TMCC

Assessment Coordinator’s Spring 2009 Report

This report is prepared for the Turtle Mountain Community College, its relevant constituents, and the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians by TMCC faculty to update our progress on the annual agenda, show ongoing faculty-driven assessment of student-learning, and to make institutional, budget and strategic planning recommendations based on the collection of quantitative and qualitative data from Fall Semester 2008, gathered by internal and external agencies on the needs, competencies, and abilities of our students.

2008-09 Annual Assessment Agenda

1) NCA Visit: Committee Assignments.
2) Train faculty in completing Faculty Assessment Matrix.
3) Follow through on last year’s recommendations.
4) Determine means of assessing the cultural component of general education.
5) Administer CAAP.
6) Strategic Plan for Assessment.

1) On October 21, 2008, we successfully achieved our goal of 5-year accreditation without further visits or sanctions by Higher Learning Commission.

2) On November 14, 2008, faculty received training in the new matrix and to date approximately two-thirds of the faculty has completed it from the fall semester. Nevertheless, some/all faculty from each department has completed these, and so we have proceeded with departmental meetings and their recommendations are included below.

3) Those recommendations that still require attention are re-submitted below and on every report I write. I will keep submitting until conditions change. As faculty, we have acted on the departmental evaluations and meetings that we implemented last year and the year before respectively. Department heads have been conducting meetings, evaluations, and submitting reports to the Assessment Coordinator or Academic Dean as required.

4 & 5) These items have been tabled by the Coordinator until he can meet with representatives from all the educational and testing services industries at the NCA conference in April, 2009. At that time, he will convene with faculty and make specific recommendations for faculty to enact. Please read Ron’s NCA Chicago report in April for further discussion of these items.

6) I am still working on this from my side, while preparing to fit it with the institutional effectiveness and strategic plan as composed by TMCC President. It will revolve around reshaping General Education Goals, curriculum, courses, online delivery and the assessment of each to meet the needs of our students in the twenty-first century.
Recommendations:

1. It is essential that we need a Reading Faculty given recent Praxis scores, local AYP high school reports, and general faculty observation. Dr. Robbins has crunched numbers on the TED cohorts, for example, and many of our best graduating seniors are testing in the 16% percentile (median average) in Reading (see Dr. Robbins for full details). We require additional diagnostic tools as well, instruments about which presumably the Reading Faculty could inform and advise faculty.

2. It is essential that we need more Technology/Computer Personnel in order to address Jenzabar and support the student learning of General Education outcomes. Many of faculty's concerns revolve around the computer systems and students' information literacy needs. Within Jenzabar, attendance, and advisees are also issues that need more facilitation and updating. The technological components of the assessment infrastructure that is currently in place (Jenzabar) is insufficient to monitor student learning, attendance records, etc., to advise students, or for faculty/students to make strategic use of these haphazard records. While TMCC may eventually have all the courses online for a student to receive a two-year degree, the management and current capabilities of delivering and assessing such a degree are extremely inadequate and substandard. We have also, through faculty rep., requested that Technology sub-committee establish a means for Anita to assess online courses—require students to complete a modified version of the faculty-approved Student Evaluation of Course before they are allowed to see their grades.

3. It is essential that we hire a full-time Art instructor, Music instructor, and a Humanities/Psychology instructor to ensure student recruitment and course availability. Students are finding core classes closed because we do not have enough sections offered. Many courses listed in catalog have not been taught in this area for years. The Humanities Department has had faculty resign in these areas, and the positions have been filled temporarily by adjunct instructors (see the recent Chronicle of Higher Ed article for reasons why this practice is ineffective over the long run for the institution, faculty, and students). The Department of Arts and Humanities has to be more than Native Literature, Children's Lit., Intro to Speech, Writing courses, Intro to Humanities, Fiddling and Painting. Currently however, that is about all 4 full-time and 2 part-time faculty can teach. And one instructor will be teaching at a reduced load next year. Student Tuition funds need to be directed towards faculty pay and increasing faculty to improve student learning and manage our technology systems, not for repaying building loans for the new student union/library.

4. There needs to be a more systematic student orientation to Jenzabar, more thorough and developed and taught by faculty or a trained work study, rather than the tech personnel. In one online course, for instance, more than half of students have NEVER submitted work, and several students have indicated confidentially their misunderstanding of the training session. This is not to blame the over-worked tech department, but rather to point out the need for a more improved infrastructure for online delivery of materials to students.

5. Ron reworked some of the writing rubrics in general circulation to devise a specific one for TMCC faculty to utilize throughout the college. Delivered to dept. faculty only: 3/6/09. The goal is to have faculty throughout the campus evaluating all written student work according to clear
and consistent criteria. We will train faculty in this, next fall, so that faculty can present a unified front when it comes to what constitutes college-level writing and documentation.

6. A note to Curriculum/Gen.Ed. committee: Please remember to include Criminal Justice curriculum and new courses in the next College Catalog. Tasha has/will submit these to Ron, Larry, and Leslie.

7. Regarding the new Assessment Matrix, the Science/Math/Engineering Department has noticed that there is no column to record the difference between the pretest and posttest averages. Ron will add such a column for Spring 09 semester's form and put in hard copy manual next year.

8. Faculty would respectfully request anonymous comparisons of the Student Evaluation of Courses, (gathered by Anita) data by departments. This chart would allow faculty to view better their role in the larger context, and specific areas for department heads to recommend changes.
The building moving and demolition costs will be covered by P2P and were included as a part of the construction cost.

There is no need for us to have a long term lease agreement with the tribe for the land on the North side of the street.

At the present time there are no drawings (plans) for the Key Stone Project. There will be a pre-design meeting held on Wednesday and Thursday, March 25 and 26, 2009 at which time we will present our input as to the square footage that we require for the Adult Education Program, Vocational Rehabilitation Program, and Arrowhead Printing.

Once the plans are developed a lease agreement will need to be developed with the Tribe and P2P as to rental cost (free for 10 years????), who pays utilities, etc..

SOUTH CAMPUS TIMELINE

March 2009

1. Identify renters, rents received, age of each building.

2. Assess moving of buildings on North side of street and cost to move.

3. Map out building renovation plan, which buildings will be moved and which will be demolished.

4. Develop timeline for South Campus transition.

5. Approximate the cost of moving, telephones, technology, electric, water, sewer, demolition, moving buildings; keeping in mind that there will be two moves, to temporary site and then to permanent site.


7. Secure long-term lease with the Tribe/P2P for space in the Keystone building for Arrowhead Printing, Voc Rehab, Adult Education. Agreement should specify Rental charge and who is responsible for electric, water, sewer, technology.

8. Notify renters that their leases will be terminated effective May 31, 2009 due to the P2P Main Street revitalization project.

9. Advertise for earthwork, moving buildings, concrete work for foundations and floors for buildings to be moved to South side of the street, renovation of buildings as required to include electrical, telephone, technology wiring and installation, and demolition of buildings not to be moved.
April 2009
1. Finalize plan for moving/demolishing buildings on North side of street.
2. Award contracts for earthwork, concrete work, moving and renovation of buildings, and demolition of buildings.

May 2009
1. Finish earthwork.
2. Begin concrete work.
3. Complete concrete work.

June 2009
1. Prepare those buildings to be moved for the move.
2. Move buildings to pre-determined location.
3. Begin renovation as necessary and connect electric, phone, technology, water, sewer, heating/cooling, etc.

July 2009
1. Continue with renovations and connections.

August 2009
1. Complete renovations and connections.
2. Move into buildings

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

What building do we move first?

Building 1, rented by Minot Vocational Workshop to be the temporary home of Arrowhead Printing.

Next

Building 3, currently used by the Vocational Rehabilitation Program. It could serve as Temporary home for Voc Rehab and Adult Ed.

Where do we move Dave Garcia?
### AGE OF BUILDINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUILDING #</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>DATE BUILT</th>
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<td>Minot Voc Wkshp</td>
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<td>31</td>
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<td>Arrowhead Printing</td>
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<td>1983</td>
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<td>Archives</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>1979</td>
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<td>Maintenance Storage</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>Garage</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
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<td>Garage</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>P2P</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building 17</td>
<td>Welding</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>25</td>
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### RENTAL INCOME

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<th>ANNUALLY</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Tribal Employment</td>
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<td>9,864</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>CHRs</td>
<td>1,001</td>
<td>12,012</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>Substance Abuse</td>
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## LOST RENT - IN-KIND

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<td>Voc Rehab</td>
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<td>P2P</td>
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## LOST RENT - FREE RENT

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<td>Welding</td>
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## TMCC USE

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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Garage</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>TOTAL RENTAL INCOME</td>
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<td>Building 1</td>
<td>Minot Voc Wkshp</td>
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<td>Arrowhead Printing</td>
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<td>Building 3</td>
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<td>Building 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building 5</td>
<td>Mainstream</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building 6</td>
<td>Classroom</td>
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<td>Building 8</td>
<td>Science Classrooms</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>Building 10</td>
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<td>Building 14</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>Building 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building 16</td>
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<td>Building 17</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
March 17, 2009

Minot Vocational Workshop

Dear Lessee:

I regret to inform you that Turtle Mountain Community College will be terminating your lease effective May 31, 2009.

Due to the Main Street Revitalization Project being undertaken by Pathways to Prosperity (P2P) the buildings on the North side of the street will either be moved and used by college programs or they will be demolished.

Respectfully,

Dr. Leonard Dauphinais
Comptroller
MEMO

Date: March 26, 2009
To: Board of Directors
From: Working Committee: Jim Davis, Leonard Dauphinais, John Trottier
Re: Key Stone Project (Downtown Belcourt)

We have been meeting with P2P on the Key Stone Project for downtown Belcourt and as we began to discuss with P2P's working committee the different scenarios, the initial assumption (all unofficial until the Board gives final approval) was that some of our buildings on the north side of downtown Belcourt would remain, but with a face lift to accommodate the similar appearance of the new buildings. But, as more and more discussions were held we came to realize that TMCC does not own any of the land on the north side of the street and that we currently don't have a lease with the tribe for the use of the land. We discussed moving some of the buildings to the south side of the street where TMCC owns most of the land within a particular area. The rest of the buildings would be demolished or sold, except for one building, the Archives Building.

The issues here are what buildings would and could be moved from the north side to the south and at what cost? See attached list of buildings that could possibly be moved to the south side and what buildings should or could be demolished. Would it be best that some of the old buildings be demolished and at what cost and whose cost? Or, is it best to demolish all of the buildings rather than put costs into moving old building?

In further discussions with P2P, they are inquiring as to whether they may be able to pay for the moving of buildings, demolition of certain buildings, as well as other related costs. Anna Sarcia, P2P Executive Director has indicated (see attached letter) that P2P could possibly pay for all costs to move buildings, moving programs, cost of demolition of older buildings, site preparation, water and sewer, etc. with possibly no cost to TMCC.

If the Board decides to approve the moving of certain buildings to the south side, TMCC needs to be mindful that we will not be occupying any of the new buildings on the north side; and, that we would lose any rental revenue we have generated in the past.

The funding is not yet available for the construction of the Key Stone Project. P2P has indicated that the land issue has to first be resolved before they can begin working to secure the tax credits. Their time line to begin construction is late September 2009.
In terms of Arrow Head Printing, this building could be scheduled for demolition as well although in talking with Jeremy Laducer, Tribal Transportation Director, there is the likelihood that it could remain since the resurfacing of the road south of Highway 5 near Arrow Head Printing would not necessarily require that the building be moved. See attached letter from Jeremy Laducer.

We are in the process of getting someone to give us a figure on what it would cost to move the buildings. The house moving company that is moving homes for the tribe has indicated they will give us an estimate for the moving of the buildings we identify, if the Board decides to go that direction. They have not yet come to do that as of today.

In our initial discussions we thought we may need to rent space for Adult Education, Voc. Rehab, and Arrow Head Printing if all buildings were going to be demolished; but, if buildings are going to be moved, we can coordinate the move so it would not require us to rent space for these programs, or at least minimize the need for rental space.

Understanding we still are awaiting some information on costs, it is recommended that the Board make a decision soon so we can let our renters know that they will have to find another place to move their programs. Another reason for a decision is that the land issue needs to be resolved, according to P2P, before the money can be requested and secured for the construction of the Key Stone Project.
March 27, 2009

To: Turtle Mountain Community College Board of Directors

From: TM Pathways to Prosperity

Re: Downtown Revitalization/Keystone Project

After several meetings with the TMCC staff and your fellow board members we are excited to see progress regarding this project. The Keystone Project (P2P Enterprise Center) will offer new and exciting opportunities for tribal members. This building would provide entrepreneurs technical support, financing, and business space. This project would truly revitalize old Downtown Belcourt to once again be the center of Economic Development. I am very grateful to the TMCC staff and Board for seeing and understanding the vision of this project and how it will enhance our community.

We are trying to make every effort to assist Turtle Mountain Community College with this transition. Currently there are two pools of money that we will be able to utilize for this purpose. In the project budget for the Keystone Project we have $140,000 budgeted for demolition and if the college chooses to move certain buildings as opposed to tearing them down these dollars may be used for these costs. These costs could include but are not limited to the following:

- Costs to Move a Building
- Demolition of a Building
- Moving the Programs
- Renovating a Building
- Earth work
- Phone move Costs
- I.T. move Costs
- Costs for Sewer and Water

Pathways to Prosperity also has $69,544 for the Rehabilitation of Main Street. This money is restricted to be used for curb appeal, examples would include:

- Re-facing the buildings
- Landscaping
- Sidewalks and/or parking

The dollars for the Main Street Rehabilitation are the only secured dollars that we currently have. The dollars listed for demo are monies that are included in the project budget and we are currently unable to move forward with seeking additional funding for this project until the project site is secured. We are hopeful that we will be able to move forward together with this project because we have a shared vision for the future of our community.
TMBC Belcourt Downtown Revitalization
project 08-10
March 27, 2009
Prepared by LSA Design INC with PPM

### Preliminary Demolition Cost Estimate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>SqFt</th>
<th>CuFt</th>
<th>Low $.25/CuFt</th>
<th>High $.35/CuFt</th>
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<tbody>
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**Cost Range**

$103,800 - $145,320

### Assumptions

Work would include the demolition and safe removal of all buildings, structures and foundations
Site would be cleared and prepared for new project excavation
Removal of hazardous waste or contaminated soil is not included
Area and volume calculation is based on scaled survey data and exterior photographic records
Cost range is based on regional experience and judgement provided by PPM (Professional Project Man
March 4-5, 2009: To Bismarck on March 4, 2009 to meet with the ND State Legislature on HB-1394 and HB-1566, both bills that apply to ND tribal colleges. Provided testimony on both bills on behalf of TMCC and other ND tribal colleges. Testimony was before the Senate Education Committee. Met with TCU presidents, NDUS officials, and Rep. Kasper on both bills. Also spoke with Rep. Merle Boucher on these bills. Later in the day I went to NDSU (Fargo) with others from TMCC to meet with various departments regarding programs and collaboration initiatives. On March 4th, we continued with meetings at NDSU. Also had a meeting with President Chapman and his administrative staff on overall issues.

March 16, 2009: To Bismarck to testify before the Senate Appropriates Committee on HB-1394. Met with Rep. Kasper, TCU representatives, Rep. Boucher on this bill. Also met with Buster Gillis, BSC on questions I had with regard to possibly joining the MonDak basketball conference. Future meetings will need to be held with Commission officials.

Jim Davis, President
Larretta Hall, Grantwriter

Grants funded 2006

1. Title III Development – 7 positions – 5 years - $2.5 million
2. Title III Construction – 1 year - $1.5 million
3. IT Non Traditional Careers - $9,000

Total $4,009,000

2007

1. DOD Instrumentation $100,555
2. OIEP Professional Development – 4 yr – 1 position - $1,266,355
3. Title III Construction (library/student center) - $1.65 million
4. Title III Cooperative – 5 yrs - $2,375,000 million
5. Upward Bound – 4 years – 2 positions - $999,866
6. NACTEP – 4 yrs. - $3 million
7. Otto Bremer – 1 yr $60,750
8. MSIEP – 3 yrs - $585,516

Total $10,038,042

2008

1. AICF – 5 yrs. – $250,000
2. DOL – 3 years $1.7 million
3. Big Read – 1 year $3,000
4. Basic Library – 1 year $6,000
5. OIEP Demonstration Grant - $1,197,287
6. NSF TCUP – 5 years - $1,498,572
7. DOD Instrumentation -$243,900

Total $4,893,359

2009

Title III eligibility

Pending Grants
1. ANA Language
2. USDA Outreach to Distressed Farmers

In Progress
1. Vocational Rehab- 5 year grant
2. Student Support Services

Upcoming
1. Title III construction
2. Community College Cost Reduction Act Construction
3. USDA Special Project
4. Green house project
Pennies for TMCC

Pennies for TMCC would be an organized fundraising program designed to tap into local contributions.

As a community based college, TMCC needs to maintain ties to the community. More than creating awareness, TMCC needs to generate a broad base of support from the community. People who are active contributors to an organization are more supportive than those who do not. With the local economy it is difficult to expect the majority of the community to provide financial support through more traditional fundraising. A significant number of our community simply does not have the disposable $10, $20, or $50 they would be willing to donate.

Pennies for TMCC is an avenue to encourage the community to buy into the college and actively become financial contributors. Using the approach of “a penny at a time”, the college would be able to garner financial support from a diverse group of community members ranging from children to senior citizens. The bottom line is everyone can afford to get involved.

Why pennies?
1. Pennies are by themselves insignificant for most people. In fact, most who notice a penny on the ground will not retrieve it. It isn’t apt to make a serious negative impact on any of the household of the community. In today’s world, a penny by itself doesn’t usually buy anything.

2. Everyone has a penny or a handful of pennies so no one is excluded from participating.

3. It appeals to a wide sector of community and allows for targeted programs including penny wars at schools, jars at businesses, and targeted collection weeks for individual entities.

4. It would be an effective demonstration to private donors that the college is seeking and getting support from its own community.

5. By encouraging children to participate in penny drives, children are taught a valuable lesson. Children who participate not only make the contribution, but learn the importance of charitable giving. This lesson will hopefully stay with them and in the not so distant future, enable the college to encourage them to become regular donors to the college.

6. It provides a unique opportunity for involving schools. Special penny math curriculum materials from simple to complex could be designed by math instructors/students and education instructors/students. As these would encourage the development of math and reasoning skills, it would be a positive pay off for schools to participate. This might include common change problems for younger students advancing to problems like how many pennies to circle the earth/travel to the moon or how many pennies in a gallon jar.

7. It is an inexpensive way to gain some local donations. Essentially it requires some containers (many charities suggest using 1, 5 or 10 gallon containers) and staff time to launch the effort and continue to follow up.
8. The idea of "harvesting pennies" has grown to a significant charitable impact for a wide variety of organizations including

- Penny Lovers of America - raises about $1 million per year to send disadvantaged students to college
- Habitat for Humanity - $50,000 in less than a year from the Parade of Pennies
- Trinity Baptist Church in Marion Ohio has donated nearly 4 million pennies since 1996 to Brother's Brother Foundation
- Salvation Army of Washington, DC collected $6,700 in pennies in 8 days
- Omaha World-Herald Good Fellows charity – received 14,133 pennies from elementary school children.
Grants 2009

FUNDED
TMCC Nursing Program $476,000
Bremer $175,000

NOT FUNDED

Pending

VOC REHAB
SSS
MSEIP
NSF MSP
Edward Byrnes
USDA Equity
USDA Special Emphasis – Gardening $100,000
USDA Special Emphasis – Water $100,000
Disadvantaged Farmer $100,000
Youth Build $1,044,358
ANA Language $300,000
RBEG $150,000
Robert Woods Johnson $246,180

Title III
USDA - Facilities
Title IV Development?
Grants 2008 ($7,583,467)

**FUNDED**
- AICF Woksape Oyate - $250,000
- ND VIEW - $4,720
- DOL – Allied Health - $1,800,000
- NSF TCUP - $1,498,572
- Department of ED Demonstration (Indian Child) - $1,197,287
- NSF ATE $150,000
- IMLA library $6,000
- NASA RUE with NDATC $230,392
- USDA Community Gardening - $100,000
- USDA Family Gardening - $85,000
- USDA Summer Wellness Camp - $100,000
- USDA Equity - $68,181
- Upward Bound - $999,866
- FIPSE $613,099
- Organ Donor $13,200
- Justice Center $223,250
- DOD $243,900

**NOT FUNDED**
- ANA SEDS - $1,158,894 (20% in kind match)
- OSWER Innovations Pilot Project - $29,580
- ANA Language – $296,651 ($112,750 in kind match)
- NSF-STEM with BSC

**Pending**
- VOC REHAB
- SSS
- Disadvantaged Farmer $100,000
- Bremer $440,574
- Youth Build $1,044,358
- ANA Language $300,000
- RBEG $150,000
Information on Bus

Cost: Approximately $100,000 to $130,000.

Size of Bus: 33 passenger

Cost of Maintenance: parts – $900/yr plus labor approximately $2,700. (may be less on a new bus)

Cost of Insurance: $900/yr.

Cost of License: $250/yr.

This does not include the cost of a driver or the cost of fuel.

I made a preliminary call to USDA to see if they would consider letting us use the maintenance shed funds which still requires a 45% match. They stated that they would consider it, that we needed to get information and submit it to them. I informed them that the information would be presented to the Board before anything further was done.

Questions for consideration:

1. What would the bus be used for?
2. Do we need a bus at this time?
3. Does the need for a maintenance shed outweigh the need for a bus?
4. Who would pay the annual maintenance/fuel/license/driver cost?
5. What additional information is needed for decision making?
6. Would it be more cost effective to continue leasing a bus as needed?
7. Do we need to develop policies and procedures regarding the bus?
Summer Schedule is completed and will be out next week.  
Fall Schedule is being worked on and will be completed by April 6th.  
Spring break is scheduled for March 30 – April 3.

We will need a motion by the board to issue full-time faculty the letter of intent for the 2009-2010 academic year. I am attaching the memo, and I will send this out on Friday March 27, so faculty will have it during spring break.
MEMO

March 26, 2009

TO: TMCC, Faculty
FROM: Larry Henry, Dean of Academic Programs
SUB: 2009-2010 faculty contracts, letter of intent

At the Turtle Mountain Community College’s board of directors meeting on March 28, 2009, TMCC’s Board of Directors approved the request to offer you a contract for the Academic Year 2009-2010. Please keep in mind that according to TMCC policy all faculty positions offered are contingent on available funding. Please let me know by April 15, 2009 if you intend to accept the contract offer. If you do not accept by that date, we will assume you are not returning and we will advertise your position. Please check the appropriate box below and return the form to me by April 15, 2009.

Contract days for the 2009-2010 academic year are as follows:


Please contact me, if you have any questions or concerns. Thank You

Larry Henry
Dean of Academic Programs

Yes _____ I will accept the contract offer for 2009-2010 academic year.

________________________
Signature

No _____ I will not be accepting the contract offer.

________________________
Signature
# Award Source Summary

(Excluding Declined and Cancelled Awards)

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<th>Num of Awards</th>
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## Award Source Summary

*3/28/2009*  
(Excluding Declined and Cancelled Awards)

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### Overall Total

|              | $2,758,869 | 503 | 1,518 |

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Financial Aid Disbursement  
April 9th  
Thursday

Scholarship meetings - monthly basis  
Attended parent teacher conferences at the Belcourt School.  
College Goal Sunday was held February 22nd
March 27, 2009
Spring 08-09

Office of Admissions

- Entered 75 new freshman applications.
- Recruiting students at area high schools.
- Maintaining files.
- Over 100 applications for CEU credit.
- Updating student listing and enrollment reports.
- Evaluate high school transcripts for ACG.
- Assist with graduation.
- Mail out applications/catalogs to prospective students.

Joni LaFontaine
Board Report for Spring Semester 2008-09:

- Spring 2008-09 enrollment count with Full-Time and Part-Time students is 690. This is with the CEU students.
- Last day to drop changed to April 16th.
- Spring Graduation Applications received so far: 111 students.
- Finals are May 4-7, 2009.
- Grades are due Noon, May 11, 2009.
- Commencement is Saturday, May 16, 2009 at 10:00am. Guest speaker is Thomas Dismukes, a Motivational storyteller. Cake & coffee will follow graduation. There will be no Pow-Wow after the graduation, the pow-wow will take place on Saturday, May 2.
Wanda Laducer

From: Irene Bear Runner
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2009 3:09 PM
To: Wanda Laducer
Subject: Board report

Wanda,

These are my short notes for your Board Report.

Irene Bear Runner
TRIO SSS Career Counselor
Turtle Mountain Community College
March 2009

This report will reflect the activities for the month of March 2009.

- Assisted 6 students that will be transitioning to a four-year college. The colleges of choice have been UND & NDSU. The majors chosen were in Nursing, Engineering and pre-Pharmacy.
- Representatives from Minot State and Mayville State visited the TMCC Campus for the purpose of recruiting students for their 4 year programs.
- Assist 4 SSS students with assessing their career path they have chosen. Worked on the coursework requirements that they have completed and coursework that may still be needed to complete their academic major.
- Reviewed 143 new SSS participant applications in the Spring Semester.
- Assisted Student Senate of various projects that they offered to students.
- Continue to publish the weekly TMCC Wiindamaagewin+an/Itwaywuk.
- Developing a system for statistical purposes for the SSS participants with the idea of information at a glance.

Irene LaFontaine-Bear Runner
TRIO-SSS Career Counselor
477-7874 or ext. 1150

*Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.*

Student Senate continues to hold weekly meeting

AIHEC - going on right now in Missoula.
AIHEC Student of the Year - Bonita DeCotear

3/28/2009
Turtle Mountain Community College
Upward Bound Program
Academic Advisor: Arlyn J. Vivier
Belcourt, ND. 58316

Monthly Activity Report
February, 2009

Activities:

Recruitment Phase

The Upward Bound program currently has 60 students. We currently have a waiting list of 7 students to be accepted in if one of the 60 students is released. The number of students are as follows: 4-Ojibwa, 8-St. John, 11-Turtle Mountain Community Middle School, 5-Dunseith Public School, 18-Mount Pleasant District #4 (Rolla), 14-Turtle Mountain Community High School. Recruitment has slowed down considerably and we are tracking the students during the academic year.

Unfortunately, we lost one student who moved out of the target school area. This vacancy was filled with another student who was first on the waiting list. The student is from the Turtle Mountain Community School and is in 8th grade.

Tutorial positions

The tutors are up and assisting Upward Bound students in the target schools:

Dunseith
Chelsie Azure

Turtle Mountain Community High School
Carlee Pochant
Brycee Lyons
Tyson Jeanotte
Rita Carrington

Dunseith Day
No Upward Bound Students

St. John
Jake Pitschner

Turtle Mountain Community Middle School
Difficulty in getting tutors might have to utilize high achieving 8th graders.

Ojibwa Indian School
Jeanette Poitra, 8th grade teacher

Rolla
Jessica Munro (10th)
Sarah Munro (8th)

The Turtle Mountain Middle School still doesn’t have any tutors, administration is still deciding on whether or not to let 8th graders tutor UB students. The tutors are working out tremendously. We did add 2 new tutors in the Rolla School. The other tutor was having difficulty with some subjects. The 2nd tutor was added due to the increase number of students in the Rolla School. Upward Bound students are utilizing the tutors. The outcome is showing progress with increased grades from those students who are going to the tutor for help. We have been monitoring the students with low grades since the start of the tutoring services and have a working report of the progress of the tutoring.
Program Activities

- On February 5, Dean Poitra a student from St. John and Upward Bound job shadowed. Another Upward Bound student also here at TMCC was Lacy Allick. I had fun with showing Dean what type of job that I do most of the day with being the academic advisor. I thought the experience was motivating for Dean. He commented on that my job wasn’t that hard. Meaning that it was very strenuous as far as physically. I agreed and told him that is the power of education. I did meet with Lacy later in the afternoon and she stated that her experience was good.
- The early part of the month I assisted Dennis in entering information into the TRIO online report for UB.
- Trying to set up college credit through TMCC for Upward Bound students. Spoke with Larry Henry about the issue; he is going to get back with me.
- Home visit with Gloria Decoteau in Eaglesview. Daughter did apply for program, but currently not in school. Meeting with Assistant Principal of TMCMS, prior to meeting with Gloria. Mr. Morin stated that might be able to provide tutor services to Gloria’s daughter. The meeting with Gloria and her daughter was to explain that her daughter couldn’t be accepted into the program until she is back in one of the target schools.
- Met with Turtle Mountain High School administration about concerns over scheduling of summer program. Issue worked out very well came to agreement through Upward Bound and TMCHS. Also, dual credit issue came up for UB students through college, Larry Henry still working on that part.
- Met with Gaylene Davis about UB students issue from meeting. She gave list of students who have to go to summer school. I will get a letter out to parents and students about the matter and what TMCHS and UB are doing.
- Started working on summer evaluation sheets for Upward Bound Summer tutors to fill out during the interview for hiring.
- Started the 2008 percentages chart for UB students
- Worked with Dennis on getting TMCC UB handbook ready for acceptance through Administrative Council
- Weekend Academy on Saturday, February 28, 2009 from 10 till noon. Topic coincided with Family week. The present, Ina Mikkelson, had students and parents/guardians do a couple of writing activities. These activities will be reviewed by Ina, Dennis and me. I will make copies for student files and get the writing activities back to students for sharing. Turnout from students and parents/guardians wasn’t that bad. We did have 34 students show up with their parents and 3 excused absences. The remaining 24 will be getting letters of their absence.

Arlyn J. Vivier
Upward Bound Academic Advisor
Indian Country Today

Hall: Creating the tools for success

Today, our nation faces a great challenge – the biggest global financial crisis of our lifetime. We are knee deep in depression-era levels of unemployment, bank closures, home foreclosures and auto bailouts. Indian country has not been spared either, whether in lost casino revenues, sudden restrictions on our credit, or watching our tribal investment funds plummet. And while this economic crisis is not of his making, President Barack Obama realizes that it is his to solve.

The president's economic stimulus bill, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, is an unprecedented move to fix this crisis. Although it may be controversial, we can't afford to miss the big picture – which is that the president and Congress have given Indian country an unprecedented and epic opportunity to reshape our destiny.

For generations, we have sought to bring prosperity back to our people. And while gaming has brought fortune to a few tribes, the reality is that for the most part, our reservation economies are still far behind even the worst of our nation’s cities. Even a national 10 percent unemployment rate is nothing compared to 50 percent – the average for Indian reservations in the Great Plains.

But ending poverty and unemployment and creating prosperity requires infrastructure. In other words, the basic building blocks of a healthy economy require wires to deliver electricity, broadband and telephone service, pipes to deliver water and sewer, as well as safe roads, smart buildings and public transportation. Without these fundamental tools, we simply cannot create the conditions to build and attract business.

This is what is so important about the American Recovery and
Reinvestment Act – it gives Indian country an opportunity to invest and create on a level we simply have never seen before.

For decades we have depended on the federal government or states to handle water and sewer, electricity, broadband, telephones, roads and buildings. But in 2009 we still have more than $10 billion in unmet infrastructure needs. The reality is this – if we are going to change the reservation business climate, it will take billions of dollars. And that is exactly what the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act does. It offers Indian country more than $5 billion of new investment tools, and probably a lot more if we do our homework and think creatively.

For instance, the act offers $450 million in funding from the BIA for “shovel ready” school, road and jail projects, $85 million from the IHS for new health information technology, $310 million in roads funding, and $510 million in housing aid. These funds should lead to hundreds of new projects and thousands of new jobs.

But the real money is elsewhere in the act. The amount of money that tribes can raise through bond offerings can change the face of Indian country.

Let’s start with the $2 billion in new Tribal Economic Development Bonds. These tax exempt bonds can be sold by tribes to raise money to pay for the costs of building roads, buildings, installing broadband, water and sewer projects, and just about anything, except casinos. The catch is that tribes have until the end of 2010 to issue them, so tribes have to start working with the treasury and the interior now on ground rules so this program works for all tribes. Put it this way – if 100 tribes took advantage of these bonds, it would work out to $20 million for each tribe.

Tribes can also cash in with the Build America Bond program. The most unique feature of the program is that bond issuers, such as tribes, can elect to receive a cash payment directly from the federal government instead of a tax credit. The catch is that the payments only last for two
years and after that tribes receive a tax credit. But, there is no national volume cap on Build America Bonds, so the only limit on the amount of bonds tribes can sell is the amount of money that investors are willing to put up.

The act also funds $1.6 billion in New Clean Renewable Energy Bonds and $2.4 billion in Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds. Tribes can issue new CREBs to finance renewable energy projects and construction and QECBs to finance electricity projects, renewable energy projects and energy efficiency retrofits. Tribes have to aggressively pursue these bonds or else the states, municipalities and electric co-ops will take them all.

The same applies to the $7.2 billion in new funding for broadband installation, equipment and service. About two-thirds of this funding will come out of the Commerce Department and one-third from the USDA. Internet access is a requirement for business, and critical for education and government. We can move light years into the future if we take advantage of the priority that the act gives to rural and underserved communities.

The Inter-Tribal Economic Alliance is already working to spread broadband development across Indian country. The ITEA is a $100 million business venture of 13 American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian tribes and organizations committed to bringing economic development to Indian lands. The ITEA has started information technology, energy, housing construction, natural beef and private equity corporations. Its goal is to create 200,000 jobs in Indian country by 2010. The company has already created 500 jobs in its first two years of existence in Native communities in eight states. This is a good start and it shows just how important new infrastructure is to the restart of our economies.

Tex G. Hall is the former president of the National Congress of American Indians and former chairman of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation.