

UW System Tribal Consultation

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Land Acknowledgement

The Native population in Wisconsin dates back centuries. Their presence in this state long predates Wisconsin statehood and the University of Wisconsin System. These Native Nations have fought to maintain their sovereignty and self-determination in the face of federal policies of assimilation, allotment, and termination. Present day Wisconsin is home to 12 Native Nations, each with unique identities, heritage, strengths, and needs. They are geographically located near one of the 13 four-year UW universities and/or one of the 13 branch campuses. The University of Wisconsin System Administration respects the inherent sovereignty of these Native Nations who call Wisconsin home.



Today's Objectives

- **Reflect** on the question of what it means to establish a tribal consultation policy.
- **Explore** the critical steps involved in the process of formally creating and implementing a tribal consultation policy.
- **Discuss** the benefits of a such a policy for Native Nations and UW institutions.
- **Engage** in stakeholder and leadership conversations to help further conceptualize how the policy implementation process might unfold over the next several months.



Tribal Consultation

“Tribal Consultation is an **enhanced form of communication that emphasizes trust, respect, and shared responsibility**. It is an open and free exchange of information and opinion among parties, which leads to mutual understanding and comprehension.”



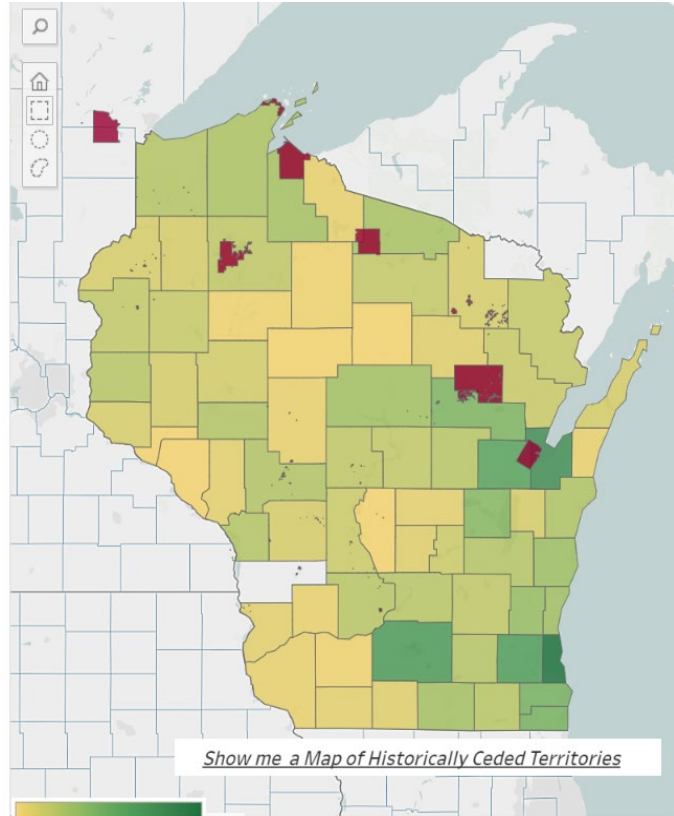
Tribal Consultation Guiding Principles

University of Wisconsin System recognizes and respects:

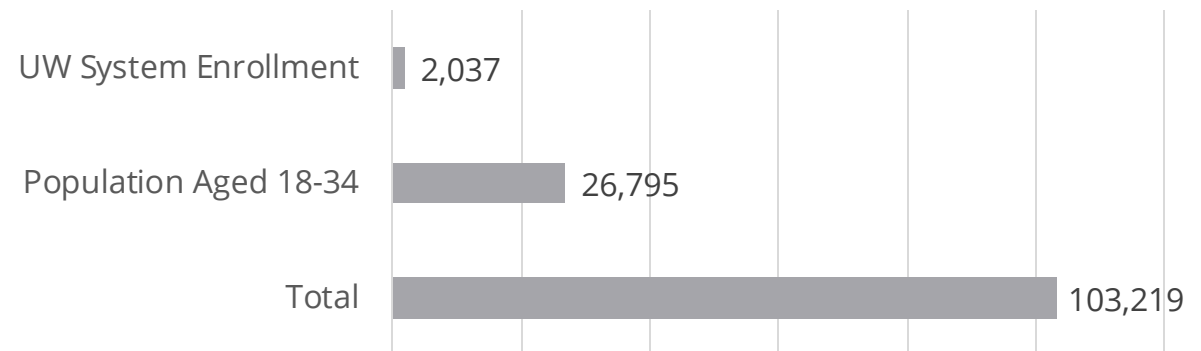
- The authority of sovereign Native Nations and is committed to government-to-government relationships with individual sovereign Native Nations of the state.
- The culture, traditions, beliefs, governance processes, Tribal laws, codes, regulations, and protocols of sovereign Native Nations. As such, UW System is committed to complying with all applicable Tribal laws, codes, and regulations.



Current Context: Native Americans in the UW System



Native American Population Estimates
(All WI Counties)



Source: UW System Office of Policy Analysis & Research (OPAR), 2021

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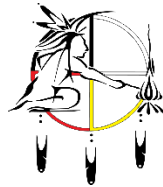
2011-2020	
ENROLLMENT	About 2,000 Native American students enrolled across UW System (1.7% of Wisconsin resident enrollment)
GRADUATION	50% of Native American students graduate in 6 years, compared to 68% of Wisconsin resident students.
	UW System awarded 2,653 undergraduate degrees to Wisconsin Native American students (1.3% of all undergraduate degrees awarded to all Wisconsin residents)
EMPLOYMENT	The number of Native American employees in the UW System has decreased, from around 200 to 140 (0.3% of all UW System employees)



Source: UW System Office of Policy Analysis & Research (OPAR), 2021

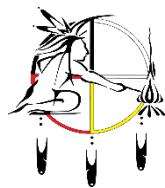
Foundation of Tribal Consultation Policy

- **Relationship Building**
 - Leader – Leader Communication
 - Identify priorities
 - Schedule regular meetings/conversations and identify point people
- **Engagement**
 - Open, honest, regular communication
 - Consultation across broad range of contexts
 - UWSA working in collaboration with Native Nations



Next Steps

- Continue to consult with Native Nations and Tribe leaders.
- Work towards building campus capacity, educational programing and training, and identifying where resources are needed.
- Determine where UW System consultation can be improved.
- Establish a schedule and timeline for formulating and approving a formal tribal consultation policy.



Questions?

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