



## ACCREDITATION

## LETTER



### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT "Rising to The Challenge"

On January 24, 2011, SIPI mailed the completed Self Study to the Higher Learning Commission in preparation for their comprehensive evaluation visit scheduled for **March 21-23, 2011**. The purpose of this on-site visit is to determine whether SIPI continues to meet the Eligibility Requirements and also to assess if SIPI is making reasonable progress towards meeting the Criteria for Accreditation.

Every employee on the campus was tasked to assist and be involved in the Self Study process. The faculty and staff worked very hard to get the Self-Study completed and so a big "Thanks" to all!

### SIPI STRATEGIC PLAN

On December 3, 2010, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute completed the final draft of the "Strategic Plan". Dr. Allison, SIPI President, indicates in the introduction of the Strategic Plan, that "Our strategic plan guides decisions about how we use and maximize our human and financial resources. We are committed to achieving the plan's strategic goals within the context of our mission and with guidance from the Board of Regents." The Strategic Plan serves to guide SIPI as a pre-eminent higher learning institution, providing a range of career and transfer opportunity for Native learners. SIPI faculty, staff, students, and administration worked collaboratively throughout the planning process.

### SIPI STRATEGIC PLAN (CON'T)

SIPI's President, the President's Cabinet, and SIPI's Leadership Team, and the SIPI faculty/ staff provided the direction in the development of all aspects of the process. Data was gathered and studied; the vision, mission, and values reviewed and revised; goals, strategies, and success factors proposed, revised and approved. All components of the planning process were communicated to internal and external stakeholders. SIPI has established clear procedures for the Strategic Plan's implementation process. SIPI has a clear vision of where the institution will be in five to ten years and the anticipated outcomes. This vision is grounded in reality based on data. Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute will meet its mission as a national Indian community college that prepares Native American students to be productive life-long learners as tribal member in an ever-changing global environment. SIPI will do this by embracing an ongoing strategic planning process that ensures student success.

### SIPI MISSION

The SIPI Mission Statement is a "living" document that is continually being reviewed and was recently changed to better help meet the needs of the students, tribal communities, and stakeholders in education. Because of the changes to the mission, it is important that all SIPI staff and faculty assist the students and stakeholder in knowing changes to the SIPI mission.

Some suggestions would be:

- Each department/program post the mission in visible areas.
- Each department provide a copy to the students
- Students are notified that the mission is posted on the SIPI web-site.



# SIPI Accreditation Newsletter

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### TAKE TIME OUT TO LEARN ABOUT SIPI

#### DO YOU KNOW THE SIPI MISSION?

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*Key words from the  
SIPI Mission Statement are hidden below  
See if you can find them all*

E S R E N R A E L S P F L S E  
D N H A L L M A R K F I A S G  
S E V L F T I E G L N N B R E  
L N T I N S Y H I D Z S O E L  
N O O A R O T F I P S T L N L  
S A R I L O E A R O T I G T O  
U G T P T L N O K G U T Y R C  
C Q M I O A D M N E D U T A M  
C E Q N O U R I E S E T I P I  
E S G D C N R E I N N I N D S  
S T S T J U A P P B T O U J S  
S D I V D U I L B O S N M L I  
N V T N E M T I M M O C M A O  
E C E Q T E D U C A T I O N N  
E V E R C H A N G I N G C D Z

COLLEGE  
COMMITMENT  
COMMUNITY  
EDUCATION  
EMPLOYERS  
ENDURING  
ENVIRONMENT  
LIFELONG  
MISSION  
OPERATIONS  
PRODUCTIVE  
SUCCESS

EVERCHANGING  
GLOBAL  
GRANT  
HALLMARK  
INDIAN  
INSTITUTION  
LAND  
LEARNERS  
NATIONAL  
PARTNERS  
STAKE  
STUDENTS

### HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION REVIEW TEAM

On March 21-23, the Higher Learning Commission's 5 member review team will be on SIPI campus to determine whether SIPI continues to meet the Eligibility Requirements and is making reasonable progress towards accreditation.

### PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

Both the Business and Liberal Arts Advisory committees had their first meetings of the year last month. The Business Advisory committee had been quite active in the past, but the Liberal Arts Advisory committee is an entirely brand new committee.

The recently established committee is helping the faculty in the Liberal Arts department with curriculum updating and networking.

The Advanced Technical Education department had their Advisory committee meetings for all five of their programs at the end of last year and plan on having their first 2011 committee meetings in the next few months.

### SOME INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT OUR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Some of the interesting background facts of our advisory committees members include:

- One members is a New York Times best selling author and has appeared on The Oprah Winfrey Show.
- One of our member is an award winning film actor, writer, and producer.
- Another one of our members works for an infectious disease lab and is a practicing Oriental Medicine doctor.

### COMING EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

February 9, 2011: 1:30-4:00, SIPI All Staff meeting in the S&T Building, agenda will address the Accreditation and the schedule of events in preparation for the HLC team visits.