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Native American Blessing of New Innovation Building

Friday, Nov. 1, 8-9 a.m.

The University of Arizona was founded on the traditional homelands of the Tohono O'odham and Pascua Yaqui people. As is customary in Native culture, it is important to acknowledge and pay respects to tribal lands that the university occupies.

The University of Arizona Health Sciences will honor the tribes of Arizona with a blessing of the newly constructed Health Sciences Innovation Building on Friday, Nov. 1, 8-9 a.m. The Native American blessing will be conducted by Tim Antone, a spiritual leader of the Tohono O'odham Nation, on the patio at the south side of the building.

The event is coordinated by the Association of Native American Medical Students, with support from the UArizona Health Sciences and the UArizona Office of Tribal Relations, and is open to students, faculty members and staff of the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Public Health, and to tribal leadership and tribal community members.

Remarks will be delivered by tribal leadership and Health Sciences students and leadership. In the future, a commemorative plaque honoring the tribes of Arizona will be installed in the building.

With its team-focused instructional spaces, the Health Sciences Innovation Building is a perfect venue to bring cultural representation to a broad range of interprofessional students, faculty, staff and community health professionals in a collaborative learning environment.

The Health Sciences is unique in that it graduates many Native American students pursuing careers in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and public health. Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, and many students attend the university to pursue their educational goals.

The students and the Health Sciences collaborate to acknowledge and expand Native representation across the university to diversify, educate and enrich our community. The University of Arizona is supportive of diversifying and creating an inclusive and equitable environment for all students, faculty and staff to be welcomed, valued, safe and successful.

The Native American blessing of the Health Sciences Innovation Building not only will honor the past, but also lay the foundation for future projects that ultimately will benefit the university that we call home.

Michael D. Dake, MD
Senior Vice President
University of Arizona Health Sciences



To request any disability-related accommodations for this event please contact the event coordinator at least three business days prior to the event.

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