

Indigenous Design and Planning Institute
School of Architecture and Planning • University of New Mexico

Legislative Request

\$500K to expand technical and academic support initiatives to tribes.

The Indigenous Design and Planning Institute (iD+Pi) was created in the Fall of 2011 in the UNM School of Architecture and Planning (SAAP). Its mission is to empower the next generation of planners, architects and landscape architects through meaningful community engagement and social-justice approaches.

Indigenous design goes hand in hand with the role of architectural practice in constructing built environments that enhance and meet the social and cultural needs of the community. Indigenous planning is a process that engages the community to reimagine future growth and development using cultural identity and value-based approaches. Together, they provide the foundation for shaping the physical and social environments of tribal communities in a healthy and sustainable manner.

iD+Pi has two major components. One is to provide technical assistance to tribal communities. iD+Pi's tribally based activities are designed to involve faculty, students, practitioners, and community leaders in community-engaged learning. Currently, it is proposing to establish an interdisciplinary field-based lab that will give opportunities to assist tribes in local community settings.

The second is to offer an academic research program that will educate students in a manner that is informed by Indigenous theory, practice, and research. In 2016, it helped to establish the only Indigenous Planning Graduate Concentration in the nation through the Community and Regional Planning Program. It is currently working on a proposal to establish a PhD in Indigenous Planning by aligning this effort with UNM departments, Tribal Community Colleges and other local and national organizations.

Funding will be used to support the following activities

1 Technical Assistance

- a Expand and support program staff for outreach and project coordination;
- b Recruit and provide design and planning assistance with tribes;
- c Develop and support local, field-based programs for community based initiatives;
- d Build resource partnerships with tribes and non-profit organizations to secure external funding through grants and awards.
- e Broaden external relationships and opportunities with licensed architects and planners.

2 Academic Programming

- a Recruit faculty and research faculty by supporting community-engaged practice;
- b Recruit new undergraduate and graduate students to the fields of design and planning by providing scholarships and assistantships;
- c Pipeline students into UNM by developing formal degree articulation agreements with tribal community colleges, state and national programs and professional associations in the design and planning fields;
- d Support IP courses and degree program initiatives at the graduate and PhD level;
- e Fund lectureships and exchange programs for scholars, practitioners and students.