

American Indian Program



Meeting of the Indian Affairs Committee

September 7, 2017

NMSU – American Indian Student Center

American Indian Program

Mission Statement:

To provide programs and services designed to enable American Indian Students to successfully achieve their post-secondary goals.

Vision:

All American Indian graduates are self-actualized, successful, role models who are viable contributing members to the health, welfare, and peace of tribal communities and humanity.

Purpose:

The purpose of the American Indian Program at NMSU is to support the recruitment and persistence through degree of completion of American Indian students pursuing a higher education.

American Indian Program Staff

- Michael Ray, Director
- Britney Stout, Administrative Assistant

New Mexico State University – Las Cruces Campus

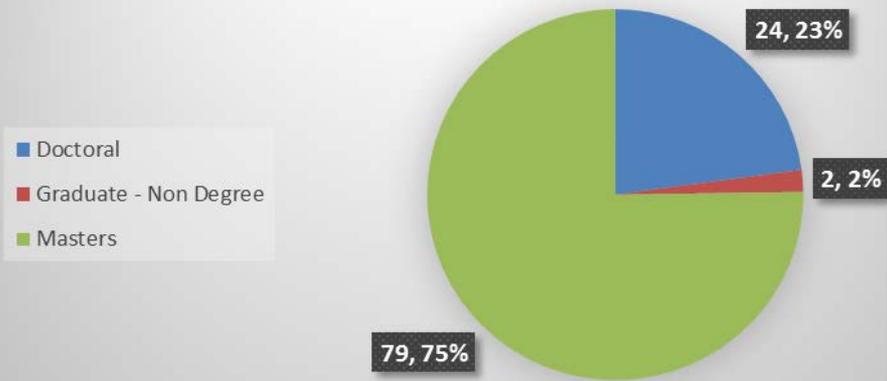
American Indian Enrollment – Fall 2016*

- American Indians make up 4.43% of the total student population at NMSU – Las Cruces
- The total student population is 14,852 and the American Indian student population is 658 (undergraduate and graduate students combined)
 - AI Undergraduate students: 553 or 4.3%
 - AI Graduate students: 105 or 3.6%

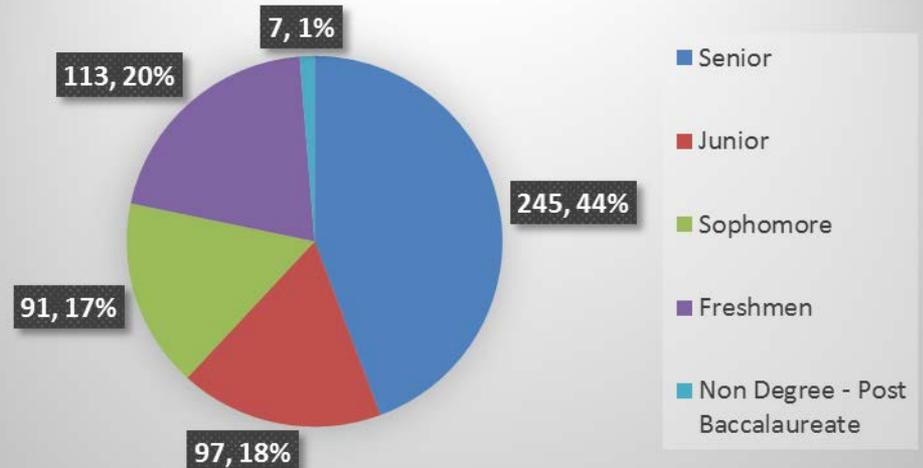
*As per NMSU Office of Institutional Analysis – Fall 2016 Census Enrollment Report

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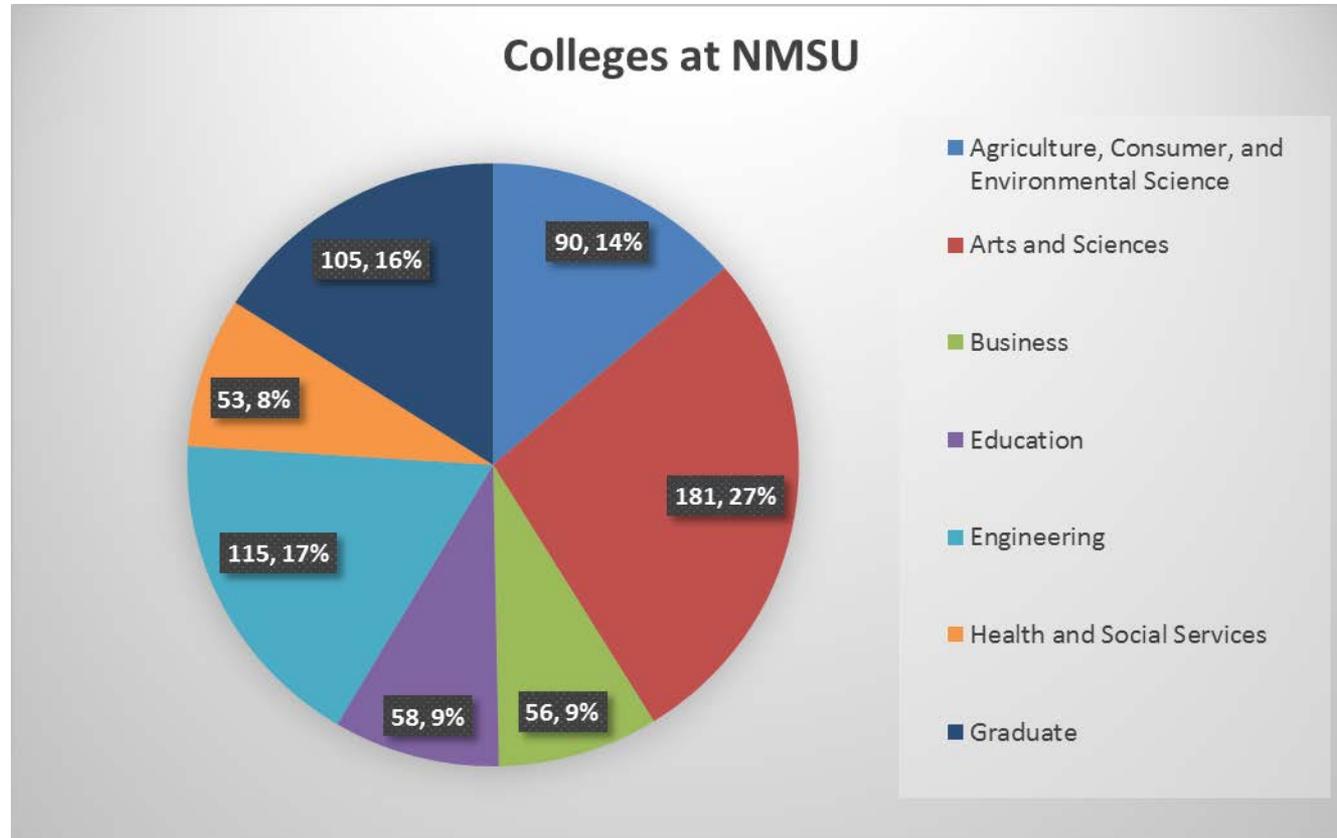
Graduate Students, 105



Undergraduate Students, 553



New Mexico State University – Las Cruces Campus



Challenges Facing American Indian Students

- Social, cultural, academic and socio-economic transitions
 - Financial need
 - Incoming academic preparation
 - Social adjustments
 - Cultural outlets
- Retention
- Leadership

Addressing the Challenges

- Peer Mentor Program
- Academic advising and referrals
- Developing a sense of professionalism
- Supplemental Scholarships
- Financial aid and scholarship workshops
- Academic, social, cultural and professional programming
- Advocacy
- Collaboration with campus programs, departments, and faculty as well as tribal education departments

Addressing the Challenges Cont.

- Leadership development
- Three affiliated student organizations
 - American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)
 - Native American Business Student Association (NABSA)
 - United Native American Organization (UNAO)
- American Indian Week
- Collaboration with the Indian Resource Development Program

Helping the University better serve American Indian students

- Collaboration with the Teaching Academy
- Collaboration with the various colleges on campus
- Collaboration with the Center for Academic Advising and Student Support
- Working with Student Affairs and Enrollment Management to help recruit and retain AI students.

American Indian Student Center (AISC)

- A Community away from Home
- 7,451 square feet facility
- Commons, study area, kitchen, programmatic/meeting spaces, meditation room and outdoor function space
- Houses the American Indian Program
- A/V equipped rooms
- Wi-Fi enabled building
- Art in Public Places
- LEED Building

Impact of AISC

- Supports the transition from home life to student/campus life
- Provides a separate social environment and a separate study area both with computers
- Promotes social and academic engagement with non-American Indian students
- Promotes a sense of belonging
- The offering of programming such as “Food from Home” and professional presentations
- Access to a copier/printer
- Location has a visible presence on campus

Impact of AISC Cont.

- Can host prospective high school student visits, tribal leader, and tribal education group visits
- Provides an environment for student organization meetings
- Offers a quiet space where students can take a break from a busy day of classes, labs, and activities to refocus
- The venue enables us to host employers, non-profit organizations, and institutions of higher learning interested in recruiting American Indian students
- The opportunity to host the New Mexico Legislature - Indian Affairs Committee

Impact of AISC Cont.

On October 9th the American Indian
Student Center turns

7 years old!!

Impact of AISC Cont.

American Indian Student Center
Grand Opening
Saturday, October 9, 2010



Live, Learn and Thrive.™

Impact of AISC Cont.



Impact of AISC Cont.



Thank You for Your Support!

FY 2015 Funding

- \$100,000 in Capital Outlay Funding for the AISC
 - Installation of exterior security cameras
 - Lighting modifications
 - Installation of solar block window tinting
 - Storage area modification
 - Water bottle filling station
 - Computers for the students

Thank You for Your Support!

FY 2017 Funding

- \$100,000 for Recruitment and Retention
 - Funds outreach to tribal communities, recruitment fairs, and meetings with tribal education departments
 - Programming and workshops
 - Supplemental scholarships
 - Recruitment and retention equipment

Questions?

Contact Information

Michael Ray

Director, American Indian Program

New Mexico State University

MSC 3AISC / P.O. Box 30001

Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001

Office: 575-646-4207

Fax: 575-646-5291

E-Mail: mikerry@nmsu.edu

Web site: <http://aip.nmsu.edu/>