



SINTE GLESKA UNIVERSITY

SICANGU LAKOTA OYATE

PO Box 105

Mission, SD 57555-0105

Telephone (605) 856-8100

ESTABLISHED DECEMBER 1970

ACCREDITED BY THE
THE HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION 1983
RECOGNIZED AS A
1994 TRIBAL LAND GRANT INSTITUTION

December 8, 2017

Dear WINHEC Application Committee,

We are sending this *Letter of Intent* to initiate our application for WINHEC accreditation.

Sinte Gleska University (SGU) is located on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota, USA, and through our president, Lionel Bordeaux, one of the Founding Leaders of WINHEC, SGU has been involved with the Consortium since 2002. We look forward now to conducting the deep review of our resources and responsibilities that will be required as a candidate for WINHEC accreditation.

Sinte Gleska University is currently accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), one of six regional institutions accreditors in the United States. We have benefited from our experience with HLC, yet we also have found that their focus on academic qualifications, while important, is not enough to deal with the wider responsibilities of indigenous higher education institutions.

In particular, SGU has the larger mission to strengthen the Sicangu Lakota Nation. To better carry out that mission, we have begun a process of renewal that envisions Lakota indigenous ways of teaching and learning as the active center – *Hocoka* - of the university's work. We believe that the WINHEC accreditation process will provide the framework and support for carrying out this process of renewal and revisioning.

We look forward to hearing from you regarding the next step in the accreditation process.

Wopila.

James F. Green

Jim Green (on behalf of *Hocoka*)
Sinte Gleska University
101 Antelope Lake Circle
Mission, SD 57555
jim.green@sintegleska.edu