

An Intertribal Research and Resource Center Newsletter

April, 2019

Mission:

The IRRC provides services and builds capacity for enhancing food, energy, and water sustainability for tribal communities in the Northern Plains.

In this issue:

Pg. 1-2: Goals and
Services of the
IRRC

Pg. 2: Upcoming
Workshop

Pg. 3: Meet Our Staff



UNITED TRIBES[®]
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Tribal Landscapes

*Research and Resources for Food, Energy, and
Water Sustainability*



New Beginnings

The Intertribal Research and Resource Center staff hiring and facilities are now complete. With an official ribbon cutting planned for April 5th, we are fully operational and excited to serve the tribes of the Northern Plains by providing Research, Outreach, Training and Education in the sustainability of food, energy, and water resources. Come visit us! We are located on the second floor of the Science & Technology Center on the United Tribes Technical College South Campus in Bismarck.

Goals and Services

UTTC is inherently intertribal and is uniquely positioned to serve many tribes. The college has a rich history of serving as a central training facility for the Northern Plains and the IRRC will expand on these past efforts into new areas and provide enhanced services to our communities.

Upcoming Event:

What:

From Data to Decision:
Utilizing Climate Information
for Increased Resiliency on
Tribal Lands. A free workshop
for tribal land managers,
students, and tribal college
faculty.

Where:

Cankdeska Cikana Community
College Fine Arts/Technology
Area, Room F-117

When:

May 14-15, 9:00 am- 5:30 pm

Lunch and Snacks Provided

How to Register:

Space is limited, please
register early:

tiny.cc/intertribalclimate

Questions?

Contact 701.221.1458 or
jguinn@uttc.edu

This workshop is sponsored by
the IRRC and facilitated by
climate scientists from the
High Plains Regional Climate
Center, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln.



The IRRC is committed to developing institutional and regional capacity by applying science to address community needs, and improve tribal natural resource and agricultural sustainability.

Research

Food, energy, and water are important individually but we know they are also inseparably linked. These are the economic drivers of our region and are also important cultural drivers. Our research faculty with diverse interests and competitive research programs enhances our ability to provide quality data to tribes for informed decision making and sustainability planning. We focus on renewable energy, health impacts of environmental toxins, development of biomaterials from agricultural products, sustainable agriculture, genetics, process chemistry, range management, and wildlife ecology. Watch for updates on our research in future issues of Tribal Landscapes.

Outreach

Our community outreach programs are family events focused on providing science information in ways that are fun, active, and designed for all ages. UTTC faculty, students, and Gateway to Science staff plan to help us provide hands on activities at our April 5th open house.

Training

Training programs focus on developing skills in specific areas identified by tribal agencies or community members. Our website, www.uttc.edu/irrc houses announcements, case studies, and literature reviews developed by the IRRC. See the sidebar of this page for more information on an upcoming workshop.

Education

Our vision is to inspire the next generation of STEM professionals. By partnering with regional tribal K-12 and college students we seek to translate the research of the IRRC into engaging science programming. Reach out to our Science Outreach Coordinator-Anna Bahnson for classroom resources and programming ideas.

IRRC Staff:

Jeremy E. Guinn, PhD

Center Director

Email:

jguinn@uttc.edu

Phone:

701.221.1458

**Gurjot “Gary”
Dhaliwal, PhD**

Renewable Energy &
Biomaterials from Ag
Products

Email:

gdhaliwal@uttc.edu

Phone:

701.221.1465

Emily Biggane, PhD

Environmental
Toxicology and Tumor
Growth

Email:

ebiggane@uttc.edu

Phone:

701.221.1466

Anna Bahnson, MAT

K-12 Science
Programming and
Community Outreach

Email:

abahnson@uttc.edu

Phone:

701.221.1467

Meet Our Staff

The IRRC facilitates collaborative projects among UTTC’s STEM and Land Grant programs. In addition, our team at the IRRC consists of full-time research scientists and education professionals. Together, we are able to meet diverse STEM research and outreach needs through a coordinated interdisciplinary approach. See the sidebar of this page for individual staff contact information.

Jeremy Guinn, PhD

In January, Jeremy moved from Department Chair of the Environmental Science Department to Director of the IRRC. Originally from Virginia, his interest in holistic ecological management and undergraduate research has served as the foundation for his work at tribal colleges for over 15 years. As Center Director, he is excited about the opportunity to work more closely with tribal agencies and community leaders.



Gurjot “Gary” Dhaliwal, PhD



Dr. Dhaliwal is a Mechanical Engineer who specializes in designing useful materials from agricultural products. The resulting materials have the added benefits of replacing petroleum-based precursors, are less toxic, and add additional value to the agricultural producer’s operation. Growing up on a wheat farm in India, he identifies with rural agricultural-based environments and looks to use science and engineering to improve the lives of people in our communities.

Emily Biggane, PhD

Emily completes her PhD this summer at UND and will be joining us in August. Originally from the Minot, North Dakota area, her research supports better understanding of the health impacts of pollutants for all people. Emily will provide data support to address research questions and statistical assistance for faculty at UTTC.



Anna Bahnson, MAT



Anna is a science educator with experience teaching in K-12 classrooms and outdoor environmental education programs. Originally from the Fargo-Moorhead area, she has worked to bring environmental programming to tribal members in MT, WY, and MN. Anna brings her strong skills in science education to use in providing IRRC outreach and trainings to the Northern Plains communities.

About United Tribes Technical College

United Tribes Technical College provides quality post-secondary education and training to enhance knowledge, diversity, and leadership for all indigenous nations.

For 50 years the college has built cultural, educated, and healthy leaders who empower their communities.

Contact Us:

Intertribal Research and
Research Center

United Tribes Technical
College
Science and Technology
Center, 2nd Floor

Bismarck, ND 58504

701.221.1458

jguinn@uttc.edu

www.uttc.edu/irrc

By engaging the capacity of UTTC's science and agriculture programs and engaging strong partnerships, the IRRC will be a nexus of activities supporting tribal natural resource management, collaborative environmental and agricultural research, and sustainability efforts in food energy, and water.

