January 3, 2011

Carrie L. Billy
President & CEO
American Indian Higher Education Consortium
121 Oronoco Street
Alexandria, VA 22312

Dear Ms. Billy,

Northwest Indian College is pleased to have the opportunity to participate in the American Indian Higher Education Consortium’s (AIHEC) proposed initiative to conduct research on the implementation of AIHEC’s Indigenous Evaluation Framework. We understand that this new phase of the Indigenous Evaluation Framework would be funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation under the Promoting Research and Innovation in Methodologies for Evaluation (PRIME) program and that Northwest Indian College would participate as a case study site.

As a case study site, we will work with AIHEC to conduct a 2.5 day training session at our institution on use of the Framework. We anticipate involving faculty – including STEM faculty-- and community stakeholders in the workshop. In addition to the training session, AIHEC will provide ongoing consultation as we implement our programmatic evaluations. As a research site, we understand that AIHEC will conduct pre- and post-assessments, including surveys, interviews and focus groups, to determine how the Framework has facilitated our evaluation processes and influenced our views regarding evaluation.

NWIC is extensively involved in the development of institutional processes and experiences that focus on indigenous knowledge and recognizes that this opportunity complements our continuous improvement model for strategic planning and institutional development.

We look forward to working with AIHEC to move this important initiative forward.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Crazy Bull
President