994 Land Grants should get to know ARS laboratories in their region if they don’t know them already. That’s why we have invited them to be part of this project.
Questions?

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