July 31, 2013

Dear 2014 MPA Tribal Cohort,

We hope you are having an enjoyable and productive summer!

This letter is being sent to you to provide some information that will help prepare you for class – Tribal Analytical Techniques for Public Administration I (TATPSI) – in the fall.

Attached is your syllabus & some information! The Moodle site will be up soon (check your TESC email) with more resources & the articles.

If you have any pressing questions or concerns, please email your faculty. PLEASE NOTE: Classrooms have not yet been assigned, you will receive an email with this information & it will be posted to Moodle.

We anticipate this to be an exciting year. This class will be challenging, but you will receive feedback, guidance, and have opportunities to develop your skills to conduct meaningful, scientifically sound, and ethically based research in areas that interest you, and your communities. TATPSI will provide opportunities for you to work individually and in a team to explore research design and analytical techniques.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Your Faculty Team –

Moroni Benally and Jenny Serpa
How to get the books: We want to make sure that you are aware of all the ways in which you can get your books for this class that may help you save some money!

- The books will be available in the bookstore for purchase. A discount is offered if you purchase all the books for the class at the same time.
- Some, or possibly all, of the books may be part of the NEW bookstore/vendor textbook rental program.
- Please note that we have a few copies of some of the books in our MPA resource room that may be borrowed. Please work with Puanani Nihoa or the faculty if you need assistance in borrowing a book or two from the resource room.
- In addition, TESC Library currently has the Creswell and Kovach books (Tribal can order these books and have them shipped to you if you are out of town). The Stiffman book is in a downloadable e-book format. We will work to see if one copy of each of the other books can be added to the library. The TESC library can also order these books from other local universities through Summit.
- Other ideas: You may check in with your Local or Tribal library to see if they have or may be able to get these books. If you decide to buy online, check into the “used” prices, I recently checked and some of the books are only a few dollars. You may choose an earlier edition of a book (such as Creswell) but it is up to you to make sure you read the correct corresponding chapters.

RESEARCH & TRIBES:
Just a quick note about working with a Tribe(s) for your research – If your research is to include collecting or using Tribal data or interviewing, observing, or surveying at a Tribe or Tribal event, we urge you to check into the research protocols of that Tribe now. Some Tribes have Tribal codes, IRBs, or a process that you will need to know and consider in your timeline for this class. You must be approved by the Tribe(s) and TESC HSR/IRB to begin your data collection and analysis in Winter quarter’s TATPSII.

YOUR FACULTY:
Moroni Benally is completing his PhD in Public Policy and Management at the University of Washington. He holds a MPP from BYU and MSPPM from the University of Washington, and a BA from Stanford University in International Relations. He has worked as both an elected official of the Navajo Nation and as policy analyst for the Dine’ Policy Institute. His PhD dissertation is titled "Resisting the Illusion of Inclusion: Cooptation in Collaborative Settings."

Jenny Serpa completed her MPA in the Tribal Concentration in 2012, and holds a BA from the University of Washington in Socio-cultural Anthropology with an emphasis in Educational Systems. She has worked at the Urban Indian Health Institute and the Seattle Indian Health Board, and now is the Co-Manager of American Indigenous Consultants LLC helping Native non-profits with grant writing and management. Her Capstone was titled “Serving the Tribal Community: The Master of Public Administration’s Tribal Governance Concentration at The Evergreen State College - a Program Review” (P.Nihoa, J.Serpa, & J.Wall).