



General Assembly Plenary
8:50am – 12:00pm

The Power of Data to Change Climates

Description: Over time, tribal leaders have emphasized the importance of developing quality data to inform their decisions and planning. In this session, we will hear compelling examples of how tribal nations are using data to improve outcomes for their citizens.

Driving Question: What is the power of data to change climates important to tribal nations?

Poster Session
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Poster Session: Innovative Climates for Tribal Research

Description: Tribal leaders continually share how much they value engaging with numerous scholars across varied research disciplines in a condensed period of time. The poster session creates a supportive environment for learning between presenters and other attendees. Participants walk from one poster to another to hear poster presenters share cutting-edge research in a short (and meaningful!) period of time.

Breakout Sessions
1:30 – 4:00 pm

Creating Healthy Community Climates for Higher Education

Description: Culture holds a central place in education—it is the primary vehicle through which we receive and interpret information. And where Native cultures have been actively excluded from educational settings, it is all the more urgent that communities guide a “culture shift” so that Native students will feel rooted in their identities and equipped for success. This session will speak to the value of Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) and strategies being implemented by non-Native institutions of higher learning.

Driving Questions: What is essential for creating healthy community climates for higher education? What resources do we already have in place that support this goal?

Stewarding Strong Economic Climates

Description: To build vibrant and sustainable tribal economies, tribal leaders need data to inform their decision-making. From analyzing resource inputs and outputs to calculating risks and revenues, research is a critical but accessible tool. This session is designed to share strategies for taking the reins in community economic development.

Driving Questions: What contributes to and constrains strong tribal economies? How does a strong economy strengthen citizenship?

Sovereignty & Science

Description: Native peoples have always used science, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and Western Science are cross-pollinating at increasing rates. The National Institutes of Health propose that TEK could benefit biomedical research and may also increase trust and mutual respect in tribal-academic partnership. This session will share ways in which tribes and their citizens are harnessing and transforming the scientific field.

Driving Questions: Are sovereignty and scientific innovation at odds? How can tribal nations support the development of science and scientists in a culturally appropriate way?

The Future of Food

Description: In a world of changing climates and increasingly unstable access to traditional foods and clean water, what is the future of food? How will generations to come sustain cultural lifeways through food knowledge, production, and harvest? This session presents various visions for that future and prompts critical questions for tribal communities.

Driving Question: What technologies and tools can support tribal nations in planning for the future of food?

Creating the Conditions for Native Youth to Prosper

Description: Across Indian Country, tribes are using a variety of approaches to ensure their youth will thrive and reach their full potential. This work includes building upon existing strengths, expanding prevention efforts, and targeting effective interventions. In this session, we will explore some of these approaches and discuss how communities might adopt and adapt the knowledge learned thus far, to support and nurture the next generation.

Driving Question: How are tribal nations and their partners creating the conditions for Native youth to prosper?