

Supporting the Tribal Land-grant Universities

1. NIFA commits to catalyzing transformative applied research, education, and extension at 1994 land-grant institutions to address critical challenges in Indian communities across the United States. The 1994 land-grant institutions have the unique ability to solve critical issues affecting lives of American Indian students and communities.
2. The 1994 land-grant institutions are critical to affecting local to regional change as fully engaged partners within the land-grant university system. However, establishing the strong foundation for full engagement requires:
 - a. Strong collaborative relationships to address complex societal problems
 - b. Commensurate administrative support and faculty/staff resources
 - c. Access to the professional resources available through the Cooperative Extension System
 - d. Strong foundation to serve respective communities through consistent sources of funding
3. On Sept. 24 and 25, 2016, NIFA coordinated a meeting in Jackson Hole, Wyoming with the 1862 and 1994 land-grants to develop a shared vision among the three entities to enhance the engagement, partnership, and success of programs at the 1994 land-grant colleges.
 - a. Issues of discussion included:
 - i. Increased duration and amount of funding of tribal awards
 - ii. Securing permanent funding to hire extension agents in order to build long-term capacity
 - iii. Aligning AFRI priorities with the needs of 1994s by addressing critical needs such as teaching
 - b. Over the course of FY 2017, NIFA will continue to work with these stakeholders and others to increase awareness of the need to create stronger and more effective partnerships and increase engagement with the 1994s.