

**Branching Out: Great Lakes Native American Research Center for Health Evaluation Report  
2022**

Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council

Lac du Flambeau, WI

CSAC Report: December 28, 2022

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<https://www.glitc.org/programs/education-health-and-research/native-american-research-center-for-health-narch/publications-and-media/>

## **Abstract**

The Great Lakes Native American Research Center for Health (GLNARCH) is housed in the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC) central office on the Lac du Flambeau reservation in northern Wisconsin. Under the most recent funding cycle, the team accomplished new directions for networking and stakeholder engagement. GLNARCH and GLITC hosted the biennial Tribal Environmental Health Summit (TEHS 2022) and the first annual Great Lakes NARCH Tribal College/University (TCU) Science and Research Forum on the Lac du Flambeau reservation. The team also hosted multiple stakeholder engagement meetings with representatives from Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU) within the tristate region encompassing the Bemidji Area of Michigan (MI), Minnesota (MN) and Wisconsin (WI). This report describes ongoing outcome measures from the established evaluation plan. These data confirm that GLNARCH is meeting educational and health research promotion goals. This assessment aligns with best practices of equity in assessment. Other recent developments include online learning options for the student enhancement component and capacity building for research and education.

*Keywords:* community-engaged research, program evaluation, capacity building,  
American Indian/Alaska Native

## INTRODUCTION

GLNARCH establishes collaborative research, builds capacity, and promotes science important to the Tribes and Urban Indian organizations within the three-state IHS Bemidji Area [1-2, 4-8]. Earlier this year, the pilot project (PI: Laura Cassidy) titled *Measuring Resilience to Adverse Childhood Effects (ACEs) in Menominee Youth* was successfully completed. The GLNARCH X funding cycle ends in 2022 with anticipated carryforward funds to continue the associated student enhancement activities into summer of 2023. In 2021 GLITC and Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) were awarded an additional NARCH to conduct capacity building throughout the existing network with goals of recruiting additional Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs). Those capacity and stakeholder engagement activities will be funded through 2025. The team was also awarded NARCH funding for the 2022-2026 funding cycle to conduct a pilot project (PI: Jeneile Luebke) titled: *Healing from within: Integrating strength-based, survivor-led and culturally specific interventions to address the intersecting barriers to help-seeking for American Indian women after experiences of gender-based violence*.

Dr. Dellinger and Ms. Poupart work with Ms. Lemoine and the MCW program coordinator to produce annual assessment reports with recommended updates. Dr. Stevens directs the TCU Capacity Building Core which involves recruiting TCUs into the GLNARCH-TCU Research Network, overseeing NARCH-funded equipment purchases, small scale “seed” pilot projects and developing a program for regular Great Lakes TCU meetings.

Recommendations from the most recent report were used to develop the NARCH grant applications which were recently awarded. These reports are reviewed at CSAC meetings to assure the GLNARCH program is attaining its goals for each component. Student interns also have an opportunity to provide feedback during the CSAC meeting. Recommendations are also solicited from key informants, students, and interviews at cultural events, focus groups, and site visits.

The following overarching outcomes are addressed in each assessment report to CSAC: (1) Is GLNARCH operating with fidelity? (2) Is GLNARCH fostering partnerships? (3) Are GLNARCH research activities contributing to health science fields? (4) Is GLNARCH fostering community-based participatory research? (5) Is GLNARCH research serving the community and addressing health disparities? And (6) Are

Native American students successfully mentored and supported through each GLNARCH phase and progressing through phases? A new metric category is in development for future reports: Do GLNARCH activities promote health and wellness as defined by the culture of the community?

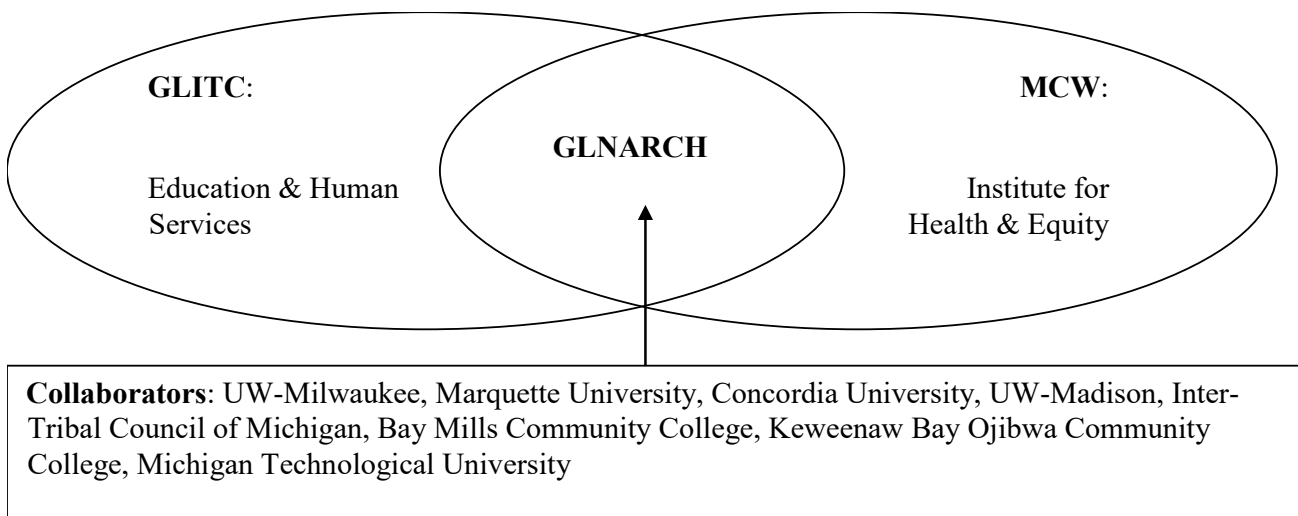
**Table 1: Overview of GLNARCH evaluation and assessment report process (the old and the new)**

Components to Assess	Quantitative Evaluation Sources	Qualitative Evaluation Sources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Admin Core/Overall Center</b></li> <li>• <b>Student Enhancement</b></li> <li>• <b>Pilot Project</b></li> <li>• <b>Capacity Building</b></li> <li>• <b>Seed Projects</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questionnaires (new on REDCap™)</li> <li>• Student follow-up and tracking by Program Coordinators.</li> <li>• Documentation of TCU capacity seed funding (NEHR)</li> <li>• Documentation of in-network peer-reviewed grants and publications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key informant interviews</li> <li>• Digital storytelling and video production</li> <li>• Community-focused questionnaires</li> <li>• TCU consultations</li> </ul>

### The GLNARCH Institutional Setting

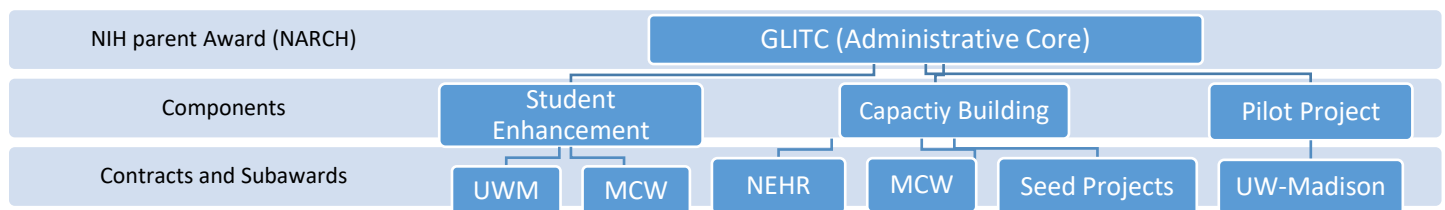
GLNARCH grew from interest in research identified during a strategic planning session held between the Wisconsin Tribal Health Director Association and Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. (GLITC) Indian Health Program in fall 1999 [9]. The current funding is a partnership between GLITC and the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW). The center also coordinates with regional partners from both academic and AI/AN institutions. Figure 1 outlines the key GLNARCH partners and their institutions as of 2019.

**Figure 1: Institutional Setting for GLNARCH X**



Housed at GLITC, GLNARCH encompasses academic and tribal community partnerships that evolved from a combination of leadership from the tribal partners and adherence to community-engaged participatory research principles by the academic partners. The center currently consists of four core components: 1) the administrative core, which oversees the overall center; 2) research projects, conducted by various academic-tribal partnerships in the region; 3) a student career enhancement component, that exposes tribal students to academic opportunities, and 4) a capacity building component, that seeks to extend research opportunities for researchers and trainees engaged in relevant projects. The awardee and subcontract structure are outlined in Figure 2. The capacity team also leads an effort to encourage tribal college/universities (TCU) partnerships with all GLNARCH activities.

**Figure 2:** Overall structure of proposed GLNARCH components. Acronyms: Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC), University of Wisconsin (UWM), Native Environmental Health Research network (NEHR), Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW).



## METHODS

### Survey Development

#### *Mentor and Student evaluations*

The student and mentor evaluations are deployed annually to monitor and adapt the program to the student needs. These assessments also determine if the program is achieving its objectives and goals. The evaluation plan includes process and outcome evaluation, using quantitative and qualitative methods and includes but is not limited to the following data sources: post evaluations, key informant interviews, and tracking of social media.

The mentors and students also provide written feedback on intern competencies in key areas at the end of each summer. This was previously the primary source of qualitative data to follow GLNARCH progress towards issues of cultural diversity, partnership, fidelity, contribution to the health field and

community engagement. Other metrics from these assessments describe the quality of training, including supervision, didactics, and role modeling. This documentation shows that the intern has reached an appropriate competency level by the end of participation in the program and demonstrates new skills acquired over the summer.

For the data presented here, student and mentor surveys were administered as paper questionnaires either in-person or via e-mail. GLNARCH staff (housed at GLITC) collected these surveys via personal contact with each mentor and/or student. Starting in 2018, a REDCap™ [10] survey data entry tool was created and GLITC staff entered the survey responses into the online database by hand. Survey responses are summarized using descriptive statistics, such as total counts and prevalence of agreement to items, to match important program evaluation themes. Accomplishments of program participants, i.e., academic presentations, publications, abstracts, and reports are also noted cumulatively since 2003. Mentor and intern evaluation data have been compiled in the updated database back to 2014 to match current evaluation formats. Mentor and intern data from before 2014 can be reviewed in previous reports.

### ***Human Subjects Protections, Special Considerations***

It was possible that some participants might have felt uncomfortable being asked about their health in the context of culture. Interviewers ensured that these key informants understood that answering any question was optional and that their responses might be shared with a larger audience. Participants in digital storytelling could not be de-identified for analysis because they are filmed, and they agreed to that by signing a waiver. All programmatic questionnaire data are de-identified. Digital story interviews were conducted by GLITC staff who work in the community to increase comfort of participants speaking about their wellness in the context of their culture. The questionnaires were also distributed by the GLITC staff during interviews.

## **RESULTS**

### ***Team Publication Highlight: Culture and Wellness***

In 2019, we piloted a culture and wellness questionnaire on 25 respondents at two events associated with an ongoing NIH-funded center grant: 1) an “Open House” grant meeting to report on progress and future

directions in dialogue with educational, community, and research partners, and 2) the Bear River Powwow in Lac du Flambeau. The Anishinaabe members of the questionnaire development team developed the wording of the items to assess the level of respect for cultural and spiritual traditions as well as traditional concepts of health and wellness. This exploratory survey revealed that many participants reported a culturally specific term for health and wellness. “Minobimaadiziiwin” and “Ni Mino Ayaa” were commonly reported and translated from Ojibwe roughly to “living in a good way.” The two most prominently affirmed statements related to this concept were: “I feel connected to the land around me” and “I am in the habit of giving thanks” [1]. In the context of Ojibwe, and the broader Anishinaabe culture, these both present spiritual implications of wellness. The results of this pilot were published in 2022 in the Wisconsin Medical Journal [1].

**Table 2:** Pilot health and wellness (*minobimaadiziiwin*) questions from Dellinger et al (2022) [1]

<b>Question (Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, Strongly Disagree)</b>
<b>I feel connected to the land around me</b>
<b>I feel connected to my community</b>
<b>My culture is respected by members of my community</b>
<b>My culture is respected by individuals outside of my community</b>
<b>I feel healthy</b>
<b>My community participates in cultural activities that promote well-being</b>
<b>I am optimistic when I think about passing on our culture to the next generation</b>
<b>I am in the habit of giving thanks</b>
<b>My community can support and provide for the next generation in a monetary sense (clothing, housing, etc.)</b>
<b>My community can support the next generation culturally (language, stories, etc.)</b>
<b>Would you say that, in general, your health is</b>

In a preliminary analysis from an ongoing NIEHS R01 [2], we calculated the correlation of this preliminary score of *minobimaadiziiwin* affinity (an average overall score of the items in Table 2) and behaviors relating to environmental health literacy. Those behaviors were measured to assess the extent to which Anishinaabe participants were making informed choices about fish consumption. The strength of relationships between *minobimaadiziiwin* affinity and health literacy outcomes of interest were estimated via Kendall's tau-b correlation [3]. At both time points, higher affinity for the *minobimaadiziiwin* items was significant and positively correlated with intake of omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids, greater amount of fish consumption (grams/month), confidence in selecting fish to eat, as well as to feed one's family, and the knowledge that many fish are safe to eat depending on how much is eaten. These results are under revision in a short publication to Environmental Health Perspectives.

### ***Pilot Update: Measuring Resilience to Adverse Childhood Effects (ACEs) in Menominee Youth***

PI Dr. Laura Cassidy partnered with the Menominee Indian School District to explore strengths and resiliency to adversity among AI youth using validated scales. Launched in 2020, the original pilot timeline was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and resultant shutdown: the decision was made to not disseminate the ACES survey home (originally planned to have students complete the ACES survey in school in the presence of a counselor to help mitigate and work through potential traumatic responses). Instead, resiliency surveys were disseminated home in Spring 2020, and responses were collected from students in each grade. The ACES survey was modified by the Community Advisory Board, and was disseminated between December 2021 and February 2022.

The 2020 survey results were shared with members of the community advisory board during a virtual meeting in October 2021, and the ACES results were shared with the advisory board in February 2022. Results from both surveys were shared with the middle and high school students in May 2022, along with digital stories of resilience from students and community members. The team is working on drafting manuscripts to share specific results.

### ***Grantee Highlight: Jeneile Luebke, PhD***

Dr. Jeneile Luebke recently completed her PhD while serving as a GLNARCH intern (UWM, 2020). Now, as a post-doctoral fellow at UW-Madison, she is building an independent research career to investigate help-seeking and resiliency in AI/AN victims of gender-based violence. Community partners for this project include Kristin Welch, a Menominee Nation descendent, and founder of the non-profit organization, Waking Women Healing Institute, Inc, located near the Menominee Nation reservation. Dr. Luebke was recently awarded the NARCH Pilot Project: Healing from within: Integrating strength-based, survivor-led, and culturally specific interventions to address the intersecting barriers to help-seeking for American Indian women after experiences of gender-based violence.

### ***Digital storytelling as a model to incorporate oral traditions with public health programming***

GLNARCH has partnered with the Lac du Flambeau Elders to create a NARCH-sponsored set of videos to promote the Family Circles program which is a cultural curriculum to promote health and wellness

and reduce substance abuse. A short film describing the program has been created and disseminated [11]. Recently, the GLNARCH team has completed and compiled 19 videos to cover the 19-week curriculum. Those videos will be stored by GLITC and linked via the organizational website (glitc.org) as a record of important oral traditions that promote health and wellness.

In addition to digitizing the Family Circles curriculum, GLNARCH has been using digital storytelling to record the stories of past NARCH interns and how their participation influenced their career path. Two such interviews were conducted in 2021, and a third was filmed in 2022.

### Student and Participant Program Evaluation Questionnaires

Figure 1 summarizes the participant characteristics of the American Indian Student Scholars Program, which provides summer educational exposure to middle and high school Native American Students. Since 2016, GLNARCH has provided these enrichment activities to 78 students from 27 tribes across seven states.

**Figure 1: American Indian Student Scholar Program (AISSP) profile dashboard**

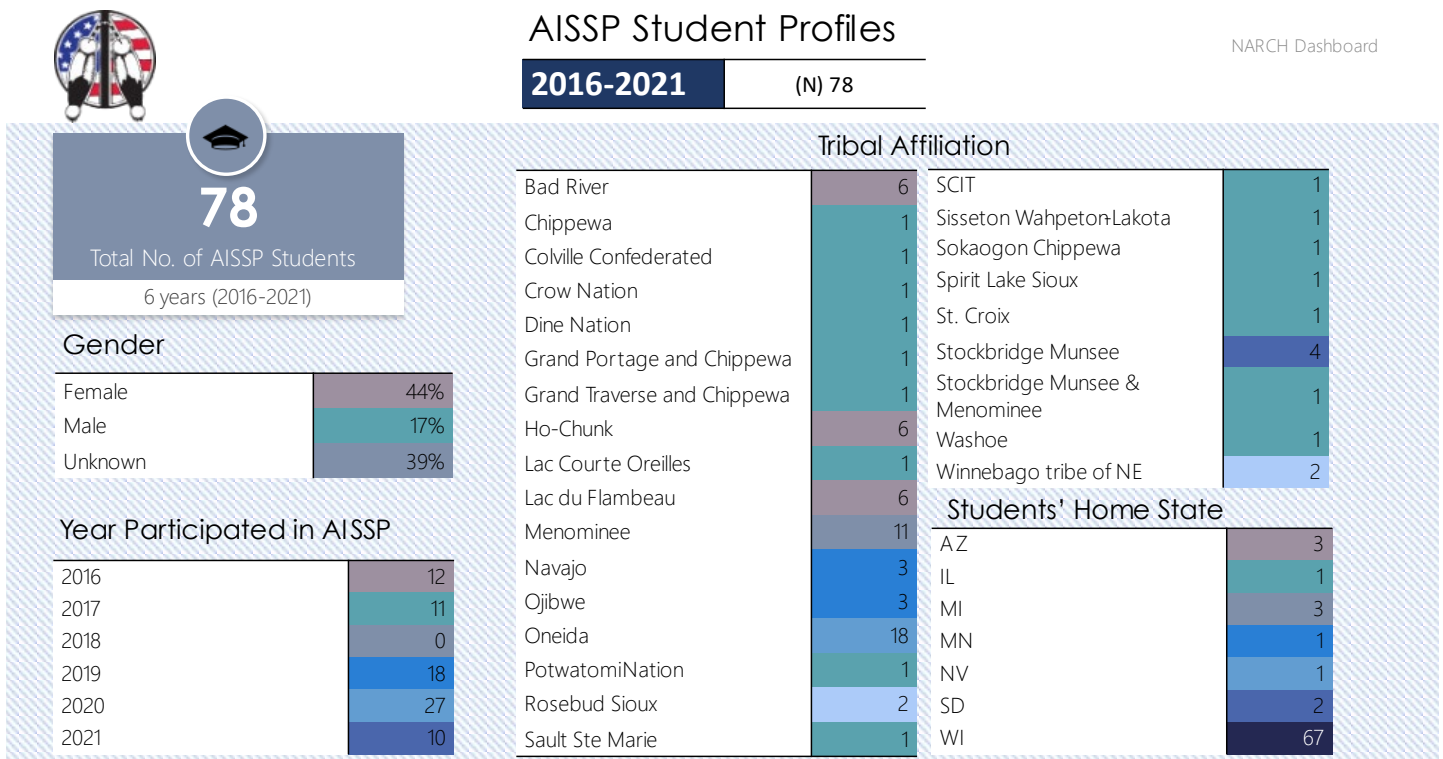
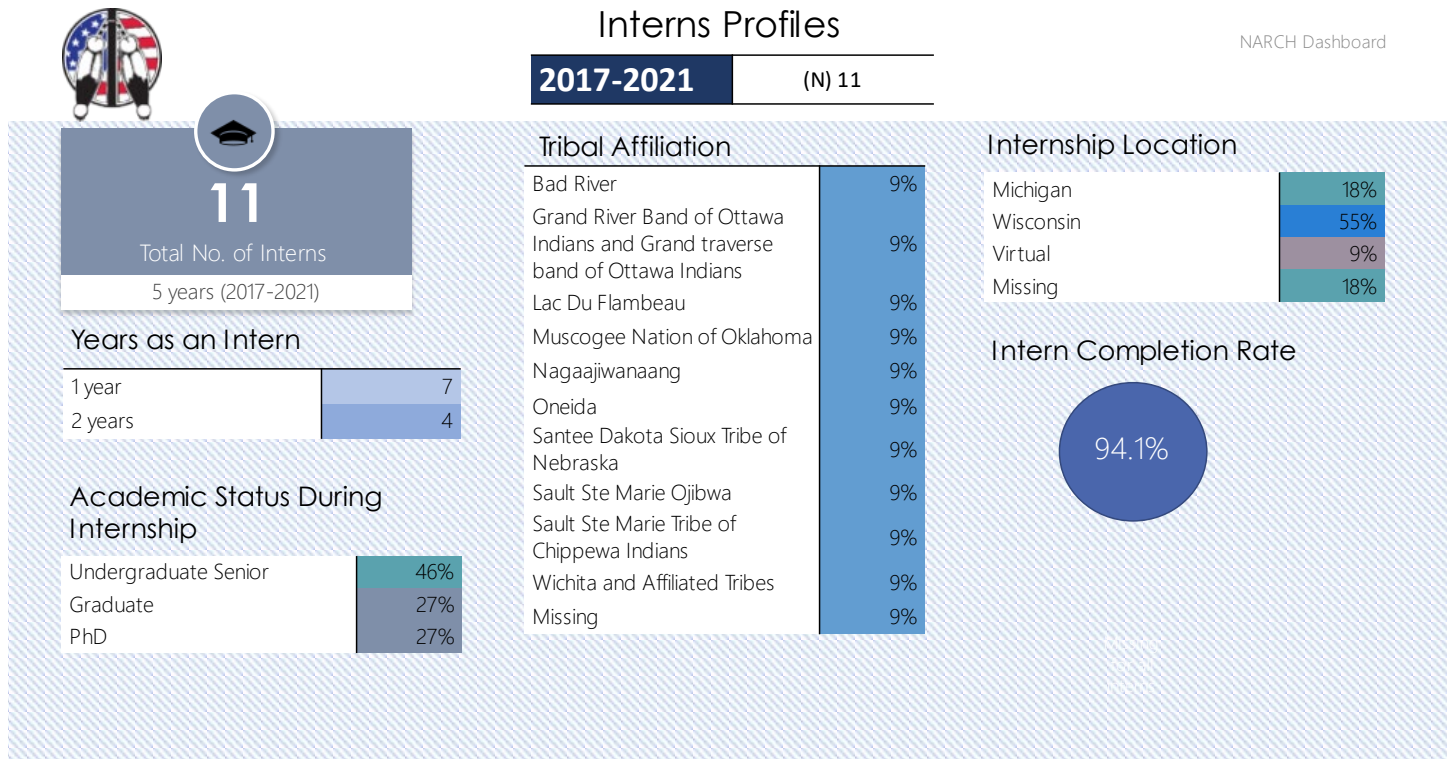


Figure 2 summarizes the characteristics of interns who have participated in the program since 2017. There was a total of 11 interns between 2017 and 2021. Most (46%) of those interns were undergraduate students. These interns came from 11 different tribes across the tristate area. Four students returned to complete a second internship creating a total of 15 internships during the period. The vast majority (94.1%) completed their internship. Figure 3 illustrates the diverse range of interests from the interns ranging from mental health to nutrition.

**Figure 2: Internship profile dashboard**



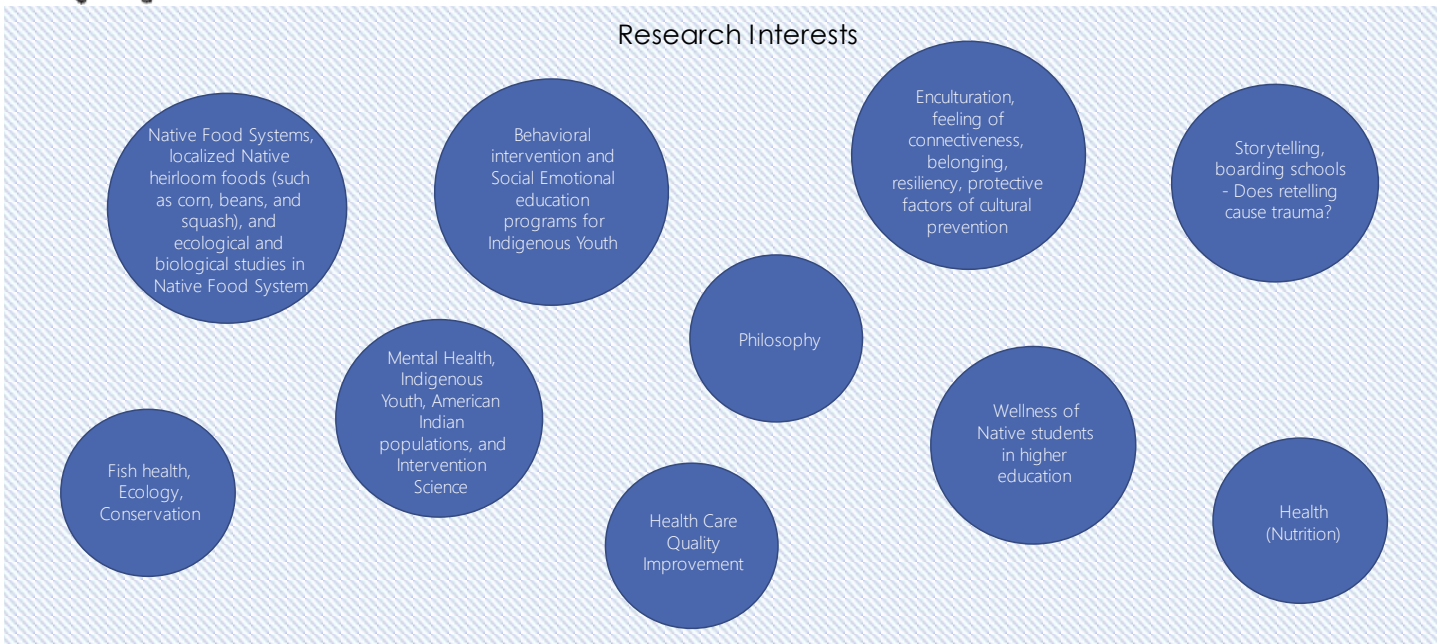
**Figure 3: Intern research interests**



# Interns Profiles

2017-2021

(N) 11



## ***Program Effectiveness: reach of NARCH programs***

Since the 2021 annual CSAC meeting, the GLNARCH admin core has remained productive, hosting 25 team meetings and disseminating periodic CSAC newsletters (Fall 2021, Winter 2021, Winter 2022).

Throughout 2022, GLITC staff has conducted outreach efforts to 52 TCUs in the Bemidji region, with an emphasis on building relationships and sharing information on GLNARCH opportunities (such as AISSP and summer internships). 23 of these outreach attempts resulted in acknowledgement and/or follow up. Three of these TCUs attended the 2022 Tribal Environmental Health Summit (TEHS). Two site visits to new TCU partners are planned for Spring 2023. As a result of this outreach, GLITC partnered with Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College (FDLTCC) and the Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging to support the Scrubs camp June 22-25, 2022, where indigenous high school students spent three days on FDLTCC’s campus learning about careers in nursing and healthcare. Additionally, GLITC had a webpage on the virtual side of the 2022 Native American College Fair on October 14, 2022 at the InterContinental Saint Paul Riverfront.

## ***External funding/partnerships***

Since Summer 2021, several partnerships and collaborations between the Medical College of Wisconsin and either GLNARCH or GLITC have been funded. GLITC has partnered with the Medical College of Wisconsin (PI: Staci Young) on a 24-month grant funded by the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment titled *Collaborative Work Groups to Reduce Wisconsin's Breast and Lung Cancer Disparities: Phase One*. This \$3.58 million project is led by the Center for Urban Population Health; GLITC receives \$344,651 annually to lead and support a collaborative work group that explores multi-faceted issues that contribute to breast and lung cancer disparities. These work groups will design, build, test, implement, evaluate, and disseminate innovative approaches to address breast and/or lung cancer disparities.

Menominee tribe has partnered with Dr. Dellinger on an Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment project titled *Reestablishing and Reviving Great Lakes Intertribal Food Systems to Health Tribal Communities* to demonstrate the feasibility of intertribal food networks that resemble historic trade routes. Such a network is expected to improve dietary options within the region. The project started July 2022 and continues until December 2023. GLNARCH will serve as a stakeholder group to inform the feasibility roadmap.

GLNARCH has partnered with the Medical College of Wisconsin to develop a survey on the perceptions of cannabinoid use during pregnancy. The inter-disciplinary team is funded by the Clinical and Translational Science Institute of Southeast Wisconsin (CTSI) novel Team Science-Guided Integrated Clinical and Research Ensembles program. The team seeks to determine if expectant mothers, currently in the Milwaukee area, understand the potential risks of cannabinoid use during pregnancy and where they get their information on the topic.

At current best count, GLNARCH efforts have produced, for both researchers and students, written publications (n=26; peer reviewed journal articles, technical reports, and community-focused reports) and in-person dissemination of information (n= 60; presentations and posters). GLNARCH has placed 173 research undergraduate and/or graduate internships across 37 performance sites under (approximately) 24 mentors ranging from tribal health departments to mainstream universities. Network support from the Center has led to 10 non-NARCH grants totaling approximately \$6.96 million [4, 5] with more in the works.

Figure 4 outlines the programmatic reach of GLNARCH since 2003. These metrics cover our stated goal to: “Provide internship & mentor opportunities to increase the number of AI/AN students engaged in health sciences.” The GLNARCH staff are still counting student contributions to academic outputs. The current best estimates are 39 posters, 13 presentations, and 19 peer-reviewed publications, covering 26 self-reported areas of research interest. The program provides rich and diverse opportunities across 45 internship sites with 90 mentors/mentor candidates. At least 33 Tribes have been represented in GLNARCH initiatives since 2003.

**Figure 4:** Program effectiveness internship, mentor, and research opportunities dashboard



**Program Effectiveness: Fostering Fidelity**

Feedback from 17 students who participated in GLNARCH internships between 2014 and 2020 (more recent internships are ongoing) provided insight both into measurable productivity of students and the quality of students’ experiences (Figure 5). These results showed students had opportunities to disseminate their

research, cultivate better understandings of research and community engagement, and develop valuable skills they would take further into their academic careers. Evaluation from GLNARCH interns who have participated since 2014 indicate broad satisfaction with the program as well as perceived self-efficacy. These satisfaction metrics reflect a congruence with NARCH values of helping the community and cultural sensitivity.

**Figure 5:** *Internship evaluation fostering fidelity dashboard*



**Program Effectiveness: Networking and Professional Development**

Figure 6 demonstrates strong, near unanimous agreement that the GLNARCH program matches interns with effective mentors. Since 2014 all mentees report regular meetings, goal establishment, and strong personal relationships. Most interns leave the program with a strong personal reference to help develop their professional network.

**Figure 6:** *Internship evaluation networking and professional development dashboard*



# Program Effectiveness Dashboard

Internship Evaluation – Student Responses  
Goal 2. Networking and Professional Development



## ***Program Effectiveness: Contribution to the Field***

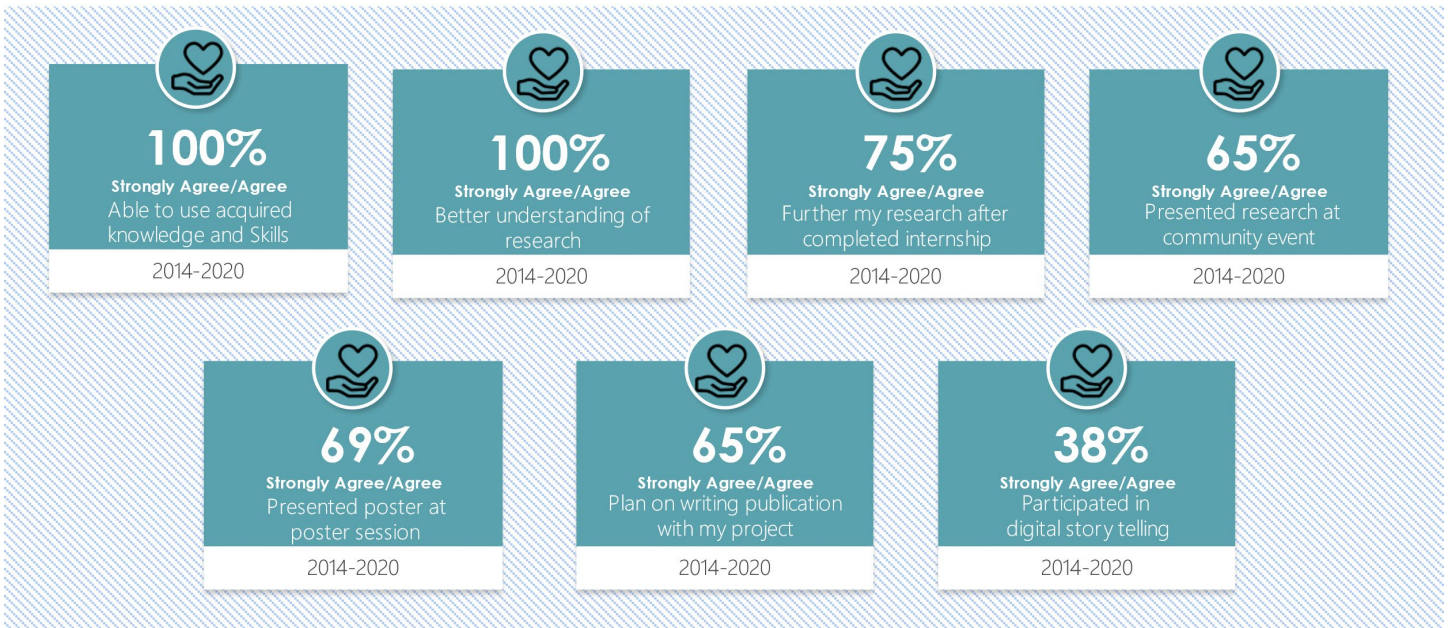
Most interns and mentees plan to continue their research after completing the internship (75%), present their findings at poster sessions (69%) and write publications associated with their projects (65%). Fewer, (38%) participated in the digital storytelling opportunities at GLNARCH. All interns reported a stronger ability to use their acquired knowledge and skills as well as reported a better understanding of research (Figure 7).

**Figure 7:** Internship evaluation contributions to the field dashboard



# Program Effectiveness Dashboard

Internship Evaluation – Student Responses  
Goal 3. Contribution to the Field



## ***Program Effectiveness: Contribution to the Field***

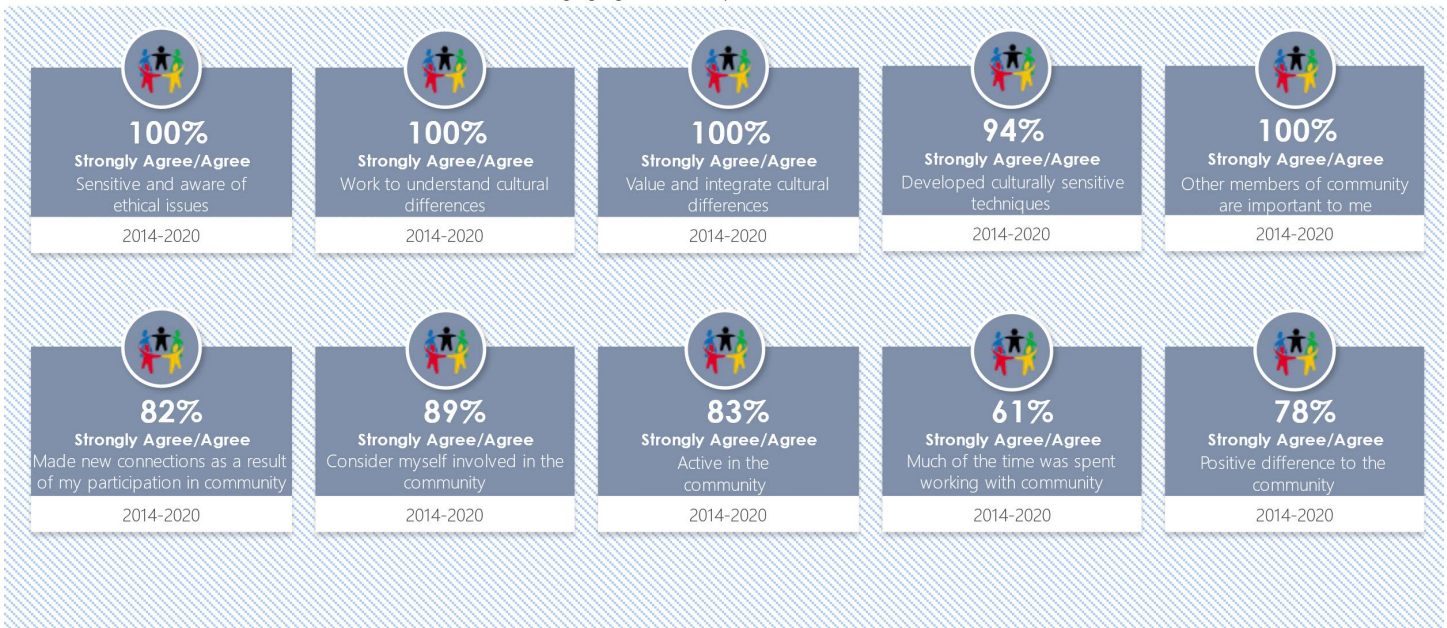
Figure 8 covers multiple metrics demonstrating adherence to community engagement research practices. GLNARCH mentees report high agreement that the program is sensitive to ethical, cultural, and participatory research principles. Most interns report working within communities (67%) whereas some internships did not lend themselves to community work (e.g., fish contaminant monitoring programs in Upper Michigan). Most interns felt that their projects made a positive difference in the community (78%).

**Figure 8:** *Internship evaluation engaging community involvement/cultural context dashboard*



# Program Effectiveness Dashboard

Internship Evaluation – Student Responses  
Goal 4. Engaging community involvement/cultural context



## ***Program Effectiveness: Development of student’s awareness, interest, and skills in health sciences.***

GLNARCH interns from 2014-2020 reported high satisfaction with their accomplishments under the program. The strongest responses in these metrics indicate that the program is stimulating, challenging, and affirming towards student development of health science skills. The least supported sentiment in this category was commitment to a career in health sciences, nevertheless a majority (67%) affirmed this interest. Past experience suggests that students may go on to pursue other academic and scientific careers not classified as health science.

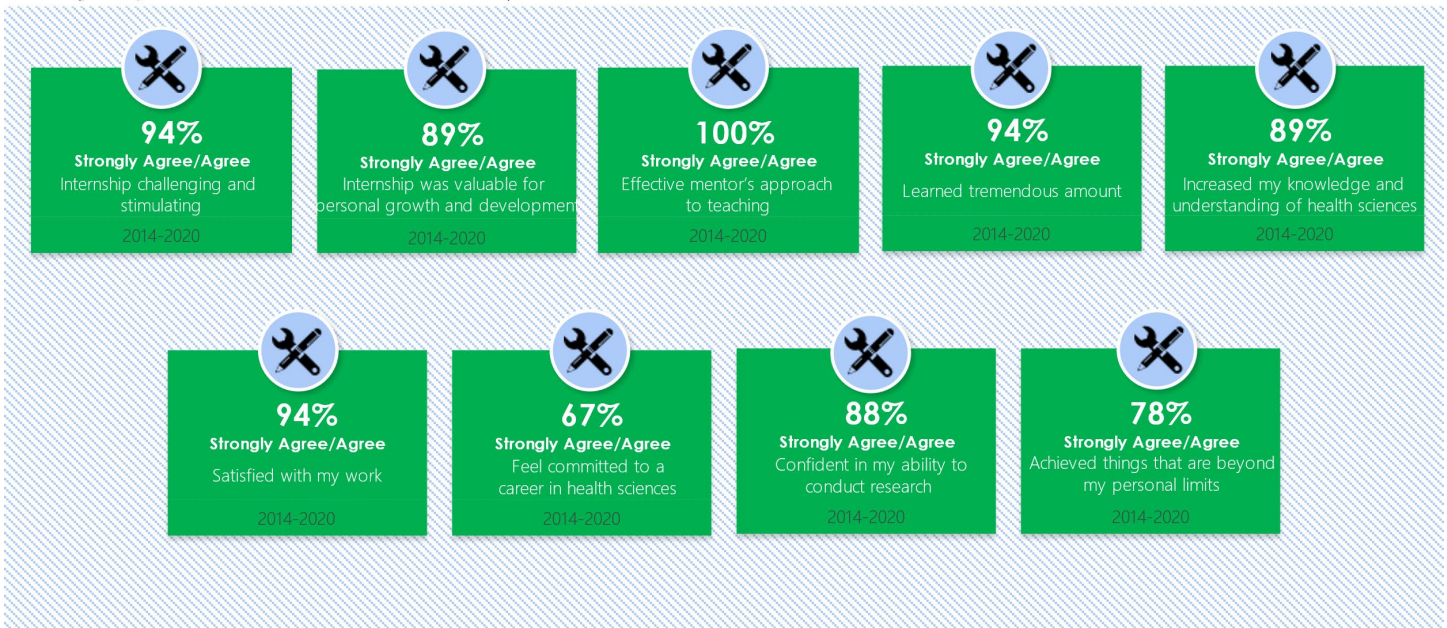
**Figure 9:** *Internship evaluation developing awareness, interest, and skills dashboard*



# Program Effectiveness Dashboard

## Internship Evaluation – Student Responses

Goal 5. Development of student's awareness, interest, and skills in health sciences



## **Capacity Building and Tribal College/University (TCU) Engagement**

GLNARCH Capacity Building accomplishments and goals are listed in Table 2. The established relationship carried forward from the NEHR NARCH VIII-NARCH X provides examples and references for building bridges with the other four Bemidji TCUs. NEHR expansions will also include Bemidji area Native-serving mainstream institutions in addition to the targeted TCUs. Some AI/AN GLNARCH advisors (listed in the Administrative Core Community Scientific Advisory Committee (CSAC)) are also faculty at those Bemidji region institutions. These include, but are not limited to, University of Minnesota – Duluth, University of Northern Michigan, Michigan Technological University, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Oshkosh, and Lake Superior State University.

**Table 2:** Capacity Component accomplishments (GLNARCH X) and next steps/deliverables (GLNARCH XI)

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>NARCH X ACCOMPLISHMENTS</b>	<b>NARCH XI TARGETS, PER YEAR</b>
<b>Recruit TCUs into NEHR</b>	Expanded from 2 TCUs to 4TCUs	Recruit additional 2/year
<b>Equipment and supply purchases</b>	Gas Chromatograph, SONDEs (passive water quality monitor), Spectrophotometer	Support new instrumentation and supply purchases at TCU/Partners
<b>Build partnerships, hold networking meetings</b>	TEHS 2020 postponed, annual CSAC meetings, 8 site visits, 2 conference presentations, 1 panel discussion, 1 multi-TCU teleconference	Quarterly TCUS site visits or teleconference, host TEHS 2022, yearly CSAC meetings (admin)
<b>Support research</b>	2 on site REDCap™ tutorials, other topics paused due to pandemic	Match research with small supply funds (1-6 seed grants), trainings
<b>Training and education</b>	Matched 2 interns and 3 mentors from student enhancement component	Continue intern, expertise, and mentor matching (1≤ matches/year)
<b>Increase cultural partnerships in NEHR</b>	Developed short film with Family Circles AODA program, begun video catalogue of that curriculum, assist Elders in sharing wisdom	Continue film production of catalogue, expand video library of GLNARCH YouTube™ channel (1-2/year)
<b>Enhance tribal oversight</b>	Contributed to advisory committee reports, regular consultation with GLITC board and health boards	Continue as before, add GLTIC/tribal IRB scoping review to establish GLITC IRB (1 report/year)

### **Research Capacity Building – Area Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs).**

The general goals of this Core were to recruit area TCUs into a research network and to foster collaborative projects and research cooperation among the network TCUs. Participating TCUs could draw on the strengths of other partner institutions, while also contributing their own skills to the group. Additionally, GLNARCH could provide assistance in developing research topics and projects, limited pilot project funding, some basic instrumentation purchase funds, as well as a promote yearly science. The core also creates a research forum that brings faculty and students together to share their research findings and promote and deepen inter-institutional relationships.

Prior to the 2021-2022 cycle, GLNARCH had recruited 4 TCUs: Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College (FDLTCC), Keweenaw Bay Community College (KBOCC), Bay Mills Community College (BMCC) and Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College (SCTC) (Table 2). Following the lifting of travel restrictions, a 5<sup>th</sup> TCU was successfully recruited into the Network, College of Menominee Nation. Additionally, contacts with Lac Courte Orielles Ojibwa Community College (LCOCC) have begun and will be followed up in the Spring of 2023.

In the fall of 2020, the four core, foundational institutions were provided targeted funds for instrument purchases that addressed specific needs to advance their respective research activities. A short description of each institution's purchases as well as an update on their use over the last year are given below. A detailed list of individual items is provided in the Appendix at the end of this report.

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College: (contact Courtney Kowalczak)

A UV-vis spectrophotometer was purchased to perform colorimetric determination of certain water quality parameters. This instrument enables quick and efficient analysis of surface water samples for total and soluble reactive phosphorus, surface water species of nitrogen, sulfate, and SUVA (specific UV absorbance) of dissolved organic carbon samples. The focus for the FDLTCC student research projects is evaluation and monitoring of the St. Louis River watershed. They already have a cold vapor mercury analyzer that can be upgraded to include methylmercury analysis in the future. They also have active invasive species projects that examine environmental DNA for invasive species. This could definitely be a future area of cooperative work with GLNARCH.

Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College: (contact Andrew Kozich)

KBOCC works closely with their tribal Natural Resources Department, and in particular, their fisheries department. Items that were purchased were directly involved with enhancing their scholarly activities involving the aquatic ecosystems that are sacred to the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC). These items targeted their interest in early life histories of lake sturgeon, burbot, and other species that are important to the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community. These activities complement Dr. Kozich's community-based research on arsenic and uranium in private well of local tribal members.

Bay Mills Community College: (contact Diana McKenzie)

BMCC was able to purchase a gas chromatograph (GC) with a flame ionization detector for the analysis of fish tissue for omega-3 fatty acids. The GC will complement a direct mercury analyzer purchased in December 2019 through other funding sources. The Hg analyzer and the GC will be used in community-lead research, student capstone projects, and class activities. The GC will provide fatty acid profiles in Great

Lakes fish, which, along with the mercury data, can be used to assess risk/benefits of consuming traditional fish species.

Obstacles have been encountered which have prevented the installation of this GC system. First, The BMCC lab that was to house this instrument was scheduled for a full remodel, which was delayed due to COVID. The instrument was not delivered until these renovations were completed. By the time BMCC was ready for the factory installation, local gas suppliers were unable to provide the ultra-high purity helium necessary to run this instrument. Installation is now on hold until helium can be provided. If the worldwide shortage of helium continues, it is possible to configure the instrument to run on hydrogen. This, obviously, will involve some adaptation to address the potential hazards of using hydrogen *in lieu* of helium.

Saginaw Chippewa Community College: (Contact Jonathon Miller)

SCTC purchased underwater probes (sondes) that employ an array of sensors for water quality monitoring. The two multiparameter sondes have been deployed on a long-term basis both in upstream and downstream positions within the Chippewa River. The river runs through the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's community and is a significant resource to the tribal community. The sondes were equipped with multiple sensors designed to continuously measure a variety of water quality variables to ensure quality data. These variables included: conductivity, temperature, pH and dissolved oxygen. Additionally, accessories were needed to both install and maintain the sondes for extended periods of time on the riverbanks.

## Pilot Project Funding

Small scale funding has been provided for a second year to Little Big Horn College (LBHC) in Montana to advance their investigations of *Naegleria fowleri* in recreational waters on the Crow Reservation. These funds have been used to fund one student-based component of their project: “Research and educational partnership to assess presence of *Naegleria fowleri*, other pathogenic free-living amoeba and common bacterial pathogens in recreational waters, Crow Reservation.”, is a joint project between LBHC and Montana State University. Although LBHC is not a Great Lakes area TCU, an active NARCH-LBHC partnership predates this NARCH X and XI cycles and has been maintained since NARCH VIII.

## Additional Capacity Building activities:

First Great Lakes NARCH Tribal College/University (TCU) Science and Research Forum

Aug 3, 2022, Lac du Flambeau.

The first planned annual meeting of Great Lakes area TCUs was held in-person in Lac du Flambeau in early August. The purpose is to develop regional relationships between the TCUs, search for areas of common interest and to foster collaboration and sharing of research capacities. To date, we have 5 of the area's 9 TCUs in our "consortium" - the 4 core, foundational institutions (mentioned above), as well as College of the Menominee Nation. All 5 TCUs actively participated in this meeting. Also mentioned above, we have reached out to Lac Courte Orielles Ojibwa Community College, but they have not yet become active members of our network.

This inaugural in-person meeting was met with a high level of enthusiasm and encouragement for developing this into a regular annual meeting, to be hosted by the participating TCUs on a rotational basis. Everyone felt that it was important to continue to develop relationships with other area TCUs and some plans for immediate collaboration were fostered during this meeting. The next annual meeting will be hosted by BMCC in May 2023. In the meantime, quarterly meetings will be scheduled at-distance, with the first one planned for January 2023.

## **4th Biennial Tribal Environmental Health Summit (TEHS 2022), Aug 4, 2022**

The biennial TEHS conference series started in 2014 with funding from NARCH VIII and EPA Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSP). The purpose of the Summit is to bring together researchers and stakeholders involved with environmental research in Native communities and on Tribal Lands, with managers of government agencies who fund such work. By offering small, more informal venues, the expectation is that partnerships and networks can be developed and sustained to better address critical environmental health needs in these communities. The response to this series has been very positive and it has grown in attendance over the years. It has evolved from a 1-day to a 2-day format to meet this increasing interest.

GLITC GLNARCH had taken on the responsibility to continue this conference series by sponsoring and hosting the TEHS 2020 meeting. However, due to COVID, the 2020 Summit had to be canceled. With the easing of travel restrictions by this past summer, it was decided to move forward to restart the series by hosting TEHS 2022 in Lac du Flambeau.

TEHS 2022 was held early August, but attendance was impacted by lingering COVID and airline reliability issues. There was still significant interest among potential attendees, albeit in reduced numbers, so the meeting was scaled back to a 1-day conference. Based on informal discussions with attendees after the conference by GLITC GLNARCH staff, there was a high level of satisfaction with the content, venue and general planning of the meeting. There was also very good enthusiasm for continuing the series into the future. Starting next spring, hosts and venues will be solicited for TEHS 2024. Hopefully by then, attendee numbers will rebound to the TEHS 2018 level.

The agenda for TEHS 2022 is attached (Appendix II).

### **DISCUSSION**

The GLNARCH evaluation outcomes align with the four core components: 1) the administrative core, 2) research projects; 3) the student career enhancement component that exposes tribal students to academic opportunities, and 4) capacity building to extend research opportunities for projects that focus on the priorities of Bemidji tribes. The GLNARCH team have successfully published multiple research articles

connecting Native American perspectives on health, wellness, and culture [1, 6], some of which have led to partnering publications on external research grants [7, 8]. GLNARCH/GLITC collaborate with the Medical College of Wisconsin on multiple funded projects focused on cannabis use during pregnancy, breast and lung cancer disparities, and intertribal food systems. Furthermore, the Medical College of Wisconsin has committed 5 years of institutional support towards all aspects of the GLNARCH mission including student opportunities, seed funding for TCUs, and staff support.

GLNARCH's student enhancement work continues to strengthen. In Summer 2022, 14 high school students attended the American Indian Science Scholars Program at UW-Milwaukee, and two interns completed research projects. GLITC staff conducted extensive outreach activities tribes and TCUs in the Bemidji Area to recruit for summer student enhancement programs, and to build relationships with new tribal partners.

Capacity building activities have successfully engaged TCUs and other partners with equipment purchases and collaborative networking. These efforts most recently culminated in the Tribal Environmental Health Summit 2022 held on August 4-5 at the Lac du Flambeau reservation. We anticipate fruitful follow-ups from those discussions.

GLNARCH overcomes significant barriers to higher education and does so in a manner that promotes well-being, self-care, and self-esteem through culturally informed methods. These above approaches are not only more successful in preventing attrition and increasing graduation rates, but also serve to increase trust between students, communities, and institutions. Transitioning from undergraduate to graduate studies is a critical time when many students struggle.

## **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The current evaluation indicates high satisfaction with the GLNARCH program across all participant categories. Therefore, the MCW/GLITC GLNARCH teams intend to expand these student enhancement activities with minor alterations moving forward. We are seeking opportunities, in addition to MCW institutional support, to improve long-term sustainability of the program. At MCW, new staff and faculty hires are planned specifically to support community engagement between MCW and GLITC member tribes. New

classes are planned to support training in cultural competence for MCW graduate and medical students.

Additional investigator focused extramural grants are planned with GLITC as the lead community partner.

## References

1. Dellinger, M., et al., *A Culture and Wellness Pilot to Guide Native American Research Centers for Health Evaluation*. The Wisconsin Medical Journal, 2022. **E1**.
2. Dellinger, M.J., et al., *Gigiigooinaan (Our Fish): A New Advisory to Promote Anishinaabe Health and Wellness*. 2018-2023, National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences. : Medical College of Wisconsin.
3. Agresti, A., *Analysis of Ordinal Categorical Data (Second ed.)*. . Wiley Series in Probability and Statistics. 2010, New York: : John Wiley & Sons.
4. Dellinger, M., et al. *Chapter 1: Community Partnerships Model at the Great Lakes Native American Research Center for Health (GLNARCH)*. GLNARCH Community Scientific Advisory Reports 2019 September 27; Available from: <https://www.glitc.org/programs/education-health-and-research/native-american-research-center-for-health-narch/publications-and-media/>.
5. Dellinger, M., et al. *Moving Forward: Evaluating the Great Lakes Native American Research Center for Health, 2003-2019 Report to Community Scientific Advisory Committee*. GLNARCH Community Scientific Advisory Reports 2020 October 12; Available from: <https://www.glitc.org/programs/education-health-and-research/native-american-research-center-for-health-narch/publications-and-media/>.
6. Dellinger, M. and A. Poupart, *The Lessons Native American Culture Can Teach Us About Resilience During Pandemics and Healthcare Crises*. Wisconsin Medical Journal, 2021. **120**(Suppl 1): p. S80-S84.
7. Dellinger, M.J., et al., *Environmental health literacy for Anishinaabe (Great Lakes Native American) fish consumers: A randomized control trial*. Environmental Research, 2022. **212, Part B**: p. 113335.
8. Dellinger, M.J., et al., *Risk-benefit modeling to guide health research in collaboration with Great Lakes fish consuming Native American communities*. Journal of Great Lakes Research, 2020. **46**(6): p. 1702-1708.
9. Dellinger, M.J., B. Jackson, and A. Poupart, *In Their Own Words: Success Stories from the Great Lakes Native American Center for Health*. American Indian and Alaska Native Mental Health Research, 2016. **23**(3): p. 68-86.
10. Harris P.A., et al, *Research electronic data capture (REDCap) - A metadata-driven methodology and workflow process for providing translational research informatics support*, J Biomed Inform. 2009 Apr;**42**(2):377-81.
11. Montenegro, E. and N.A. Jankowski, *A New Decade for Assessment: Embedding Equity into Assessment Praxis*. 2020, University of Illinois and Indiana University: Urbana IL.

**Appendix I - Tribal College Instrument Purchases**

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College:

Line	Part Number	Description	Qty	Unit Price
1	LPV441.99.00012	DR 6000 UV VIS SPECTROPHOTOMETER W RFID TECHNOLOGY, successor of DR 5000 photometer item.-no. DR5000-03, same technology like DR 3900 item no. LPV440.99.00012 but having additionally UV capability, deuterium lamp. - 1 x Power Cord (US, EU) 1x Universal-Adapter 1x Dust Cover Matched pair of 1 inch glass sample cells Printed multilingual basic user manual (en, fr, es, pt, zh, jp, ko). Standard lead time 3 days.	1	9,807.00
Estimated S/H Charges				\$ 200.15
Grand Total				\$ 10,007.15

**TERMS OF SALE**



INVOICE NUMBER 12053392  
 DATE: 07/28/2020  
 Page: 1

DETACH TOP PORTION AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT TO:

**Hach Company**  
 2207 Collection Center Drive  
 Chicago, IL 60693  
 Phone: (800) 227-4224

TOTAL: \$10,007.15

*Have you ordered online ?  
 Order at WWW.HACH.COM*

12053392 403384621 00001000715 072820

Sort Seg: 125

Tray:

DETACH HERE

Original

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GREAT LAKES-INTER TRIBAL COUNCIL  
ACCOUNTING  
PO BOX 9  
LAC DU FLAMBEAU RESERVATION, WI 54808-0009  
United States

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P  
FOND DU LAC TRIBAL & COMMUNITY  
2101 14TH ST  
COLLEGE  
CLOQUET, MN 55720-2984  
United States

INVOICE NO	12053392	DATE:	07/28/2020
PURCHASE ORDER NUMBER	15636		
TERMS	Net 30 Days From Invoice Date		
FREIGHT			
CARRIER			
ACCOUNT REF. NO.	40338462 316064679-1	Remit to:	

*Hach Company  
 2207 Collections Center Dr  
 Chicago, IL 60693  
 Phone: (800) 227-4224*

These commodities are sold, packaged, marked, and labeled for destinations in the United States. Exportation of these commodities may require special licensing, packaging, marking or labeling.

LN#	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	ITEM NO.	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	EXT. PRICE
1	db DR 6000 UV VIS SPECTROPHOTOMETER W RFID TECHNOLOGY	LPV441.99.00012	1	9,807.00	9,807.00

**ORDER CONTACT:**  
 AMY POUPART  
 7155881077

<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	9,807.00
<b>FREIGHT CHARGES</b>	200.15
<b>TAX</b>	0.00
<b>INVOICE TOTAL</b>	10,007.15

**Notes:**

Keweenaw Bay Community College:



## Forestry Suppliers

205 West Rankin Street | P.O. Box 8397 | Jackson, Mississippi 39284-8397 | (601) 354-3565, FAX (601) 292-0185

### Invoice

**INVOICE #:** 750846-00  
**CUSTOMER #:** 771085  
**PAYMENT METHOD:** NET 30 DAYS  
**PO NUMBER:** 15646  
**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** WEB ORDER# 295549  
 RETURN INV TO ASHLEY

**ORDER DATE:** 7/30/2020  
**SHIPPING METHOD:** UPS GROUND FREIGHT  
**SHIP DATE:** 9/28/20  
**INVOICE DATE:** 9/28/20

**Billing Address**  
 GREAT LAKES INTER-TRIBAL  
 COUNCIL INC  
 ACCOUNTING DEPT  
 PO BOX 9  
 LAC DU FLAMBEAU WI 54538-0009

**Shipping Address**  
 KEWEENAW BAY TRIBAL COLLEGE  
 ATTN AMANDA NORDSTROM  
 770 N MAIN ST  
 L'ANSE MI 49946

#### Items Ordered

Qty Ordered	Qty Shipped	Qty Back Ord	Item#	Name	Price	Ext. Price
4	0	4	77679	Wildco Bottom Aquatic Kick Net, 500 micron mesh	\$199.96	\$0.00
2	0	2	77888	Wildco Hess Stream Bottom Sampler, 500 µ Mesh	\$595.11	\$0.00
6	0	6	78000	WaterMark Quadrafoil Larval Fish Light Trap	\$379.51	\$0.00
6	0	6	77929	WaterMark Stream Drift Net, 500 µ Mesh	\$380.01	\$0.00
6	0	6	94460	General Oceanics Mechanical Flowmeter Model 2030R w/3" Dia. Rotor SERIAL # _____	\$403.84	\$0.00
10	0	10	77212	Fieldmaster View Bucket	\$92.64	\$0.00
6	0	6	78370	WaterMark Fish Stik Collapsible Fish Measuring Board	\$27.88	\$0.00
2	0	2	77302	Wildco Fish Measuring Board	\$264.98	\$0.00
6	0	6	359	Macroinvertebrate Sampling Tray	\$16.22	\$0.00

**Merchandise Total:** 0.00  
**Shipping Charge:** 0.00  
**Taxable Total:** 10,691.18  
**Total:** 10,691.18  
**Payment Received:** 0.00

**Balance: \$10,691.18**



# INVOICE

PLEASE REMIT PAYMENT TO:  
 Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, Inc.  
 BOX 200511  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15251-0511  
 (P) (410) 381-1227

Invoice No.	Sales Order No.	Purchase Order No.	Invoice Date	Page
I40010295	IN0006387	15637	9/4/2020	1
Payment Terms	FOB	Freight Terms	Incoterms	Ship Date
NET 30 DAYS	COLUMBIA	PREPAID & ADD		9/3/2020

FOR ACH/WIRE PAYMENTS (CTX preferred):  
 MUFG Bank, LTD  
 ACCOUNT: 0310044316, ROUNTING/ABA: 026-009-632

**Ship To:** Bay Mills Community College  
 12214 W Lakeshore Dr  
 Brimley MI 49715-9320  
 United States

**Bill To:** Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc.  
 PO Box 9, Attn: Accounting  
 Lac Du Flambeau WI 54538-0009  
 USA

Diana Cryderman PO #15637

D & B Number: 08-054-9942

Reference:

Order Date	Customer ID	Taxable	Ship To Cust	Waybill Number	Shipping Method			
7/17/2020	A0000999		1	IN0006387	SEE REMARKS			
Line	Item Number	Description	OrderQty	ShipQty	B/O	Discount	Unit Price	Ext. Price
1	221-83730-42	GC-2030AF C12255850756	OM 1	1	0	\$2,861.100	\$16,830.000	\$13,968.90
2	220-90649-60	GC-2030 Install Kit 2	OM 1	1	0	\$629.000	\$3,700.000	\$3,071.00
3	227-35012-01	GC Consumables Trial Kit	OM 1	1	0	\$50.000	\$500.000	\$450.00
4	221-80970-58	AOC-20i for GC-2030 C12345706697	OM 1	1	0	\$788.120	\$4,636.000	\$3,847.88
5	221-80975-58	AOC-20S for GC-2030. C12135817454	OM 1	1	0	\$579.530	\$3,409.000	\$2,829.47
6	223-62747-92	LabSolutions Lite Single GC C53455705390	OM 1	1	0	\$330.900	\$2,206.000	\$1,875.10
7	220-90001-02	Regulator for GC gas (H2 or CH4)	OM 1	1	0	\$86.700	\$867.000	\$780.30
8	220-90001-05	Regulator for GC gas (Air)	OM 1	1	0	\$52.600	\$526.000	\$473.40
9	220-90011-05	1/4 NPT to 1/8th swagelok union.	OM 1	1	0	\$1.100	\$11.000	\$9.90
10	225-50710-00	Shimadzu Gas Filter Kit for Carrier Gas with Elec/	OM 1	1	0	\$42.500	\$425.000	\$382.50
11	201-48555-20	TUBING MF-MF 20CM,GC	OM 1	1	0	\$1.500	\$15.000	\$13.50
12	201-48555-80	TUBING MN-MN 800MM,GC	OM 1	1	0	\$2.300	\$23.000	\$20.70
13	TIER 2 I&F	Tier 2 Installation and Customer Familiarization	OM 1	1	0	\$2,240.000	\$2,240.000	\$0.00
14	1YW	1 YEAR WARRANTY	OM 1	1	0	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.00
15	220-97318-46	Standard Workstation PC3630 -2020 - Win 10 Pr BS1Z753	OM 1	1	0	\$425.000	\$2,125.000	\$1,700.00
16	220-97320-10	Dell P2210, 22" Professional Widescreen Flat Pa CN04D9T1QDC000544WBL	OM 1	1	0	\$86.000	\$330.000	\$264.00
17	227-36270-01	Column, GC, SH-FameWax Cap. 0.32 x 0.25 x 3	OM 1	1	0	\$56.300	\$563.000	\$524.70

No return merchandise accepted without our return authorization number.  
 Service charges of 1-1/2% per month will be charged on all outstanding balance.  
 Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, Inc collects sales tax from all states  
 except the following: DE, MT, NH, and OR. If you are tax exempt from state tax,  
 please fax a valid sales exemption certificate to 410-381-1222. Thank you.

Subtotal	\$30,211.35
Order Discount	\$0.00
Tax	\$1,845.67
HazMat Fee	\$0.00
Freight	\$550.00
Prepaid Amount	\$0.00
<b>NET DUE (US\$)</b>	<b>\$32,607.02</b>

## Proposal Summary

#	Part Number	Description	List Price	Discount	Net Price	Qty	Ext. Price
1	599503-00	<p>EXO3 Sonde, No Depth, 5 Sensor Ports, Central Wiper Compatible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No depth sensor installed</li> <li>- No AUX Port / Compact Battery Compartment</li> <li>- Contains: Sonde, 2 D Batteries, Calibration Cup, Tool Kit, 3 port plugs, USB drive loaded with User Manual and KOR Software</li> </ul>	\$4,999.00	25.00%	\$3,749.25	2	\$7,498.50
2	599827	<p>EXO Wiped Conductivity/Temperature Sensor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Purpose-built for combating sensor fouling in long-term monitoring applications</li> <li>- Designed and engineered for compatibility with EXO2 Sonde's Central Wiper</li> <li>- Additional Central Wiper Brush and Spacing Kit included</li> </ul>	\$1,700.00	25.00%	\$1,275.00	2	\$2,550.00
3	577602	<p>EXO ISE02 pH Sensor Assembly, Unguarded, Ti</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Patented user replaceable sensor head</li> <li>- Incorporates wet-mate connector and welded titanium housing</li> </ul>	\$570.00	25.00%	\$427.50	2	\$855.00
4	599100-01	<p>EXO Optical DO Sensor, Ti</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Compatible with any EXO sonde</li> <li>- User replaceable sensor cap (installed)</li> <li>- Incorporates wet-mate connector and welded titanium housing</li> </ul>	\$1,999.00	25.00%	\$1,499.25	2	\$2,998.50
5	599090-01	<p>EXO Central Wiper, EXO2, Ti</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Installs in center wiper port on EXO2 sonde only</li> <li>- Includes two wiper brushes and installation tool</li> <li>- Used in unattended monitoring deployments to reduce bio-fouling</li> </ul>	\$1,225.00	25.00%	\$918.75	2	\$1,837.50

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College (continued):

#	Part Number	Description	List Price	Discount	Net Price	Qty	Ext. Price
6	599008-33	EXO 33-m Flying Lead Cable - Connects EXO sonde to DCP Signal Output Adapter	\$899.00	25.00%	\$674.25	2	\$1,348.50
7	599810	EXO Signal Output Adapter - USB - Allows connections between EXO sonde and a PC	\$405.00	25.00%	\$303.75	2	\$607.50
8	060907	3167 Conductivity Calibrator, 1,000-umhos/cm (8 ea, pint)	\$128.00	25.00%	\$96.00	2	\$192.00
9	603824	3824 pH Buffer, Assorted Case	\$82.00	25.00%	\$61.50	4	\$246.00
10	Estimated ground shipping		\$25.00	0.0%	\$25.00	1	\$25.00
<b>Subtotal</b>							<b>\$18,158.50</b>

Total List Price	\$24,203.00
- Total Line Item Discount	\$6,044.50
- Bottom Line Discount	0.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$18,158.50</b>
Terms FOB	Net 30 Origin



## 4th Biennial Tribal Environmental Health Summit

*Through our Eyes: Advancing Resiliency Through Research*

Lake of the Torches Resort and Casino in Lac du Flambeau, WI

August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Time	Event/Speaker	Title
8:00 – 8:30	Registration and light breakfast	
8:30 – 8:50	Welcome, Opening Prayer & Local Introduction	
8:50 – 9:20	Greg Biskakone Johnson, Lac du Flambeau	
9:20 – 9:50	Dee Allen, Lac du Flambeau Tribe Natural Resources Dept	<i>LDF Tribal Natural Resources Department Overview and Environmental Challenges</i>
9:50 – 10:20	Barry Hugo, EPA Region 5	<i>Indicators of Tribal Health, Region 5</i>
10:20 – 10:30	<b>BREAK</b>	
10:30 – 11:00	Rob Croll and Hanna Panci, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission	<i>Dibaginjigaadeg Anishinaabe Ezhitwaad – Climate Adaptation Planning from An Indigenous Perspective</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Dianne Barton, Chair, National Tribal Toxics Council	<i>Consideration of Tribal Lifeways and Treaty Protected Resources in TSCA Risk Evaluations</i>
11:30 – 12:00	Gary Besaw, Former Chair Menominee Tribe of WI, & Jen Falck, Dept of Agriculture and Food Systems	<i>Tribal Food Networks in Wisconsin</i>

Great Lakes Native American Research Center for Health (GLNARCH)

Amy E. Poupart and Tara Senter

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