Thank you for reading the American Indian Policy Institute’s 2016 Annual Report. This is the first report of its kind for our institute. After a successful reorganization, 2016 was a year of growth; new expertise was brought in, an advisory board was created, institute by-laws were developed, some programs were rebranded and new programs were launched. We at the AIPI are excited about the growth. We have an exceptional team and we invite you to review what we accomplished in 2016.

Dr. Traci Morris
Director, AIPI

AIPI is committed to the partnerships and our accountability to the broader audience we serve. We are intent on realizing the ASU charter’s call to "assume fundamental responsibility for the economic, cultural, and overall health of the communities it serves."

Tribal Nations and States Served

AIPI served 84 tribes from 28 states in 2016. We had a high concentration of Arizona tribes who participated in our events and trainings.

Gender Breakdown

We served a larger population of female (68%) vs. male (32%) in our programming last year.
The internal operations of the American Indian Policy Institute are integral to ensure AIPI's sustainability and longevity as a functioning and viable institution. In 2016, AIPI appointed a new Board of Directors and established quarterly meetings after holding their first one on March 31, 2016. They formally finalized the AIPI bylaws on June 10, 2016. Throughout 2016, AIPI hired four additional staff members to support the institute’s functions. They joined Director Dr. Traci Morris, Business Operations Manager Pamela Lane, and Research Administrator Dr. JoAnn di Fillipo.

**2016 Administrative Highlights**

- Sharon Tom was hired in March 2016 as AIPI’s Communications Specialist and is responsible for AIPI’s social media presence and communication of AIPI events, initiatives, and briefs.
- Sasha Pachito was hired May 2016 as AIPI’s Tribal Economic Leadership Program Coordinator and is responsible for the coordination and execution of the Tribal Economic Leadership Program initiatives and trainings.
- Bartley Harris was hired in June 2016 as AIPI’s Legal & Policy Analyst and is responsible for conducting policy analysis and teaching the American Indian Studies course, First Innovations and Tribal Entrepreneurship.
- Brian Howard was hired in November 2016 as AIPI's Research & Policy Analyst. Mr. Howard is responsible for compiling the institute’s congressional and administrative analysis of bills and regulations with tribal implication and will also participate in a number of AIPI research projects.
- Gavriella Berk and Christina Haswood were hired as student employees to help in our projects and events over the last year.

2016 Research & Policy Highlights

- **Tribal Broadband Assessment—Identifying Gaps in Digital Services on Tribal Lands:** AIPI is undertaking an updated comprehensive study to understand how advancements in internet technology, applications, and commercial mobile use have or have not impacted the availability and adoption of technology and telecommunications services in Indian Country. The use of this data will better inform policies directed to bridging the Digital Divide for residents of tribal lands.

- **Established a Legislative Update, July 2016:** An emailing separate from our monthly newsletter was developed to provide information to our readers on tribal issues being considered by the U.S. Congress and the Arizona State Legislature. These included analyses of Federal and Arizona State bills with tribal implications and committee hearings on issues with a tribal focus.
The Tribal Economic Leadership (TEL) Program is an executive education program providing professional development training opportunities for tribal leaders, tribal government professional staff, tribal members, tribal students, and governments to support the long-term economic sustainability of tribal nations and governments. Our vision is to expand the capacity of Indian Country economic development and growth by offering nationally recognized and accredited educational and professional development trainings for Tribes, Tribal members, and those entities and individuals working with tribal governments.

2016 TEL Program Highlights

- Signed Memorandum of Understanding Agreement with our partner Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) on April 19, 2016.
- Hosted TEL Planning Retreat with NAFOA and developed 5-year growth plan with specific TEL program deliverables.
- Developed new Leader-to-Leader (L2L) training to be held May 15-16, 2017.
- Hosted two Tribal Financial Managers Certification (TFMC) Trainings with NAFOA in May and December 2016.
- Arizona Tribes represented in the trainings included: Ak-Chin Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community, Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, San Carlos Apache Tribe, and Tohono O’odham Nation

TFMC served Tribal Nations from 22 states

Arizona, California, Washington, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and South Dakota drew the most attendees

The Future is Female

Both the Spring and Fall TFMC cohorts were overwhelmingly female.

62% 38%

We served Tribal Governments

In 2016, a majority of our attendees came from Tribal Governments, with some representation from Federal Agencies, Tribal Colleges and Non-Profits.

We are growing

TFMC has shown significant growth in attendees. In 2009, TFMC had 13 attendees and the training was held once a year. By 2016, over 120 people attended two sessions of TFMC in one year!
AIPI, in collaboration with ASU’s Entrepreneurship + Innovation, The Department co-working space, Maricopa County Small Business Development Center, and The Visionary Magazine, announced the Inno-NATIONS Tribal Business Collision Community — an inter-tribal initiative championing tribal entrepreneurship and economic development across Arizona.

By spearheading innovative partnerships and leveraging resources from ASU, tribes, and community organizations, Inno-NATIONS hopes the “collision community” will cause a ripple effect of change in tribal communities. The goal is to support up-and-coming Native American entrepreneurs and ignite enterprises to fuel sustainable tribal economies by rejuvenating and modernizing traditional trade networks. Tribal businesses will gain access to entrepreneurship tools, mentoring and training, and have a one-stop shop for services integral to business development and growth.

2016 Inno-NATIONS Highlights

- Worked with ASU Office of Entrepreneurship + Innovation and the Maricopa County Small Business Development Agency, The Department, and The Visionary Business Magazine on Design-Centered strategic planning, branding, and objectives for the new Tribal Business Collision Community concept.
- Secured physical working space at the start-up hotspot, The Department, in downtown Phoenix.
- Established a schedule and timeline for the new program and currently reviewing new federal funding opportunities for Native American Incubator Spaces as part of a national initiative.

external partnerships

The American Indian Policy Institute actively seeks to establish connections and secure partnerships with organizations to enhance our local impact and social embeddedness. These partnerships serve to benefit not only Arizona State University but also the various populations and constituencies we serve.

2016 Partnership Highlights

- Partnered with the ASU Indian Legal Program to co-host the Wiring the Rez Conference in February 2016.
- Participated as a member of the National Science Foundation in Broadband 2021 Summit in June 2016. Provided tribal input and recommendations to develop a broadband research agenda and report for the White House.
- Partnered with the FCC Office of Native Affairs & Policy and Native Public Media to host the Tribal Radio Summit at the ASU Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Communications in July 2016.
- Partnered with Intel Corporation, the National Center for Women in Information Technology (NCWIT), and the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) to host Growing the Legacy of Native American Leadership in Science and Technology in October 2016 to facilitate dialogue between Intel Corporation, tribes, education, and business experts to support STEM learning in tribal schools.

Geoffrey Blackwell of Amerind Risk and AIPI BOD with FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn conversing with Tohono O’odham’s KOHN Station Manager at the 2016 Tribal Radio Summit.