



CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE
CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA

DATE: _____

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

A resolution to approve the research project entitled "American Indian Alumni Voices: Navigating Non-Native Campus Culture" by Dr. Sara Lute, Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of North Carolina Asheville

WHEREAS, the EBCI Medical Institutional Review Board (MIRB) has been assigned the task of reviewing health-related research requests made to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; and

WHEREAS, the research project "American Indian Alumni Voices: Navigating Non-Native Campus Culture" seeks to identify themes that characterize past American Indian students' experiences at non-Native institutions,

WHEREAS, the project employs a mixed-methods approach to investigate the factors influencing the academic success and campus experiences of American Indian students.

WHEREAS, Indigenous student enrollment and persistence rates are reaching concerning lows and there is currently a critical gap in our understanding of students' personal perspectives and how their academic outcomes were specifically impacted

WHEREAS, The first part of the study focuses on the lived experiences of American Indian alumni who attended non-Native institutions and the second part uses data to measure how external factors and demographics influence graduation rates and persistence; the overall aim is to identify themes from these interviews to highlight key factors that may be impacting academic outcomes.

WHEREAS, This work has potentially large-scale implications, such as promoting institutional changes for improving campus cultures that affirm American Indian students. Furthermore, findings may direct researchers in exploring relevant aspects of the American Indian college experience.

WHEREAS The Medical Institutional Review Board (MIRB) has carefully reviewed this study and has determined that it meets all necessary ethical and research standards to ensure the safety and well-being of participants; and

WHEREAS The Secretary of the Public Health and Human Services Division (PHHS) has reviewed the request and the MIRB's recommendations and has also given approval; and

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2 WHEREAS, The researcher acknowledges that the EBCI has a non-exclusive license to all
3 information obtained from this research. And all information obtained will be
4 forwarded to the EBCI Secretary of PHHS for review and neither *Sara Lute* nor the
5 Co-Investigators will use this information in any manner not authorized or in
6 violation of Tribal law.

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8 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of
9 Cherokee Indians, in Council assembled in which a quorum is present, Sara Lute,
10 Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of North Carolina Asheville
11 is hereby granted permission to carry out the above-named research project as
12 described in her MIRB-approved proposal, carrying out all follow-up and
13 reporting as required by the Medical Institutional Review Board.
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15 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that all resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are hereby
16 rescinded, and that this resolution shall become effective upon ratification by the
17 Principal Chief.
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19 *Submitted by: Sonya Wachacha, Secretary*
20 *EBCI Public Health and Human Services Division*
21 *on behalf of the EBCI Medical Institutional Review Board*
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