



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA (Tlingit & Haida) and UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SOUTHEAST (UAS)

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is intended to expand communication, collaboration, and mutually beneficial partnerships involving Tlingit & Haida and UAS. Our mutual intent is to express a common vision for the partnership, identify shared goals and objectives, develop timelines, implement action steps for goals and objectives, maintain regular contact, and communication at leadership and program levels in delivering higher education and community outreach services

A. PARTNERS

Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida)

The Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a tribal government representing over 30,000 Tlingit and Haida Indians worldwide. Tlingit & Haida is a sovereign entity and has a government to government relationship with the United States.

Tlingit & Haida is governed by a Tribal Assembly and an Executive Council that establish the Tribe's position on matters affecting its citizens.

Tlingit & Haida's mission involves: "Preserving our sovereignty, enhancing our economic and cultural resources, and promoting self-sufficiency and self-governance for our citizens through collaboration, service, and advocacy."¹

The preamble of Tlingit & Haida's constitution states that its purpose "to preserve our culture and way of life, known as "Haa Kusti" among the Tlingit and "Tlagw iitl' xiinangaa Giidang" among the Haida, to protect and exercise our inherent sovereignty and jurisdiction through self-government and self-determination, to defend the property, equality and liberty of our citizens, and in so doing promote the dignity and welfare of the tribal citizens."

Tlingit & Haida provides a wide array of programs and services to tribal citizens, including: Community Services, Elderly Services, Education Services, Employment and Training Services, Enrollment, Family Services, and Financial Assistance.

¹ <http://www.ccthita.org/documents/AnnualReport.pdf>

Tlingit & Haida's Vocational Training and Resource Center (VTRC), located in Juneau, provides quality postsecondary academic and vocational educational opportunities based on the economic and employment needs of the region.

University of Alaska Southeast (UAS)

The University of Alaska Southeast is one of three separately-accredited universities that make up the University of Alaska statewide system. UAS' mission is student learning enhanced by faculty scholarship, undergraduate research and creative activities, community engagement, and the cultures and environment of Southeast Alaska. As a university, UAS is recognized as a destination of choice for students seeking excellent academic programs and an institution dedicated to collaborating to increase engaging learning opportunities that integrate the cultures, languages, and environments of Southeast Alaska. UAS has campuses in Juneau, Ketchikan, and Sitka, and offers a wide array programs online serving students throughout Alaska and in the Lower 48 states.

The University of Alaska statewide system is governed by a Board of Regents that hires the system's President. Each university is led by a Chancellor who reports to the President.

B. VISION

Tlingit & Haida and UAS share a vision of expanding affordable educational opportunities and equity for students and tribal citizens, increasing educational attainment, promoting awareness and appreciation of the region's rich indigenous cultures and languages, building a quality workforce, and promoting self-determination and community self-reliance.

Additionally Tlingit & Haida is committed to the development of a Southeast Alaska Tribal College to provide transformative educational opportunities to address the needs of Southeast Alaska communities in partnership with UAS.

C. SCOPE

Initial discussions by representatives of Tlingit & Haida and UAS have identified mutual interests in a number of key program areas including, but not limited to, the following:

- Expanding employment and training, including vocational training, dual enrollment, and occupational endorsements
- Indigenous languages
- Indigenous teachers and educational leaders
- Support services, internships, and scholarships for Alaska Native students
- Northwest Coast Native arts
- Environmental sciences, fisheries, and traditional knowledge systems
- Tribal management
- Tourism
- Re-entry/Second chance programs to reduce recidivism

D. IMPLEMENTATION

In order to fulfill this vision, Tlingit & Haida and UAS mutually agree on the following:

- Each entity will designate a representative to serve as the primary point of contact person. Tlingit & Haida's representative shall be the Cultural Heritage & Education Manager. UAS representative shall be Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management.
- Senior leadership from both partners will meet at least twice annually (fall, spring) as a MOA Steering Committee. The Committee will hear program and working group updates and consider recommendations for advancing the MOA's scope, goals, objectives, and implementation steps.
- Establish ad hoc working groups on each of the program areas identified in section C above, and any other topics identified by mutual agreement. Each partner will identify participants for the working group, and a facilitator will be appointed for each group. Each working group is expected to meet initially within three months of the approval of this MOU. Each group is charged with sharing information relevant to the partnership, exploring potential areas of collaboration, and making recommendations to the MOA Steering Committee.
- The partners will identify appropriate settings when representatives from Tlingit & Haida and UAS can provide shared presentations about the goals, objectives, and outcomes of their partnership.
- Subject to approval by partners, the parties agree to disseminate information about MOA activities with their respective communities and tribal citizens, both electronically and in print.

E. EFFECTIVE DATE OF AGREEMENT

This agreement shall be in effect from the date of signature below until such time that the parties to the Agreement agree that it should be changed or terminated.

Signed:  Date: 8/6/18
Richard Peterson
President, Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

Signed:  Date: 8/6/18
Richard A. Caulfield, PhD
Chancellor, University of Alaska Southeast