

Filling the Pipeline

**Tribal In-House Counsel Association
Indigenous Law & Policy Center**

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Legal Excellence in Indian Country

NNABA Report: “The Pursuit of Inclusion”

- Four key findings:
 1. Extraordinary complexities
 2. Unique pipeline challenges
 3. Professional development challenges
 4. Personal satisfaction, inclusion, & alienation



NNABA Report: “The Pursuit of Inclusion”

- Demographic disparity:
 - 1.6% of the population
 - 0.3% of lawyers



Pipeline Strategies

- Minneapolis All Nations high school Indian law moot court program
- Mitchell Hamline School of Law Gateway to Legal Education pre-law program



Pipeline Strategies

- MSU College of Law
Indigenous Law & Policy Center Student
Success Program
- New Mexico Bridge the Gap Mentorship
Program

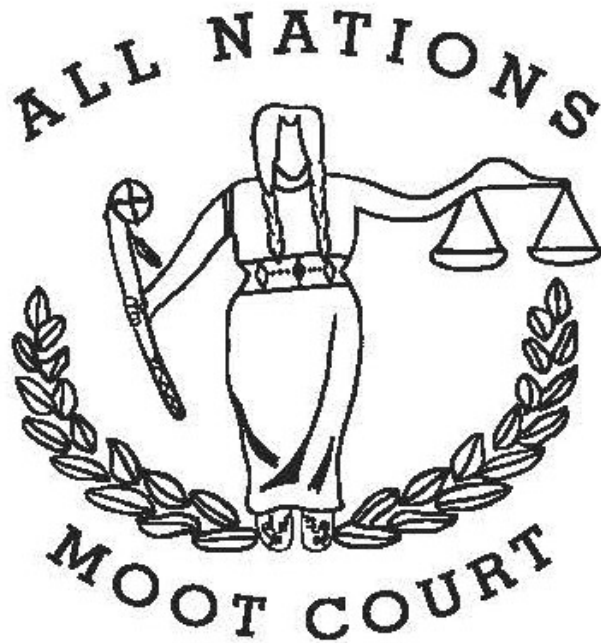


Minneapolis Public Schools All Nations Moot Court Program



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All Nations Moot Court



Students
Teachers
Curriculum
Experiences



Auntie

Moot Court!



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All Nations Moot Court



Mitchell Hamline School of Law

Gateway to Legal Education



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Mitchell Hamline School of Law

- Tradition of nontraditional education
 - Nights and weekends
 - Online/hybrid learning
- Commitment to inclusion
 - Students of color are 28% of incoming class
 - Among 2018-19 1Ls, second-highest enrollment of indigenous students in the country



MHSL Gateway to Law Program

- MHSL partners with undergraduate institutions with high percentages of POCI students, Pell Grant recipients, first-generation college-goers
- All tribal colleges and universities are eligible partners

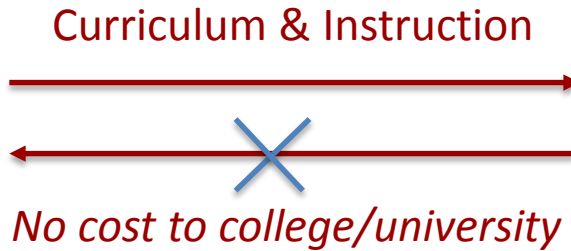


MHSL Gateway to Law Program

- Deliver online pre-law curriculum to target undergraduate institutions
 - Introductory legal education
 - Health law
 - Federal Indian law (in progress)
- Paired with law student/lawyer mentor



Gateway Program Online



Standard tuition

Credit hours
toward degree

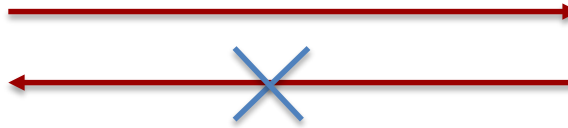


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Gateway Program Online



Curriculum & Instruction



No cost to college/university



Standard tuition

Credit hours
toward degree



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MHSL Gateway to Law Program

- Weeklong onsite summer immersion program for students
 - Program and travel scholarships available
 - Mock classes
 - Reduced-cost LSAT preparation
 - In-person mentorship
 - Encourage law school interest and accessibility



MSU College of Law Indigenous Law & Policy Center Student Success Program

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Program Creation

- Identify goals
 - **Mashkawendami:** Giving someone a strong resolution, letting someone think firmly (empowerment)
- Dialog with key staff and faculty
- Find and reserve time and space
- Create a syllabus and handouts
- Ensure student confidentiality



Program Syllabus

1. Skills

- Note taking, case briefing, time management, revision

2. Content

- Civil procedure, contracts, torts

3. Questions

- Q&A, peer-to-peer mentoring

4. Study / Community Hall

- Reserved space for studying and community building



Other Components

- Presence
- Reaching out
- Deadline calendaring
- Creative problem solving
- Unique second-semester considerations
- Consistency in messaging and programing



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