

**Montana University System American Indian and Minority Achievement Council Mission Statement**

The Montana University System strives to be a premier public higher education system in the country for American Indian students, administrators, faculty and staff.

Every Montana University system institution will do everything it can to remove barriers, obstacles and challenges that hinder student success.

The Montana University System is committed to working with Montana Tribal Colleges to ensure mutually beneficial relationships and student success.

**The AIMA Council recommends all campuses present a proposal to the Board of Regents by March 2018 that indicates how they will:**

- 1) Identify an individual at each campus who is at a more senior level who will serve point of contact for American Indian students. This person will work with college/university leadership to advise retention and completion strategies for American Indian students. The individual will also be available as a first point of contact to guide American Indian students to the appropriate college personnel as needed to address problems or specific needs.
- 2) Assign departmental points of contact who have the unique “cultural perspective” to serve American Indian students most effectively in the areas of (these efforts will be coordinated by the individual identified in recommendation #1):
  - a. Financial Aid
  - b. Residence Life and Housing
  - c. Admissions
  - d. Students Health and Counseling
  - e. Registrar
  - f. Human Resources
  - g. Advising
- 3) Collect and share basic data on American Indian students relative to improving the use of data and information to investigate American Indian enrollment and student success.
- 4) Provide a common American Indian cultural and sensitivity professional development for all faculty and staff.
- 5) Request campuses to incorporate American Indian professional development referenced in recommendation #4 in all new employee orientation including faculty.