



Northern Tier Network Consortium

NTNC Steering Committee

December 14, 2020, 3-5pm CST

Via Zoom

Participants:

Peter Angelos, Fond du Lac Tribal & Community College

Joshua Arce, Partnership with Native Americans

Aaron Bergstrom, UND

Kevin Brandt, SDSU

Andrew Buker, U of NE

Steve Fleagle, U of IA

Greg Gray, U of NE

Gulachek, Bernie, U of MN

Harold Heppner, Aaniiih Nakoda College

Jonah Keough, PNwGP

Paul Kern, SD Board of Regents

Dave Lois, WiscNet

Madhavi Marasinghe, UND

Kim Owen, NDSU

Matt Riley, U of IL-Chicago

Linda Roos, I2

Jeanne Skul, U of WI-Madison

Bob Stovall, MERIT

Rob Vietzke, I2

Marc Wallman, NDSU

CeCe Rohwedder, NDSU

1. Participants were welcomed, and introductions were conducted.
2. Brief Review of Bylaws (M. Wallman)
3. ntncc.org web hosting (M. Wallman). It's been hosted by the U of Montana for several years. They've done the web work, as well, but have not billed for all hours worked. Gordy Pace is transitioning into a new role at the university, so someone else at the U of Montana will take over for him.
4. Financial update (M. Riley). U of IL-Chicago is considering joining the NTNC. All member institutions have been billed for the current dues, for a total of \$26,200, and most have already paid. The 2019 balance was \$206,202. There were no expenditures this past summer, so we may have a balance of just over \$230K.
5. Discuss mapping of student's shelter in place locations (M. Wallman / K. Owen).

- A. There has been consideration of NTNC states gathering students' shelter-in-place locations and see the internet network mapping for these locations to identify students' needs and perhaps determine how they might best be met.
- B. <https://expressoptimizer.net/projects/Minnesota/speedtestmap.php>
- C. <https://mnruralbroadbandcoalition.com/speedtest>
- D. From Internet2: Internet2 would be able to collect location data for NT member students and produce a map that depicts student locations (i.e., number of students in a census block) along with broad availability based on FCC data. Since Internet2 won't be collecting personally identifiable information, an MoU won't be needed, however Internet2 would like to distribute a note similar to the following to the NT members invited to submit data.
- E. Mike Adelaine could speak to the group about this next year.
- F. Stimulus funds may be available, for which we may have to apply by April, 2021.
- G. Is more data valuable enough to this group that we should pursue gathering it?
- H. It was agreed upon for NTNC to gather data as Minnesota did. Marc will connect with Bernie re the logistics, process and billing of the service.

7. NTNC officers and elections (M. Wallman)

Current Roster:

President: Marc Wallman (NDSU)

Vice President: Bernie Gulachek (UMN)

Secretary: Matt Riley (UIC)

Election will take place at the next NTNC meeting or the next face-to-face meeting.

8. Spring/Summer meeting:

- A. A two- to three-hour virtual meeting will be held in March, to include ideas of what topics would be of interest to the Tribal Colleges; Peter Angelos is interested in assisting with the latter. A programming committee could coordinate the discussions with AIHEC/Tribal Colleges; Bob Stovall will serve on this committee, Kim Owen, Dave Lois, Joshua Arce, Peter Angelos - and perhaps Harold Heppner.
- B. We will decide at the March meeting if we feel we can plan a face-to-face general meeting in late summer/early fall.

9. State reports:

- A. SD received CARES Act funds. SDSU is working with the School of Mines on computational collaboration.
- B. NE is in the process of rebuilding its entire network, switching out the wireless to be completely Aruba-based.
- C. IA: IT is being integrated across the healthcare campus, with firewalls installed. They're in the midst of replacing all access points on campus.
- D. UND: classrooms were updated during the summer and upgrades to the network continue. NDSU: working with MN and SD to get I2 turned on in ND.
- E. MI: MERIT is working with U of MI in a national research effort. Rec'd funds from Cisco and Toyota to install outside wireless units in some public libraries in Detroit. Staff will continue to work remotely through June – some remote work will continue post-pandemic.
- F. WI: education is both in-person and remote, with changes being continuous. Preparing in the next 18-24 months to change out their optical gear – may wait until after the pandemic for the ability for face-to-face communications.

- G. WA: there is new NSF funding for Pacific Wave and are looking at routes to Alaska.
- H. I2: traffic across campuses has been increasing in the past few months. About half the optical upgrade nationwide is done. The new network should be live this summer.
- I. MN: rural network is not good, the further from the highways one goes.