

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Budget and Finance**

**AGENDA ITEM: 10 – J**

**DATE: June 27-29, 2017**

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**SUBJECT: SDSU American Indian Student Center – Preliminary Facility Statement**

South Dakota State University requests approval of its Preliminary Facility Statement to begin initial planning for the construction of an American Indian Student Center (AISC). This facility would enhance services provided to American Indian students and provide contemporary multi-purpose collaboration space to the campus community. AISC assists the university community in understanding the significance, value and strength of the American Indian experience.

Currently, the AISC is located in the lower level of the Enrollment Services Center. This space was renovated to accommodate the Center when its previous facility was demolished to construct the SDSU Alumni Center Addition. The current space offers limited services and activities for the program. In addition, the Enrollment Services Center building is located outside the campus ring and reduces interaction and visibility with the campus.

The AISC provides a welcoming location for new and existing students and serves as a mentoring site to develop peer mentoring programs. The AISC also offers professional development opportunities through the American Indian Science and Engineering Society and the American Indian Alumni chapter. The new center would open doors for development, networking, and support for current students as well as provide a pathway to tribal communities and beyond.

The proposed building would consist of approximately 12,000 gross square feet of space. While a definite site location has not been identified, the facility would potentially be located along the south side of campus near the existing residence halls and 8<sup>th</sup> street. This would allow easy access for students on campus and also offer vehicular access to the site.

Funding for this project will come from private donations and school and public land funds. Donations would be required for a significant portion of the project. Site selection, programming, and preliminary design services will cost approximately \$150,000 and be funded by the FY17 school and public lands allocation.

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**DRAFT MOTION 20170627\_10-J:** I move to approve SDSU’s Preliminary Facility Statement to construct a facility to house the American Indian Student Center. (If approved, a building committee representative should be appointed to oversee this project.)

Additional details of this construction project can be found in SDSU's attached Preliminary Facility Statement document. If approved, a building committee representative should be appointed to oversee the project's development. SDSU can then proceed with the development of its Facility Program Plan.

**PRELIMINARY FACILITY STATEMENT FOR  
AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT CENTER  
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY**

**South Dakota State requests approval of this Preliminary Facility Statement. We request that a building committee be formed for selection of an Architectural/Engineering design consultant to provide schematic design services for the creation of an American Indian Student Center to be located on the SDSU main campus in Brookings, SD.**

a. General Programmatic Needs to be Addressed

SDSU plans to create an American Indian Student Center (AISC) that would enhance the services provided to American Indian students and provide contemporary multi-purpose collaboration space to the greater campus community. The AISC is the hub of cultural programming, services and advocacy that supports the recruitment, transition, retention, persistence, and graduation of American Indian students at South Dakota State University. AISC assists the University community in understanding the significance, value and strength of the American Indian experience. The new facility would provide work space for the AISC staff as well as support space for American Indian students on campus. The facility would also provide contemporary multi-purpose and meeting spaces that would be available to the entire campus community. The program spaces would help further the mission of the AISC program.

The Center is currently located in the lower level of the Enrollment Services Center. This space was renovated for the program when their previous facility was demolished for the SDSU Alumni Center Addition. The current space limits the services and activities that the AISC program can provide. Additionally, the location of the Enrollment Services Center outside of the campus ring road reduces interaction with the greater campus community and reduces visibility for the Center with the students it is designed to serve.

Student services provided by the AISC include retention advisement, advocacy programs, social, cultural and academic programming, student leadership development, professional referrals, financial aid guidance, and enrollment and registration assistance. The AISC program engages with American Indian students to address core issues that many Native students must overcome. These issues include: being the first in the family to attend college, being a source of knowledge, being accountable, being an agent of positive change. The AISC is envisioned to be a gateway towards collegiate success.

The new AISC would be emblematic of American Indian culture and heritage. The new center would provide comfort, pride, and a sense of community for American Indian students. Programs in the new facility would celebrate the American Indian community and culture. A variety of programs and celebrations are expected within the facility ranging from small group discussions to large gatherings and dinners, along with pre-college programming. Interaction with the greater campus community would also be encouraged within the new facility. Gathering spaces required by the American Indian Student Center would be accessible to the University. Common spaces would also be open to all students, faculty, and staff for informal gathering, study, and interaction.

b. Analysis of the Student Body or Constituents to be Served

The AISC offers a home away from home environment for students who experience culture shock when they arrive on campus. For students from tribal communities that attend tribal schools during grades K-12, arriving on campus and suddenly becoming the minority is an isolating experience. The AISC serves as a buffer space and provides a gathering space for the American Indian population to come together and support one another. Support is offered formally and informally through programs, services, and community discussions. For the average American Indian student, interacting with others of similar background brings a sense of comfort.

The AISC provides a welcoming place for peer mentoring between students. It is the Center's aspiration to further develop peer mentoring programs over time by building upon successful student experiences and resulting retention. The AISC is currently working on identifying ways to employ students to collaborate with existing peer mentoring programs on campus. By introducing the Wokini Initiative, the Center plans to re-establish tutoring services for Math and English targeted to Native American students. The goal for the Center is to provide an environment that emphasizes students supporting students. The Wokini Initiative would also identify opportunities through federal and state grant programs, financial aid, donor funded scholarships, and endowments to create an expanded support network within the Center. The support network would be structured to prepare, attract, recruit, retain, and graduate enrolled tribal members at SDSU. A new standalone facility would be fundamental to this plan.

The AISC offers professional development opportunities through the American Indian Science and Engineering Society and the American Indian Student Association. The AISC is in the process of establishing an American Indian Alumni chapter, which would open doors for professional development, networking, and support opportunities for current students, as well as pathways to tribal communities and beyond. All of the programming at the AISC provides staff an opportunity to discuss shared experiences, coursework, interests, and goals with students. With additional staff the Center would like to develop leadership programs, an organized peer mentoring program, a Sophomore Experience, and a more robust professional development program geared towards upper-class and graduate students.

In addition to the academic and professional programs the AISC offers retention programming that focuses on American Indian culture and social issues. Retention programs offered by the Center evolve to meet the needs of the current student population. There is diversity within the American Indian student population and a need for diverse programs that honor the history of American Indian people, while addressing current themes within American Indian communities. A new Center with adequate space would give the AISC a place to provide programming that better meets the needs of American Indian students on campus.

Based on 2010 U.S. Census Bureau statistics the American Indian community makes-up 8.8% of the overall population in South Dakota. The South Dakota Regents Information System indicates that the current student profile at SDSU consists of 1.0% American Indian or Alaska Native students. It is the goal of South Dakota State University to increase enrollment of American Indian students to better reflect the overall demographic trend of the State. South Dakota State University believes that the combination of a new facility, outreach programs, and on-campus support programs would allow the University to achieve this goal.

c. Additional Services to be Offered

There is an opportunity with this project to provide high quality, accessible, student service space for the campus community and American Indian students. The University has identified a need for updated multi-purpose space to better respond to contemporary collaboration methods. Planning shall include allowances for these needs; as well as, planned or anticipated program expansion. As the program grows additional staff may be required within the AISC program. The AISC offers professional development opportunities through the American Indian Science and Engineering Society and the American Indian Student Association. The AISC would also include programs through the American Indian Alumni Chapter, which will open doors for professional development opportunities for American Indian students. In addition to professional development the AISC would like to expand the peer mentoring, Sophomore Experience, and retention programming.

d. Compliance with Master Plan

This project follows the key guiding principles for campus development, as outlined in the 2025 Master Plan. The project would in-fill a site located within the campus footprint and enhance student services on the south side of campus. The project is part of South Dakota State University's Wokini Initiative to better serve the Dakota, Lakota and Nakota residents of South Dakota. It aligns with the historic mission of the U.S. land-grant system of public higher education to provide greater access to higher education for all. The project would also reinforce the retention goals set forth in the 2018 Strategic Plan, through the creation of a prominent and welcoming home for American Indian students on campus.

e. Analysis of Needs Assessment Based on the Facilities Utilization Report

The planning services would help the University better identify the scope of the project for the American Indian Student Center. Planning services would also project current and future space needs, helping the University align building area with the functional needs of the AISC program. The design consultant would assist with site analysis for the construction of the Center and initiate conversations with Tribal Communities for cultural input throughout the design process.

The University anticipates a project size between 12,000 and 16,000 gross square feet. The facility would provide office space, meeting rooms, multi-purpose rooms, technology resources, student support space, and academic support space. The building would serve the AISC program, American Indian students, and the greater campus community. Its primary function would be dedicated to student support programming and services.

American Indian Student Center Preliminary Space Program

Program Function	Space Use Code*	Gross Square Footage (GSF)	Notes
Multi-Purpose	110	4,000	Large University and Department Scheduled Meetings & Seminars
Office	310	1,300	Director, Program Coordinator, Administrative Assistant, & Student Employees (4)
Office Service	315	1,000	Waiting Area, File, Copy, and Resource Room
Meeting Rooms	350	1,200	Conference Rooms, Workroom, and Collaboration.
Study Space	410	1,000	General Open Student Study Space, Technology Labs, and Quiet Study
Storage	780	500	General Building, Department, and Student Organization Storage.
Building Service	XXX	1,800	Restrooms, Custodial, Vending, IT, Electrical and Mechanical
Circulation Space	WWW	1,200	General Building Circulation and Entrance Lobby
Total GSF		12,000	

\*Space uscodes as defined by the National Center for Education Statistics Facilities Inventory and Classification Manual (FICM)

f. Location

A definitive site has not been selected for the project. A number of potential sites would be investigated and be finalized after further analyses by the design team. The site would likely be located on the south side of campus near the existing residence halls and 8<sup>th</sup> street. These sites would provide easy access for students on campus; as well as, vehicular access to the building. Another benefit to this area of campus is ample access to existing utilities.

g. Reallocation of Old Space

Completion of the project would result in available space in the lower level of the Enrollment Services Center. SDSU considers it likely that departments currently assigned to the main level of the Enrollment Services Center would expand into the recently renovated lower level with little or no modifications required.

h. Proposed Funding Source(s)

Funding sources for the project will include private donations and school and public land funds. SDSU anticipates that donations would be required for a significant portion of the project budget.

i. Budget for Development of a Facility Program Plan

We estimate site selection, programming, and preliminary design services will cost approximately \$150,000. This will provide adequate information to determine the scope of the project, develop a preliminary design for the building, and estimate the project cost. The University will also develop fund raising materials and project description in this phase of the project.