

Introduction

Diné College holds the HLC's comprehensive visit in the highest regard. We see it as an opportunity to progress toward being an internationally renowned college founded within our cultural teachings. We previously stated to the HLC that we liken our partnership to a growing cornstalk representative of all stages of life: 1. Pollen, 2. Stalk, 3. Corn, 4. Regeneration. During our last visit, we used the corn pollen to start our collaboration. Today, our cornstalk is reaching upward to the sky and beginning to bear corn. In the Navajo way, we progress forward to the East, in the early morning light of dawn. We plan and prepare for our advancement through our day, as well as, through our life. In this same manner, we rise to greet our HLC guests and ensure we have a positive visit.

HLC is coming soon. Join us! Aadéé' HLC yikah. Łahdóó anilyeed.

In years past Diné College has utilized this as the catchphrase, in both English and Navajo, to generate public enthusiasm for the upcoming Comprehensive Visit. In the Navajo way, we think of our visit from the HLC as an opportunity to progress toward the East and the Dawn in the early morning light of a new day. Our people are, thus, being called upon by the Holy People to rise from a night of sleep and greet the dawn. In this same manner, we rise at the dawn of HLC to greet our guest and ensure we have a positive visit. We previously stated to the HLC that our thinking on the visit and review is likened to a cornstalk. During our last visit, we used the corn pollen to start our collaboration. Today, our corn stalk is bearing corn and the stalk grows taller.

Diné College faculty, staff, and students worked together to re-evaluate our success since the last visit from HLC to produce our 2018 Assurance Argument. Over the course of the last year, we have gathered evidence, drafted our response, assessed what initiatives we believe are successes and which are still in progress, while owning up to when our initiatives have lost momentum. Our College family remained dedicated to producing the best possible response during this labor of love effort. Our information sessions were well attended at the multi-sites throughout the allotted time. We also gave away promotional items in order to celebrate our HLC visit and garner excitement from the student body. Our labor also incorporated a community wide call for improvements on the draft assurance argument documents. We are confident that our current draft is a true reflection of the diverse wants, needs, and expectations of the DC community.

The DC community is held together cohesively via our cultural teaching "K'é". Literally translated as, "clan" this English term fails to capture the depth of K'é. This is our Diné guide to our ethical behaviors, interactions, and relationships between not only humans but also with our relatives with hooves, wings, gills, stingers, and beyond. Additionally, K'é also outlines our obligations and responsibilities to Mother Earth and Father Sky. Diné College, as an institution, has been formed from the roots of traditional Diné

cultural teachings including K'é. To be certain, K'é is a very broad and all-encompassing topic contained within the even larger notion of Sa'ah Naaghai Bikeh Hozhoon or SNBH. This larger idea, then, utilizes K'é as a tool to protect our way of life (Sa'ah Naaghai) in order to prosper and heal for a better present and future (Bikeh Hozhoon). Our goals, expressed in the Assurance Argument, are twofold: 1. Excellence in Education, and 2. Respect for our Traditions.

Our Assurance Argument writing experience has compelled us to learn more about replicating our successes and revising where needed to make our other endeavors successful. Your visit to our Traditional Homeland is held in the highest regard. Your feedback is going to be a welcomed outside and critical voice to help us continue building our institution. You, the visitors, are the next cultivators of our Diné process for continuous improvement and well-being.

Accreditation History

- Navajo Community College Candidacy, March 22, 1972 - July 20, 1976
- Navajo Community College Accreditation granted: July 21, 1976
- Diné College Comprehensive Evaluation & Continued Accreditation, October 29, 2008
- Diné College reaffirmation of accreditation, 2008 – 2009
- Diné College Focus Visit, July 16, 2012
- Diné College Comprehensive Evaluation, September 14, 2015
- BA in Psychology, approved Fall 2016, Diné College
- BS in Biology approved Fall 2016, Diné College
- BS in Secondary Education, Science approved Fall 2016, Diné College
- BS in Secondary Education, Math approved Fall 2016, Diné College
- BS in Public Health, approved Fall 2017, Diné College
- BFA in Digital Photography and Painting, approved Fall 2017, Diné College
- BA in Navajo Culture and Language, approved Fall 2018, Diné College

Highlights of the last 3 years

December 16, 2015

Diné College Names permanent President

July 28, 2017	MOU Aimed at Graduate Level Special Education Degree
University	MOU between Dine College and Western New Mexico
September 9, 2017	NCAP Coordinator, Crystal Littleben named Miss Navajo
October 6, 2017	Recent Diné College graduate in Business Administration
hired –	Sharonna Yazzie
October 6, 2017	Dr. Geraldine Garrity named Provost
October 27, 2017	HLC approved Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Studio Art
	HLC approved Bachelor of Science degree in Public Health
December 18, 2017	Diné College names James McKenzie Director of Navajo
Language Institute	
March 20, 2018	Aaron Lee elected Student Congress President of AIHEC
May 14, 2018	Diné College chosen for Virginia-based Research study
May 11, 2018	Diné, College Graduates 190 students, 31 earned Bachelor's
Degree	
March 14, 2018	Sharon Todacheenie Newest Diné College Board member
March 8, 2018	Diné College awarded \$5M for Shiprock Math and Science
Building	
February 9, 2018	Native Son, Dr. Lawrence Isaac Jr, Returns to Help as Diné
College	

Dean of Diné Studies and Education