NCAI Policy Research Center's
13th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum

Lighting the Way: New Paths from Research to Policy

13th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum

Tuesday, June 5, 2018
Kansas City, MO

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
DEADLINE EXTENDED:
Monday, January 15, 2018, 9:00pm (EST)

The NCAI Policy Research Center's (PRC) Annual Tribal Leader Scholar Forum provides an opportunity for researchers, practitioners, community members, and others to present research and data findings to tribal leaders, policymakers, and tribal members during the NCAI Mid Year Conference. The PRC is committed to **advancing data to policy action** and focusing on topics and areas that have **real impacts** for tribal governments and the communities they serve. The Forum presents tribal leaders with innovative research and relevant findings for local policymaking and national advocacy.

This year's theme, **Lighting the Way: New Paths from Research to Policy,** reflects the desire to shed light on future directions for policy in a way that is deeply informed by research and data in the context of tribal cultures and values.

Presenters are asked to submit proposals that provide data and research that is relevant to tribal leaders. NCAI staff will review submitted abstracts and select 3-4 presentations for each session. Below are a few prompts to consider when drafting your proposals:

- **Technology**
  From e-commerce to telemedicine, from distance learning to social networks, the digital divide continues to threaten the opportunities and futures of rural and tribal communities. What research demonstrates the scope and scale of that divide? What are the economic and social impacts? How can communities effect policy change through data on information technologies and broadband access in Indian Country?

- **Economic Futures**
  What are data-informed visions for future economic growth and diversification in Indian Country? As certain sectors of work become increasingly automated, where will new opportunities emerge? What do the data tell us about tribal economic contributions to state economies? How can research propel policy action on tax reform and e-commerce?

- **Environment & Food Security**
  With the pending reauthorization of the Farm Bill in 2018, what research can inform tribal advocacy? How does agriculture, as a sector, feature in tribal economies? How do extreme weather events transform the nature of this discourse?

- **Law, Crime & Justice**
  Increasingly, Congressional leaders are turning their attention to the crisis of opioids and human trafficking in our rural and Native communities. How can data inform interventions and what tribes have demonstrated success in curbing these crimes, preventing addiction?

- **Community Strength & Resilience**
  Community strength is needed now as it was in the past; culture and social cohesion form the foundation. What do community-based research partnerships provide with respect to building community strength and resilience? How have tribal communities come together around research and achieved long-term, sustainable outcomes for the well-being of its citizens?

We are soliciting two types of proposals: 1) Research & Data Presentation Proposals and 2) Poster Session Proposals.

1) **Research & Data Presentation Proposal:** Proposals feature research or data insights from a program or community initiative, research study, partnership, or policy effort that has significance to the Forum theme. Selected proposals will be grouped as part of a panel presentation in either the plenary session or breakout sessions by the NCAI reviewers. Proposals that focus on how the research informs policy impacting tribal communities and issues will receive priority.

2) **Poster Session Proposals:** Proposals can highlight completed or ongoing research with significance to the Forum theme. This format is most suitable for students, colleges and universities, and community programs to share information with tribal leaders and citizens on their efforts and programs.

All proposals should be submitted to research@ncai.org by **Monday, January 15th at 9:00pm (Eastern)**. See below for a proposal template.

SAMPLE PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

Presentation Title:

Presenters' Names, Affiliations, and Contact Information:

Presentation Format:
[Please indicate the presentation type you will use (e.g., Research & Data Presentation Proposal, or Poster Session Proposal).]

Topic of Presentation/Aims:
[Note any key research or policy questions framing the presentation and any important aspects of research design and methodology, including information about tribal oversight of data collection and dissemination where appropriate.]

Summary of Findings or Impacts from the Work:

Significance of Presentation to Tribal Leaders:
[This Forum is unique from other research conferences in that the audience is largely tribal leaders; how will your research inform policy and benefit tribal leader participants in a significant way?]

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – NCAI Policy Research Center Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum:

What Is the Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum?

The Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum ('the Forum') provides a space for tribal leaders and citizens, researchers, and community organizations to discuss how to strengthen public policy and community-based initiatives based on meaningful data and research. The Forum aims to generate *strategic* and *impactful* research that informs policy and benefits Native communities.

Who Can Present?

The Forum has featured work by tribally-based researchers, community members using program or other data to advance policy or develop research projects, university-based researchers, students, and tribal leaders. We welcome those with insights that can inform the development of effective policy and meaningful research.

What Else Do I Need to Know?

The Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum will take place in Kansas City, Missouri on **Tuesday, June 5,** 2018, at NCAI's Mid-Year Conference. Presenters who plan to attend the Mid-Year Conference for more than the Forum day are expected to register and pay the conference registration fee. Conference information will be available in the coming months at: http://www.ncai.org/events/2018/06/03/2018-mid-year-conference-marketplace.

While students are encouraged to submit proposals, unfortunately at this time there are no NCAI scholarship funds to support travel or costs. NCAI does not provide travel support for presenters.

Applicants will be notified if they are selected to present by February 1, 2018. Selected presenters will be asked to participate in planning calls before the conference to coordinate with their fellow panelists and receive support from NCAI PRC staff about how best to prepare a presentation for tribal leaders.

Selected presenters will be asked to submit final papers, poster files, and/or PowerPoint presentations to NCAI PRC electronically by 9pm EDT on **Friday, May 18, 2018**, to share with Forum attendees. NCAI PRC will review all slides and presentations for appropriateness of content.

For more information, contact research@ncai.org or call NCAI PRC at 202-466-7767.