2017 Tribal Climate Camp, Curriculum Overview

Contact Kyle Whyte for questions, kwhyte@msu.edu.

The 2017 Tribal Climate Camp will involve the convergence of three different groups. (1) The ‘camp’ group involves the 9 Tribes, from the U.S. and Canada, whose delegations of up to 3 persons are coming to advance their climate change planning capacities and the interns and liaisons; (2) the ‘UNITAR’ (United Nations Institute for Training and Research) student group, including 4 delegates (3 Indonesian students, 1 UNITAR staff) who are coming to for the purpose of educational exchange on Indigenous climate change planning; (3) the ‘retreat’ of North American Indigenous students (about 10) whose goal is to envision an Indigenous student-driven climate change network.

Each day involves curriculum for all three groups, with most ‘camp’ and ‘UNITAR’ activities overlapping on all days.

All groups will be encouraged to visit with each other during all breakfast, lunch and dinner times—hopefully sitting with new people where possible.

Sunday, July 30 2017
After arriving and settling in, Camp, UNITAR and retreat groups will meet in the early evening after dinner. Organizers Whyte, Bird, Sampson and Daley-Larsen will facilitate a dialogue among the participants about their values in relation to climate change. Each team within the camp group and UNITAR group will convene among themselves to come up with their statements. The members of the retreat group will give individual statements. This exercise will be prefaced by an introductory prayer and welcome by the organizers.

Monday July 31 2017
Morning
After breakfast and the opening prayer, the camp will start off after breakfast with a session on strategic climate change planning led by instructors Whyte, Caldwell and Hardison. The UNITAR group will participate with the camp group in this session. The strategic planning session will focus on how Indigenous peoples can connect Tribal values with environmental management. The session will involve exercises for setting up mission statements for climate change planning, assessing strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for each Tribe, and visual asset mapping.

The retreat group, meeting in a separate room, will first start off with introductions for about an hour, and then move into a dialogue facilitated by Wolfgramm and Kingi on establishing goals.

The morning session will run through lunch.

Afternoon
After lunch, the camp group will convene with the UNITAR group for a session on climate science tools and their use for planning run by instructors Boone and Robbins. The curriculum will be interactive and based on the feedback from surveys sent to the Tribal delegates.

The retreat group continue with Wolfgramm and Kingi on coming up with outcomes. After a two hour session, the retreat group will have a discussion session with Sampson and Chischilly on their goals and outcomes.
**Tuesday August 1 2017**

*Morning*

The camp group will start at 9am with a session on climate change communication, with a focus on Tribal leadership, with instructors Morishima and Whyte. An exercise involving the development of “elevator” pitches on different climate topics will be prepared, as well as a mock Tribal council. At 10am, the retreat group will arrive and play the mock Tribal councils.

The retreat group will begin at 9am with an hour long discussion of the previous day’s goals, outcomes and discussion with Sampson/Chischilly. At 10:30am the retreat will join the camp and UNITAR groups for the mock Tribal council exercise.

*Afternoon*

The camp, UNITAR and retreat groups will all meet for a session on community engagement led by instructors McNeely and Whyte. The session will focus on exercises for everyone to organize events oriented toward elders, youth and other members of Tribal communities and nations. These events are intended to serve a range of purposes, from mobilizing Indigenous knowledge of climate change within Tribes, organizing Tribal members to design community-based vulnerability assessments or adaptation strategies or creating educational curricula and other climate change programs. UNITAR and retreat participants will be assigned to particular Tribes. Finally, at 4pm, there will be a presentation by Chischilly on policies relating to Traditional Knowledge protection that will be used to consider how the Tribal delegates can strengthen their approach to community engagement and mobilization.

**Wednesday August 2 2017**

*Morning*

The camp teams will meet individually to work on their climate change strategies for the retreat.

The retreat and UNITAR groups will meet with the interns and liaisons to have a discussion about the Indigenous student-network climate change network. There will be a discussion of the goals and outcomes developed earlier in the week and feedback from the UNITAR students, interns and liaisons, as well as brainstorming on how the different groups can work together. The UNITAR students will share what they have learned about using social media.

*Afternoon*

All groups will travel together to visit the Nisqually Tribe, which will involve visiting with elders, connecting with some of the Nisqually Tribe’s environmental and climate-related projects and having a feast with Tribal members and staff.

**Thursday August 3 2017**

*Morning*

All groups meet and instructors Warren, Hillery and Joshi will facilitate exercises on how Indigenous peoples can impact climate change policy.

After the morning session, the retreat group will begin departing, some staying through lunch, dinner and Friday morning depending on travel schedules.
Afternoon
Tribal delegates will work on their climate change planning strategies for brief presentations Friday morning. Whyte and the organizers will meet with the UNITAR group, interns, liaisons and retreat members still in attendance about plans moving forward in their work.

Friday August 4 2017
Morning
Tribal delegate teams will present their climate change strategies to all attendees.

Camp ends after lunch.