

# NCIA



MID-AMERICA  
TRANSPORTATION CENTER



# NCIA/MATC Sovereign Native Youth STEM Leadership Academy

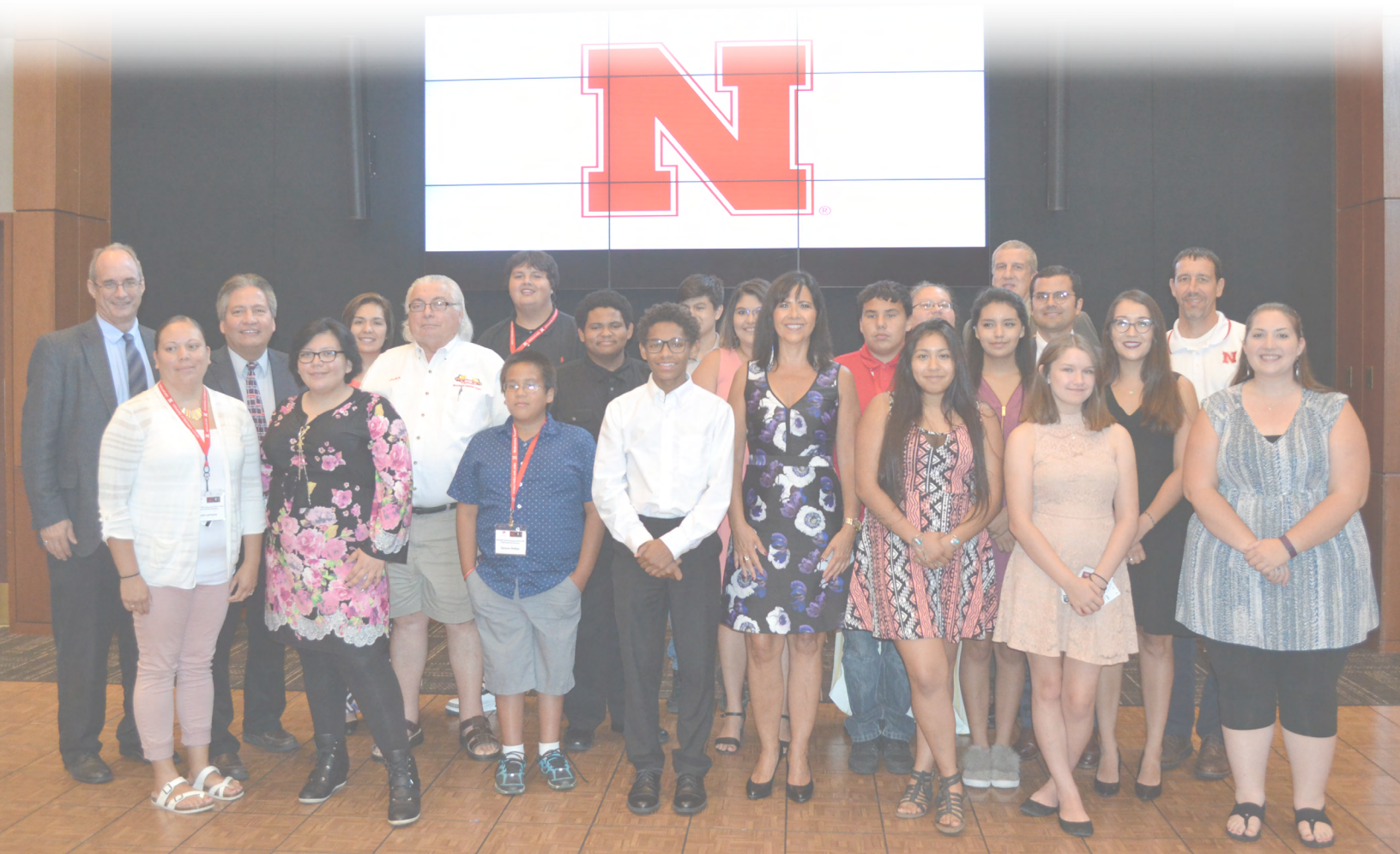


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**June 24-29, 2018**  
**Lincoln, NE**

***The Sovereign Native Youth STEM Leadership Academy is a summer program that exposes Native American students to STEM and transportation-related opportunities after high school and equips them with leadership skills to succeed.***

***Participants are empowered to positively impact their tribal communities while gaining a greater appreciation for Native American history and culture.***





# ACADEMY LEADERSHIP



**Ms. Judi gaiashkibos**  
Executive Director  
Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs

Phone: (402) 471-3494  
Email: judi.gaiashkibos@nebraska.gov



**Ms. Judi gaiashkibos** has been the Executive Director of NCIA since 1995. She has worked with the government and private sector to provide opportunities for Nebraska Indians, fostered diversity and cultural sensitivity in the Nebraska State Legislature, promoted state and federal legislation, and advanced sovereignty issues.

She is an enrolled member of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska and holds degrees in Human Relations and Leadership from Doane College. She was the 2012 recipient of the Humanities Nebraska Sower Award and has developed educational opportunities for native youth including the ongoing Sovereign Native Youth Leadership Camp and the Chief Standing Bear Scholarships.

Ms. gaiashkibos has served as Advisor and Adjunct Professor to the Native Daughters Projects One and Two at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's School of Journalism and served countless non-profit and institutional boards including University of Nebraska President's Advisory Council, United Way, Doane University Board of Trustees and the Governor's Education and Workforce Roundtable.

Under her leadership the Bi-annual Chief Standing Bear Breakfast has grown to be a powerful, diverse convocation of people promoting awareness and understanding of the achievements of Native People throughout Nebraska and the United States.



**Dr. Laurence Rilett, P.E.**  
Keith W. Klaasmeyer Chair in Engineering and Technology  
Distinguished Professor  
Director, Mid-America Transportation Center

Phone: (402) 472-1992  
Email: lrilett2@unl.edu



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**Dr. Laurence R. Rilett** is a distinguished professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). He also serves as the director of the UNL Mid-America Transportation Center, which is the U.S. Department of Transportation Region 7 University Transportation Center, and the Nebraska Transportation Center, which is the umbrella organization for all transportation research at the University of Nebraska. Dr. Rilett currently serves as the associate director of the University Transportation Center for Railway Safety, a Tier 1 U.S. Department of Transportation University Transportation Center at the

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Dr. Rilett received his B.A.Sc. degree and his M.A.Sc. degree from the University of Waterloo and his Ph.D. degree from Queen's University. He has held academic positions of assistant professor and an associate professor at the University of Alberta, and assistant professor, associate professor, and professor at Texas A&M University. Additionally, he is a professional engineer in the state of Texas.

Dr. Rilett has been a principal investigator or co-principal investigator on over 50 research projects. His field of research is transportation system analysis, which may be divided into two main areas: Intelligent Transportation Systems applications and large-scale transportation system modeling. He has authored or co-authored over 60 refereed journal papers and over 90 conference papers based on his research. In 2002 he was awarded the Texas Transportation Institute TTI/Trinity Researcher Award and in 2007 he received the UNL College of Engineering Research Award. Dr. Rilett is an associate editor of the ASCE Journal of Transportation Engineering and is on the editorial board of the Journal of Intelligent Transportation Systems: Technology, Planning, and Operations.



**Mr. Gabriel Bruguier**  
Education & Outreach Coordinator  
Mid-America Transportation Center

Phone: (402) 472-1927  
Email: ntc-bruguier@unl.edu



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**Mr. Gabriel Bruguier** is an enrolled member of the Yankton Sioux Tribe. He is currently a Ph.D. student in philosophy at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He received an M.A. in philosophy from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, a B.A. in philosophy from the University of Minnesota, Morris, and a Licentiate degree in International Relations from the Universidad de las Americas Puebla, Mexico. He is currently writing a dissertation that focuses on the question of meaning in life. A particular interest of his is to see how meaning is achieved within an educational environment. Mr. Bruguier's future career goal is to serve Natives within the university system by providing comprehensive support for them as they navigate their way through college. Mr. Bruguier served as a counselor for the Sovereign Native Youth Leadership Academy

in 2014 and 2016. In 2017, he became the Nebraska Indian Commissioner for the City of Lincoln. Since the fall of 2017, he has coordinated the Mid-America Transportation Center's after school program titled Roads, Rails, and Race Cars expansion to reservation schools in Macy and Winnebago. Future expansion plans will include other reservation schools in Nebraska and surrounding states.



**Dr. Christopher Cornelius**  
**Professor**  
**Education and Diversity Coordinator**  
**Mid-America Transportation Center**

Phone: (402) 472-4344  
 Email: ccornelius2@unl.edu



**Dr. Christopher Cornelius** is a professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He received his master's degree and Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Virginia Tech. His work investigates fundamental material interrelationships between structure, physical properties, and transport using synthetic polymers, ionomers, hybrid organic-inorganic materials, and sol-gel glasses. These efforts are related to selective transport (controlled molecule delivery), gel thermodynamics (strength and function), sol-gel chemistry (high temperature glass fibers), energy (batteries, fuel cells, water electrolysis), and water desalination (reverse osmosis and electrodialysis). His teaching experiences encompass transport phenomena (mass and energy), fluid transport, thermodynamics emphasizing fluid-phase equilibria, polymer chemistry and physics, and aspects of chemical engineering unit operations. Before academia, he was a staff scientist at Sandia National Laboratories developing hydrocarbon ionomers, fuel cells, and gas separations. This work resulted in numerous collaborations with industry and university faculty throughout the world.

Dr. Cornelius currently serves as the editor for the Journal of Materials Science and as a referee for 13 journals. He is a member of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, the Society of American Chicanos and Native Americans, and a Minority Affairs Member for the American Chemical Society. Dr. Cornelius has received numerous awards for his contributions to research and education.



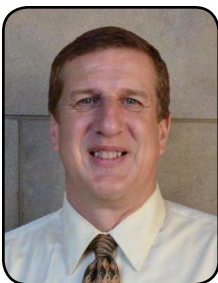
**Ms. Rebekka Schlichting**  
**Assistant Director**  
**Vision Maker Media**

Phone: (785) 691-9855  
 Email: visionmaker@unl.edu



**Ms. Rebekka Schlichting** is the assistant director of Vision Maker Media, whose mission is to empower and engage Native People to tell stories. An enrolled member of the Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, Ms. Schlichting earned a master's in professional journalism from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She earned her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Kansas.

She has served as an adjunct professor and graduate teaching assistant at the University of Nebraska's College of Journalism and Mass Communications. Ms. Schlichting taught Native leadership workshops and skills at the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs, SNYL Academy. Ms. Schlichting served as producer at KUJH TV News in Lawrence, Kansas, and interned at Kansas Public Radio and Vision Maker Media. She is the chair of the powwow committee for the Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska.



**Mr. Scott Shafer**  
**Administrative Assistant II**  
**Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs**

Phone: (402) 471-3475  
 Email: scott.w.shafer@nebraska.gov



**Mr. Scott Shafer** began working for NCIA in October 2008. He previously worked for the Nebraska Department of Corrections and the American Legion Department of Nebraska. His background is in public relations and marketing. He is a graduate of the Lincoln School of Commerce and also attended the University of Nebraska.

Mr. Shafer helped develop NCIA's Sovereign Native Youth Leadership Program and assists in grant and program development for the Commission as well as planning and coordination of the annual Chief Standing Bear Breakfast. He has played a key role in the development and return of the Ponca tribe's grey corn, and is currently program head for development of the Chief Standing Bear Historic Trail project. He is a graduate of the Seward County Leadership Development Program, a past recipient of the Lincoln YWCA's Mentorship Award, and currently serves on review boards for Grants to American Indians in Nebraska and United Way Food and Shelter State Set Aside. He is also on the Hispanic Heritage Planning Committee and the MLK Planning Committee.



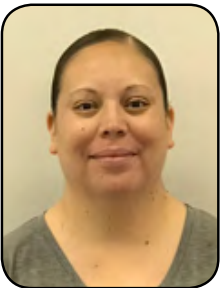
**Ms. Michele Blackbird Barcelona**  
Special Education Teacher  
Umo<sup>ho</sup> Nation Public School

Phone: (402) 837-5622  
Email: mbarcelona@unpsk-12.org



**Ms. Michele Blackbird Barcelona** is an enrolled member of the Umo<sup>ho</sup> Nation, and a direct descendant of Chief Blackbird. Ms. Barcelona currently teaches at the Umo<sup>ho</sup> Nation Public School, where she worked as a paraprofessional while in graduate school. She has since spent her ten-year teaching career working with secondary students. She has taught Alternative Education, Middle School Science, Credit Recovery, and Secondary Life Skills. These diverse classrooms have allowed her to gain experience in teaching all subjects, including Umo<sup>ho</sup> Language. She also spent five years teaching algebra at Little Priest Tribal College as an adjunct professor in the evenings and summer.

Ms. Barcelona holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English/creative writing from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, and a Master of Education in mild/moderate - special education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She also holds teaching certifications in elementary education, ESL for K-12, special education 7-12, High Objective Uniform State Standard of Evaluation (HOUSSE) endorsement for secondary language arts (7-12), and HOUSSE endorsement for secondary natural sciences (7-12). She has recently started working on master's courses in Curriculum Instruction Leadership tract and K-12 Principal tract.



**Ms. Ruth LaPlante**  
Fourth Grade Teacher  
Santee Community School

Phone: (402) 860-1925  
Email: rlaplante@santeeschools.org



**Ms. Ruth LaPlante** is an enrolled member of the Santee Sioux Nation. Ms. LaPlante is the fourth grade homeroom teacher at the Santee Community School. She also teaches 4th-6th grade science. In May 1999, Ms. LaPlante graduated from Andes Central High School top three of her class. In May 2012, she received an AA degree in human sciences from the Nebraska Indian Community College. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in education and human sciences from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in August 2014. Before returning to school to become an educator, Ms. LaPlante worked at the Tribal Alcohol Program for 12 years. She worked as a paraprofessional at Santee Community School while taking classes through the Indigenous Roots Teacher Education Program. Ms. LaPlante resides in Santee, Nebraska with her husband and four children.



**Ms. Samantha Loutsch**  
High School Science Teacher  
Winnebago Public School

Phone: (712) 541-9623  
Email: sloutsch@winnebago12.org



**Ms. Samantha Loutsch** received her bachelor's degree in chemistry from South Dakota State University, where she was active in the Pride of the Dakotas marching band and the National Science Teachers Association chapter on campus. She has been teaching high school science in Winnebago since graduating from SDSU in 2013. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in education leadership from Morningside College.





**Ms. Sydney James**

**Ms. Sydney James** is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. She is currently a senior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she studies Civil Engineering with an emphasis in transportation. During the school year, she is a mentor for Roads, Rails, and Racecars, MATC’s engineering after-school program for local middle school students. She is a member of the Midwest Association of Technical Accident Investigators (MATAI) as well as the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) and a recipient of the All Nations Louis Stokes Alliance

for Minority Participation Scholarship. Ms. James is also an ice hockey official and plays for the Husker Women’s Hockey Club team at UNL.



**Mr. Vaughn Vargas**

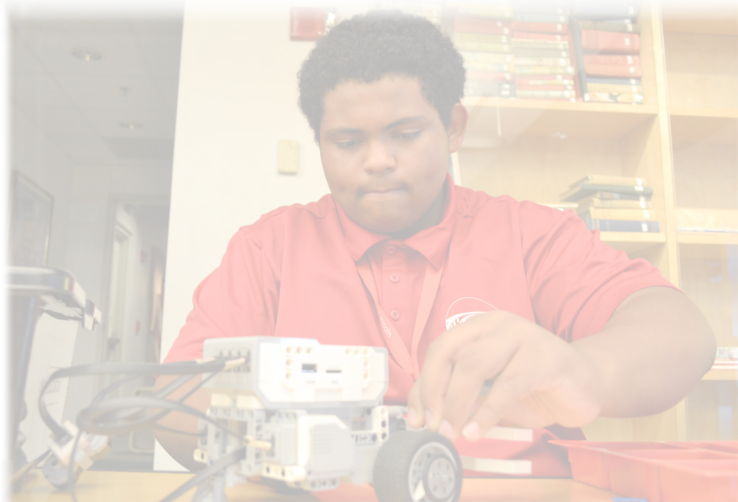
**Mr. Vaughn Vargas** is Siha Sipa (Black Feet) Lakota of what is now known as the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe where James Holy Eagle Sr. was his great grandfather. Vargas was awarded a 2017 Bush Foundation Fellowship. He is pursuing his master’s degree in management from the Harvard University - Extension School and executive development from Harvard Business School, Wharton School of Business and Cornell University.

Mr. Vargas grew up in Rapid City, SD and started his academic career at Oglala Lakota College in 2011. His initial aspirations were to open a chemical dependency treatment facility centric to Lakota values. He has since shifted his service to Lakota people through public safety and economic development. In 2016, Mr. Vargas graduated from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (SDSMT) with his Bachelors of Science in Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management. While at SDSMT, Vaughn proudly represented his Lakota heritage by becoming SDSMT’s first Udall Foundation Scholar and first Truman Foundation Scholar.



**Mr. Caleb Kowalski**

**Mr. Caleb Kowalski** is a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and just finished his sophomore year in the mechanical engineering program. This past year he has been a mentor for the MATC after-school program titled Roads, Rails, and Race Cars. This spring he was selected as an Innovation Fellow for the ELO Innovation Fellows Program to help develop curriculum for STEM-related after-school activities. His previous experience working with kids as a summer camp counselor has prepared him for his mentorship role in the summer academy.





**Sen. Tom Brewer**  
Senator  
Nebraska State Legislature

Phone: (402) 471-2631  
Email: [tbrewer@leg.ne.gov](mailto:tbrewer@leg.ne.gov)



**Sen. Tom Brewer** served our nation for over 37 years as a US Army Colonel. He began his military career in the Nebraska Army National Guard and was commissioned as an Infantry Officer in 1982. Later, he graduated from the toughest school in the army and became an Airborne Ranger, following in the footsteps of his father. After becoming a helicopter pilot, he commanded an Air Cavalry Troop. He mobilized for Operation Desert Storm and earned two Bronze Star medals and two Purple Heart medals while serving in Afghanistan. Now, he is active in many veterans organizations and helped found the non-profit organization, Heroes and Horses, which helps vets with serious physical or mental disabilities. In 2016, Sen. Brewer was elected as a Republican member of the Nebraska State Legislature, representing the 43rd district, which is comprised of thirteen counties in the western Nebraska Sandhills. Sen. Brewer is the first Senator of Native American descent to serve in Nebraska's Unicameral.

**DISTINGUISHED GUEST**





# Sunday, June 24, 2018

## AGENDA

Time	Agenda	Location
12:00-1:00 p.m.	<b>Participant Arrival</b>	<b>Union College</b> 4880 Prescott Ave, Lincoln, NE
1:00-1:30 p.m.	<b>Pre-Academy Evaluations &amp; Academy Introduction</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b> <i>Shawnee-Porter Care Conference Room</i>
1:30-2:00 p.m.	<b>Welcome Lunch</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b> <i>Shawnee-Porter Care Conference Room</i>
2:00-2:20 p.m.	<b>Transition from Union College to UNL City Campus</b>	
2:20-4:30 p.m.	<b>Scavenger Hunt</b>	<b>UNL City Campus</b>
4:30-5:15 p.m.	<b>Planetarium Show</b>  <i>Mayan Archaeoastronomy</i>	<b>Morrill Hall</b> 645 N 14th St, Lincoln, NE <i>Mueller Planetarium</i>
5:15-6:15 p.m.	<b>Overview of Summer Academy Project</b>	<b>Morrill Hall</b> <i>Education Classroom</i>
6:15-8:15 p.m.	<b>Opening Ceremony</b>	<b>Morrill Hall</b> <i>Elephant Room</i>
8:15-8:35 p.m.	<b>Transition from Morrill Hall to Union College</b>	
8:35-10:00 p.m.	<b>Supervised Activities</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b>
10:00 p.m.	<b>Curfew and Roll Call</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b>





# Monday, June 25, 2018

## AGENDA

Time	Agenda	Location
7:40-7:45 a.m.	<b>Morning Roll Call</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b>
7:45-8:30 a.m.	<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b>
8:30-9:00 a.m.	<b>Transition from Ortner Center to UNL Innovation Campus</b>	
9:00-9:30 a.m.	<b>Tour of Innovation Studio</b>	<b>Innovation Studio</b> 2021 Transformation Dr #1500, Lincoln, NE
9:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.	<b>Boat Activity (Part 1)</b>  Dr. Chris Cornelius, UNL Professor, MATC Education and Diversity Coordinator Ms. Sydney James, UNL Civil Engineering Undergraduate, NCIA/MATC SNY STEM Leadership Academy Mentor	<b>Innovation Studio</b>
12:00-12:45 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>The Mill, Innovation Campus</b>
12:45-1:45 p.m.	<b>Native Experiences Panel</b>  Ms. Channing Thompson, UNL Graduate Research Assistant, Lai Lab Mr. Vaughn Vargas, Management and Executive Development Graduate Student, Harvard Business School, Wharton School of Business, and Cornell University Ms. Kirby Williams, Domestic Violence Outreach Coordinator, Native American Program, Legal Aid of Nebraska Ms. Rebekka Schlichting, Assistant Director, Vision Maker Media Ms. Leah Belgarde, Native American Health Liaison - Health Program Manager, NE Dept. of Health & Human Services	<b>The Mill</b>
1:45-2:15 p.m.	<b>Breakout Sessions</b>	<b>Nebraska Innovation Campus</b>
2:15-5:00 p.m.	<b>Boat Activity (Part 2)</b>  Dr. Chris Cornelius, UNL Professor, MATC Education and Diversity Coordinator Ms. Sydney James, UNL Civil Engineering Undergraduate, NCIA/MATC SNY STEM Leadership Academy Mentor	<b>Innovation Studio</b>
5:00-5:15 p.m.	<b>Transition from Innovation Campus to East Campus</b>	
5:15-7:00 p.m.	<b>Dinner &amp; Bowling Party</b>	<b>East Campus Union</b> 1705 Arbor Dr, Lincoln, NE <i>Lanes N' Games</i>
7:00-7:20 p.m.	<b>Transition from East Campus to Union College</b>	
7:20-10:00 p.m.	<b>Supervised Activities</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b>
10:00 p.m.	<b>Curfew and Roll Call</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b>

# Tuesday, June 26, 2018

## AGENDA

Time	Agenda	Location
7:25-7:30 a.m.	Morning Roll Call	Ortner Center, Union College
7:30-8:10 a.m.	Breakfast	Ortner Center, Union College
8:10-8:30 a.m.	Transition from Union College to Encompass Architects	
8:30-9:15 a.m.	Encompass Architects	Encompass Architects 720 O St, Lincoln, NE
	Ms. Tammy Eagle Bull, President, Encompass Architects	
9:15-9:30 a.m.	Transition from Encompass Architects to Nebraska History Museum	
9:30-11:45 p.m.	Nebraska History Museum	Nebraska History Museum 131 Centennial Mall, Lincoln, NE
11:45 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.	Transition from History Museum to Governor's Mansion	
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Governor's Mansion 1425 H St, Lincoln, NE
	Ms. Susanne Shore, First Lady of Nebraska	
1:00-2:15 p.m.	Tour of Legislative Chamber	Nebraska State Capitol 1445 K St, Lincoln, NE
	Senator Tom Brewer, Nebraska State Legislature	
2:15-2:30 p.m.	Transition from Capitol to Great Plains Art Museum	
2:30-5:30 p.m.	Gallery Tour & Art Project	Great Plains Art Museum 1155 Q St, Lincoln, NE
	Featured Artist: Henry Payer	
5:30-6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Great Plains Art Museum
6:30-7:30 p.m.	Movie: <i>The Mayors of Shiprock</i>	Great Plains Art Museum
7:30-7:45 p.m.	Transition from Art Museum to Union College	
7:45-10:00 p.m.	Supervised Activities	Ortner Center, Union College
10:00 p.m.	Curfew and Roll Call	Ortner Center, Union College



# Wednesday, June 27, 2018

## AGENDA

Time	Agenda Item	Location
7:40-7:45 a.m.	Morning Roll Call	Ortner Center, Union College
7:45-8:30 a.m.	Breakfast	Ortner Center, Union College
8:30-9:45 a.m.	Transition from Union College to UNMC	
9:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Tour of University of Nebraska Medical Center	UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER (UNMC) Emile St & S 42nd St, Omaha, NE
12:00-12:15 p.m.	Transition from UNMC to National Park Service Office	
12:15-2:00 p.m.	Lunch and Presentation at National Park Service Midwest Regional Office	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE 601 Riverfront Dr, Omaha, NE
	Mr. Reed Robinson, Tribal Relations Manager, National Park Service	
2:00-3:00 p.m.	Transition from National Park Service Office to Duncan Aviation	
3:00-4:00 p.m.	Tour of Duncan Aviation	Duncan Aviation 3701 Aviation Rd, Lincoln, NE
4:00-5:30 p.m.	Helicopter Activity	Nebraska National Guard Joint Force Headquarters 2433 NW 24th St, Lincoln, NE
	Senator Tom Brewer, Nebraska State Legislature	
5:30-6:00 p.m.	Transition from Duncan Aviation to Union College	
6:00-7:00 p.m.	Dinner	Ortner Center, Union College
7:00-10:00 p.m.	Supervised Activities	Ortner Center, Union College
10:00 p.m.	Curfew and Roll Call	Ortner Center, Union College

# Thursday, June 28, 2018

## AGENDA

Time	Agenda Item	Location
7:40-7:45 a.m.	<b>Morning Roll Call</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b>
7:45-8:30 a.m.	<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b>
8:30-9:00 a.m.	<b>Transition from Union College to Innovation Campus</b>	
9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.	<b>DIY Remote Control Boats (Part 1)</b>	<b>Innovation Studio</b>
	Dr. Chris Cornelius, UNL Professor, MATC Education and Diversity Coordinator Ms. Sydney James, UNL Civil Engineering Undergraduate, NCIA/MATC SNY STEM Leadership Academy Mentor	
12:00-12:45 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>The Mill</b>
12:45-1:45	<b>Native Career Pathways Panel</b>	<b>The Mill</b>
	Ms. Shirley Sneve, Executive Director, Vision Maker Media Ms. Crystal Ross, Retention Advisor - Student Services, Nebraska Indian Community College Ms. Kate Martz, Attorney, Baylor Evnen, LLP Dr. Colette Polite, Assistant Director of Noncognitive Development & Leadership, Student Support Services - TRIO Programs, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Mr. Larry Voegelé, Chief Executive Officer - Health Services, Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	
1:45-2:15 p.m.	<b>Breakout Sessions</b>	<b>Nebraska Innovation Campus</b>
2:15-4:45 p.m.	<b>DIY RC Boats (Part 2)</b>	<b>Innovation Studio</b>
	Dr. Chris Cornelius, UNL Professor, MATC Education and Diversity Coordinator Ms. Sydney James, UNL Civil Engineering Undergraduate, NCIA/MATC SNY STEM Leadership Academy Mentor	
4:45-5:00 p.m.	<b>Transition from Innovation Campus to Union College</b>	
5:00-5:30 p.m.	<b>Dress for Formal Dinner</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b>
5:30-5:45 p.m.	<b>Transition from Union College to Prem S. Paul Research Center at Whittier School</b>	
5:45-7:45 p.m.	<b>Formal Dinner</b>	<b>Prem S. Paul Research Center</b> 2200 Vine Street, Lincoln, NE <i>Foyer, Second Floor</i>
	Keynote Speaker: Dr. Chris Cornelius, UNL Professor, MATC Education and Diversity Coordinator	
7:45-8:00 p.m.	<b>Transition from Prem S. Paul Research Center to Union College</b>	
8:00-10:00 p.m.	<b>Supervised Activities</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b>
10:00 p.m.	<b>Curfew and Roll Call</b>	<b>Ortner Center, Union College</b>



Time	Agenda Item	Location
7:40-7:45 a.m.	Morning Roll Call	Ortner Center, Union College
7:45-8:30 a.m.	Breakfast	Ortner Center, Union College
8:30-9:00 a.m.	Transition from Union College to East Campus	
9:00-11:15 a.m.	Preparation for Solar Oven Cook-off	East Campus Union Great Plains Room
11:15 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.	College Admissions Panel	East Campus Union Great Plains Room
	Ms. Dawne Price, Dean of Student Services, Nebraska Indian Community College Ms. Taryn Ross, Executive Director of Student Success, Union College	
12:00-2:00 p.m.	Closing Ceremony	East Campus Union Great Plains Room
2:00-2:30 p.m.	Post-Academy Surveys	East Campus Union Great Plains Room
2:30 p.m.	Adjourn & Board Buses to Return Home	East Campus Union Great Plains Room

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*The NCIA/MATC Sovereign Native Youth STEM Leadership Academy is a joint activity between the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs, the Mid-America Transportation Center, and the Nebraska Transportation Center.*

*We greatly appreciate the support of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Claire M. Hubbard Foundation, the Elizabeth Rubendall Artist in Residence Program at the Great Plains Art Museum, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Office of the President, the NIH-SEPA Project at the University of Nebraska State Museum, the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Senator Jim Scheer, Union Pacific, and the College Visit Grant from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Office of Admissions.*





# Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs

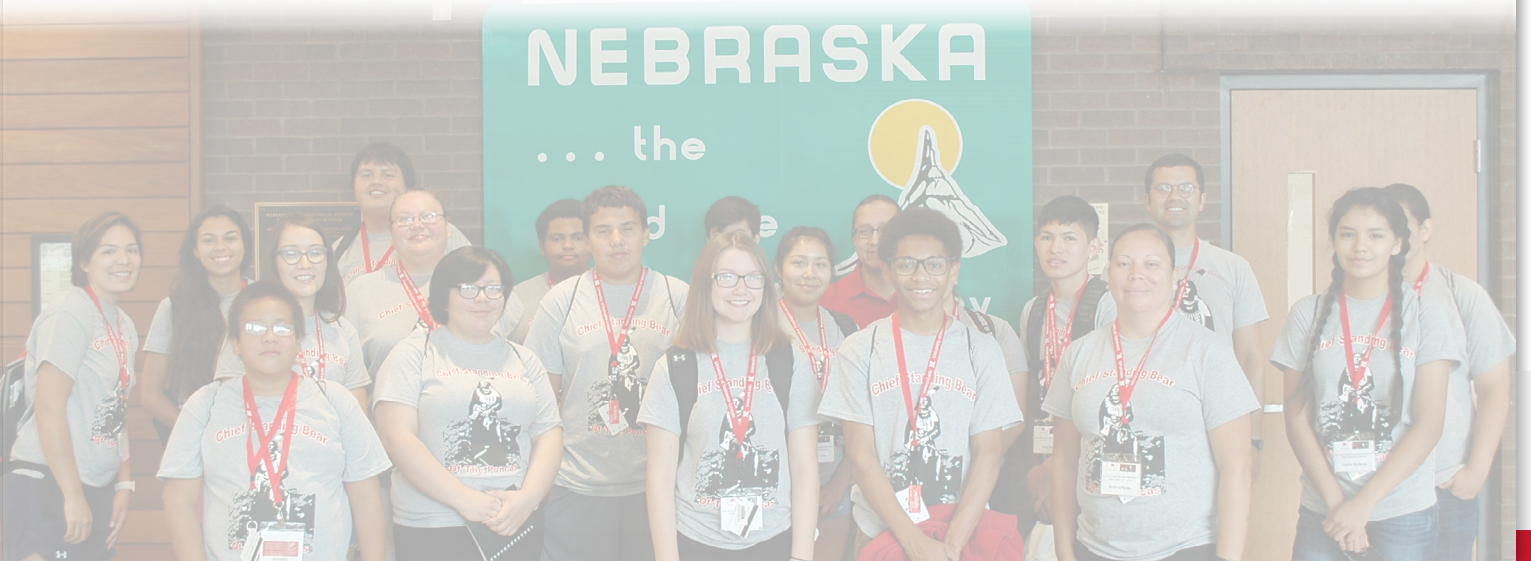
The Commission on Indian Affairs was established in 1971 and consists of 14 Indian commissioners appointed by the Governor. The commission's statutory mission is "to do all things which it may determine to enhance the cause of Indian rights and to develop solutions to problems common to all Nebraska Indians." It is the state liaison between the four headquarter tribes of the Omaha, Ponca, Santee Sioux and Winnebago Tribes of Nebraska. It helps ensure the sovereignty of both tribal and state governments are recognized and acted upon in a true government-to-government relationship. The commission serves off-reservation Indian communities by helping assure they are afforded the right to equitable opportunities in the areas of housing, employment, education, health care, economic development and human/civil rights within Nebraska. All goals of the commission are accomplished through advocacy, education and promotion of legislation.

## Mid-America Transportation Center



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Since 2006 the Mid-America Transportation Center has been designated as the United States Department of Transportation Region 7 University Transportation Center. Region 7 is composed of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. MATC is a consortium of nine universities within the region: the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the University of Nebraska Medical Center, the University of Nebraska Omaha, the Missouri University of Science and Technology, the University of Iowa, the University of Kansas, the University of Kansas Medical Center, the Nebraska Indian Community College, and Lincoln University. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln serves as the lead institution of the consortium and MATC has its headquarters on the UNL campus. MATC's research priority area is Promoting Safety with an emphasis on reducing and mitigating the negative effects associated with extreme weather effects and multi-modal hazardous goods movements. MATC strives to engage student interest and involve underrepresented groups in the STEM field to create a more diverse future in transportation. This goal led to the development of MATC educational programs including the Roads, Rails, and Racecars After-School Program, the Scholars Program, and the Intern Program.



# NCIA/MATC Sovereign Native Youth STEM Leadership Academy 2018

<https://matc.unl.edu/education/SNY-Leadership/index.php>



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Claire M. Hubbard Foundation



College Visit Grant,  
UNL Office of Admissions



Funded by the Elizabeth Rubendall  
Artist in Residence Program at



Senator Jim Scheer

Office of the President, University of Nebraska-Lincoln



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