

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

CARRIE L. BILLY (NAVAJO), J.D.
PRESIDENT & CEO

AMERICAN INDIAN HIGHER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM (AIHEC)

A. EDUCATION

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	MM/YY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Arizona	B.A.	05/1983	Journalism
Georgetown University Law Center	J.D.	05/1986	

B. PERSONAL STATEMENT

As AIHEC's President and CEO, Ms. Billy coordinates national activities, policy initiatives, and major program implementation for this nation's 37 American Indian Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs). As a result of serving as the executive director of the inaugural White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities and working in the U.S. Senate for 10 years, Ms. Billy possesses a comprehensive knowledge of both the legislative and executive branches, including annual budgeting and appropriations processes, the legislative process in general, and federal program administration. Her professional relationships are extensive throughout all branches of the federal government, as well as national Tribal and higher education associations, organizations, and foundations. She serves as the liaison in key areas between TCU presidents and federal agencies, Capitol Hill, national organizations, private foundations and the private sector, and other institutions of higher education. As Deputy Director and Director of STEM Development, Ms. Billy coordinated the development of new initiatives and the implementation of a comprehensive STEM capacity building and technical assistance initiative for TCUs. She currently oversees multiple projects with the U.S. Department of the Interior, the United State Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Health and Human Services and private foundations.

Over the past several years, she has worked on collaborative initiatives to develop high quality STEM education and research programs at Tribal Colleges; to effectively plan, evaluate, and improve programs through the development of a new evaluation theory, the "AIHEC Indigenous Framework for Evaluation" (funded by NSF); and to accurately and comprehensively collect and report data on American Indians in higher education through the "AIHEC AIMS" (American Indian Measures for Success) initiative. Ms. Billy is also involved in initiatives with indigenous educators and researchers from around the world through two AIHEC initiatives: World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium-USA and the indigenous digital collectives initiative with the National Museum of the American Indian and other international museums and researchers.

C. POSITIONS

2007- Present President and CEO, AIHEC 2007-present.

2004-2007 Deputy Director, AIHEC

2001-2004 Director of STEM Development & Operations, AIHEC

Through these positions and as President and CEO, Ms. Billy serves as the principal spokesperson and advocate for the nation's 37 American Indian tribally controlled Colleges and Universities (TCUs). Works with a 35-member Board to develop and implement AIHEC strategic vision and set policy for organization; guides day-to-day operations of 20-member staff and network of contractors; works with federal agencies, national and international organizations and foundations, and the U.S. Congress; manages key AIHEC initiatives and grant programs; directs AIHEC's development activities; and oversees all financial and personnel aspects of the organization. Two landmark initiatives led by Ms. Billy are the *American Indian Measures for Success* data collection initiative, which for the first time defines, collects, and reports relevant cohort based data on American Indian student success, as determined by TCUs and stakeholders; and the *Indigenous Evaluation Framework Initiative*, a multi-year effort to develop and

implement a framing for program evaluation from a Native perspective, which synthesizes Indigenous ways of knowing and western evaluation practice.

1998-2001 Executive Director, White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities

Duties included: coordinating national effort to create and strengthen American Indian Tribal College partnerships with federal agencies and private sector; creating, monitoring, and assisting in implementation of new federal programs related to Tribal Colleges; advocating to and for the federal government and Tribal Colleges; establishing and coordinating 31-agency Interdepartmental Committee on TCUs and overseeing development and implementation of agency strategic plans on Tribal Colleges; assisting in establishing and convening President's Board of Advisors on TCUs; developing and monitoring reporting system for federal agency commitments to Tribal Colleges; managing initiative staff and developing annual budget; liaising with Domestic Policy Council, Office of Management and Budget, federal agencies and the Congress; and advising Secretary of Education and other cabinet officials on Tribal College and American Indian education issues.

1996-1998 Federal Relations Counsel, AIHEC

Duties included developing and seeking enactment of a comprehensive legislative agenda for TCUs; working with Congress and Administration to develop, secure, and amend authorizing legislation and annual appropriations for federal programs; preparing testimony, talking points, briefing materials, and statements; briefing federal officials and assisting agencies in Tribal College matters; organizing conferences and forums.

1987-1996 Legislative Assistant/Legislative Director, The Honorable Jeff Bingaman (D-NM)

Legislative duties included drafting, developing, promoting and monitoring legislative agendas; procuring and monitoring appropriations; negotiating bi-partisan and bi-cameral compromise legislation; working closely and actively with local and national organizations, Congressional staff, and private sector to draft and enact federal legislation; meeting and negotiating with White House and departmental personnel to develop, implement, clarify, or modify federal legislation, regulations and programs; preparing speeches, statements and formal correspondence for the Senator; conducting Senate hearings, briefings, and town meetings; addressing key constituents and national organizations; and managing teams of legislative staff.

Extensive legislative expertise in Education Issues, including American Indian education, elementary to post-secondary; vocational and adult education; literacy programs; national education reform and goals; and comprehensive school health education. Selected legislation includes: Bingaman-Cohen Healthy Students-Healthy Schools Act and health education for BIA-funded schools; Bingaman-Campbell Equity in Educational Land-grant Status Act; Bingaman-Cochran National Education Goals Panel Act; Bingaman Amendment to Support Hispanic Serving Institutions; Bingaman-Domenici U.S.-Mexico Cooperative Border Teacher Training Amendment; Bingaman-Domenici Tribally-Controlled Post-Secondary Vocational Education Amendments; and numerous amendments to ensure inclusion of Indian tribes, BIA-funded schools, and Indian students in national education programs.

Extensive legislative expertise in Indian Affairs, including tribal sovereignty and governance; Indian health; land claims; gaming; and Indian arts and culture. Selected legislation includes: Comprehensive Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Prevention Act; restoration of funding for Indian education programs amendments; Bingaman-Domenici Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Arts and Culture Act Amendments; Bingaman-Domenici Pueblo de Isleta land claim legislation; Radiation Exposure Compensation Act amendments; and various amendments to include Indian tribes in federal legislation.

Extensive legislative expertise in Health Affairs, including bipartisan comprehensive health care reform efforts; Medicare and Medicaid reform; health promotion/disease prevention; and international health issues. Selected legislation includes: Bingaman-Durenburger Voluntary Health Insurance Purchasing Cooperative Act; 21st Century Health Care Act, combining managed competition and cost containment to achieve comprehensive health care reform; Bingaman-Hutchison U.S.-Mexico Border Health Commission Act; Bingaman-Boschwitz National Nutrition Monitoring Act; and Bingaman-Chafee Tobacco & Nicotine Health and Safety Act.

Extensive legislative expertise in Judicial Affairs, including judicial nominations, civil rights, immigration, and women's issues, including the Bingaman-Simpson International Population Stabilization and Reproductive Health Care Act.

1986-1987 Attorney, Brown & Bain, PA

Legal duties included researching and preparing memorandums of law; negotiating and documenting corporate transactions, including mergers, acquisitions, sales and development of commercial real property; advising clients on corporate and individual taxation issues; negotiating and settling corporate and individual tax controversies before state and federal administrative authorities; and participating in case development for American Indian client regarding the Navajo-Hopi land dispute.

D. SELECTED PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Billy, C. (2019). The Pathfinders: Women Leaders in the Tribal College Movement. Tribal College Journal, Vol 30, No. 4, <https://tribalcollegejournal.org/the-pathfinders-women-leaders-in-the-the-tribal-college-movement/>.

Billy, C. (2003). Moving Toward the Circle of Prosperity: the Cyber-Journey. Tribal College Journal, Vol 14, No. 2, 46-47.

Billy, C. (1999). A Personal Story: race and education. Tribal College Journal, Vol. 11, No. 2, 10-11.

Bingaman, J., Billy, C., Frank, R. (1993). Combining a Global Budget with a Market-Driven Delivery System: Can It Be Done?, American Psychologist, Vol. 48, No. 3, 270-276.

E. RESEARCH SUPPORT

2019-2020: Principal Investigator, Lumina Foundation, "American Indian/Alaska Native Postsecondary Education Access and Attainment Research Study and Framework

2018-2020: Principal Investigator, Wells Fargo, "TCU/American Indian/Alaska Native Language Research Initiative"

2012-2019: Principal Investigator, NIH, "NARCH AIHEC TCU Behavioral Health Initiative"

2017: Project Director, Strada Education Network, "TCU Presidents-Data Intelligence Effort"

2015-2017: Principal Investigator, BIE, "TCU College Bound Initiative"

2015-2019: Principal Investigator, DOE, "TCU Advanced Manufacturing Initiative"

2014-2019: Principal Investigator, NSF, "TCU (Indigenous) Problem Based Learning Initiative"

2011-2016: Principal Investigator, DOE "American Indian Research and Education Initiative"

2014-2016: Principal Investigator, USDA "Growing Native American Agriculture"

2014-2019: Principal Investigator, USDA "Tribal Farmers, Ranchers and Community support project"

2011-2012: Principal Investigator, USDA, "American Indian Sustainable Land Practices Network"

2010-2016: Principal Investigator, NASA, "NASA AIHEC One Stop Shopping Initiative"

2009-2013: Principal Investigator, NEH, "Native Knowledge Pathways Portal"

2005-2010: Principal Investigator, NASA, "Building Bridges to Excellence in STEM"

2003-2019: Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation - "Building an Indigenous Framework for Evaluation"