



MID-AMERICA  
TRANSPORTATION CENTER

# SCHOLARS PROGRAM



**October 10-12**  
**Lincoln, NE**

**2018**

***The goal of the MATC Scholars Program is to encourage Native American students in STEM fields to transition from attending two-year tribal and community colleges to four-year degree-granting universities.***

***The program provides targeted seminars to improve the performance, recruitment, and retention of underrepresented students in STEM and transportation-related fields.***





# SCHOLARS PROGRAM PRESENTERS



**Dr. Laurence R. Rilett, P.E.**  
Keith W. Klaasmeyer Chair in Engineering and Technology  
Distinguished Professor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Director, Mid-America Transportation Center  
Director, Nebraska Transportation Center

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**Dr. Laurence Rilett** is a distinguished professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). He also serves as the director of the UNL Mid-America Transportation Center, which is the U.S. Department of Transportation Region 7 University Transportation Center, and the Nebraska Transportation Center, which is the umbrella organization for all transportation research at the University of Nebraska. Dr. Rilett currently serves as the associate director of the University Transportation Center for Railway Safety, a Tier 1 U.S. Department of Transportation University Transportation Center at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Dr. Rilett received his B.A.Sc. degree and his M.A.Sc. degree from the University of Waterloo and his Ph.D. degree from Queen's University. He has held academic positions of assistant professor and associate professor at the University of Alberta, and assistant professor, associate professor, and professor at Texas A&M University. Additionally, he is a professional engineer in the state of Texas.

Dr. Rilett has been a principal investigator or co-principal investigator on over 30 research projects with funding in excess of \$45 million. His field of research is transportation system analysis, which may be divided into two main areas: Intelligent Transportation Systems applications and large-scale transportation system modeling. He has authored or co-authored over 60 refereed journal papers and over 90 conference papers based on his research. In 2002 he was awarded the Texas Transportation Institute TTI/Trinity Researcher Award, in 2007 and 2017 he received the UNL College of Engineering Research Award, and in 2015 he was awarded the National Strategic Research Institute Distinguished Scientist Award. Dr. Rilett is an associate editor of the ASCE Journal of Transportation Engineering and is on the editorial board of the Journal of Intelligent Transportation Systems: Technology, Planning, and Operations.



**Dr. Christopher Cornelius**  
Professor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Education and Diversity Coordinator  
Mid-America Transportation Center

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**Dr. Christopher Cornelius** is a professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He received his master's degree and Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Virginia Tech. His work investigates fundamental material interrelationships between structure, physical properties, and transport using synthetic polymers, ionomers, hybrid organic-inorganic materials, and sol-gel glasses. These efforts are related to selective transport (controlled molecule delivery), gel thermodynamics (strength and function), sol-gel chemistry (high temperature glass fibers), energy (batteries, fuel cells, water electrolysis), and water desalination (reverse osmosis and electrodialysis). His teaching experiences encompass transport phenomena (mass and energy), fluid transport, thermodynamics emphasizing fluid-phase equilibria, polymer chemistry and physics, and aspects of chemical engineering unit operations. Before academia, he was a staff scientist at Sandia National Laboratories developing hydrocarbon ionomers, fuel cells, and gas separations. This work resulted in numerous collaborations with industry and university faculty throughout the world.

Dr. Cornelius currently serves as the editor for the Journal of Materials Science and as a referee for 13 journals. He is a member of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, the Society of American Chicanos and Native Americans, and a Minority Affairs Member for the American Chemical Society. Dr. Cornelius has received numerous awards for his contributions to research and education.



**Mr. Gabriel Bruguier**  
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**Mr. Gabriel Bruguier** is an enrolled member of the Yankton Sioux Tribe. He was born in Vermillion, SD, and raised in Sisseton, SD. He holds a Licenciante Degree in International Relations from the Universidad de las Americas Puebla, Mexico; a B.A. in Philosophy from the University of Minnesota, Morris; and an M.A. in Philosophy from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is currently completing a Ph.D. in Philosophy at UNL and writing a dissertation on meaning in life.

He is the Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Mid-America Transportation Center (MATC). His outreach work brings expanded learning opportunities to Native K-12 students all over Nebraska. Some of the highlights have been expanding the MATC after-school program Roads, Rails, and Race Cars to the Omaha Nation Public School and the Winnebago Public School, with plans for other reservation schools. He also assisted in the development and implementation of the 2017 and 2018 Sovereign Native Youth STEM Leadership Academy. He is also the Commissioner for the City of Lincoln on the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs. Last but not least, he is an avid cyclist and a mechanic and board member at the Lincoln Bike Kitchen.



**Dr. Aaron Thomas**  
Associate Professor  
Director, Indigenous Research & STEM Education  
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**Dr. Aaron Thomas** has his B.S. and Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Stanford University and the University of Florida, respectively. Dr. Thomas works closely with Native undergraduate and graduate students while establishing relationships with the tribal colleges and reservation communities in Montana in working towards better Native STEM education and STEM research collaborations. His research involves the study of gas separations on the macroscale and biological separations (DNA) on the microscale for lab-on-a-chip work. He has been working more towards Native STEM education and providing pathways for Native students in STEM fields. Before transferring to the University of Montana in January 2013, Dr. Thomas was an Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Idaho for 11 years. He also was the director of the Idaho Space Grant Consortium and NASA EPSCoR during his time there.



**Ms. Judi gaiashkibos**  
Executive Director  
Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs

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**Ms. Judi gaiashkibos** has been the Executive Director of the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs (NCIA) since 1995. She has worked with the government and private sector to provide opportunities for Nebraska Native Americans, fostered diversity and cultural sensitivity in the Nebraska State Legislature, promoted state and federal legislation, and advanced sovereignty issues. She is an enrolled member of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska and holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Human Relations and Leadership from Doane University. She was the 2012 recipient of the Humanities Nebraska Sower Award, was the 2017 Governor's Distinguished Nebraskalander recipient, and was an Inspire Award Finalist for Excellence in Government Service in 2018.

In 2017, she was appointed to serve on the Nebraska State Legislature's Whiteclay task force to help study and develop a positive path forward for the community. In her role as executive director of NCIA, she has played an essential part in the legal process of working with Nebraska tribes and the State Historical Society in the repatriation of Native remains in the state of Nebraska.

Ms. gaiashkibos has served as Advisor and Adjunct Professor to the Native Daughters Projects One and Two at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's School of Journalism and served on countless non-profit and institutional boards, including UNMC Advisory Council, US Civil Rights State Advisory Council, University of Nebraska President's Advisory Council, Doane University Board of Trustees, and the Governor's Racial Profiling Task Force and Education and Workforce Roundtable.

Under her leadership and vision, Ms. gaiashkibos has grown the bi-annual Chief Standing Bear Breakfast into a powerful gathering of people promoting awareness of Native culture and issues. She has taken the powerful story of Chief Standing Bear and inspired the creation of a world-class sculpture of the chief, which was dedicated on Centennial Mall in Lincoln, Nebraska in 2017, with a copy dedicated on Ponca tribal lands, and most significantly legislation passed for placement in Statuary Hall, in Washington, D.C. in 2018.

Ms. gaiashkibos is the creator of the Sovereign Native Youth Leadership Academy for Native youth and also developed the Chief Standing Bear endowed scholarship program for Native students. Most recently, she has facilitated the development of an advisory board dedicated to the renovation and repurposing of the historic Dr. La Flesche hospital in Walthill, Nebraska.



**Mr. Kevin Abourezk**  
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Indianz.com

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**Mr. Kevin Abourezk** is an award-winning journalist who spent 18 years as a reporter and editor for the Lincoln Journal Star, where he wrote thousands of stories and produced numerous news videos. He is the winner of the Associated Press's Best Enterprise Story Award in 2006 and the prestigious Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism from the Casey Journalism Center on Children and Families for his reporting on the impact of alcohol sales in Whiteclay, Nebraska to residents of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. A member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Mr. Abourezk has spent his career documenting the lives, accomplishments, and tragedies of Native American people and in 2017 joined Indianz.com, a Native American news website owned and operated by the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of South Dakota and a Master of Arts degree in Journalism and Mass Communications from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



**Ms. Marisa Miakonda Cummings**  
 Director of Native Student Services  
 University of South Dakota

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**Ms. Marisa Miakonda Cummings** is a Umo<sup>N</sup>ho<sup>N</sup>/Omaha woman and holds her B.A. in American Studies and a Minor in American Indian/Native Studies from the University of Iowa. She is currently pursuing her master's in Tribal Administration and Governance from the University of Minnesota Duluth and plans on teaching Tribal Nation Building in addition to her current role. Ms. Cummings joined the University of South Dakota as director of Native Student Services in June of this year. Since her appointment she has planned cultural and academic programming, while tracking data on student engagement through the university academic advising system. In addition, Ms. Cummings has collaborated with Admissions to start multicultural recruitment activities that engage families as well as students. Prior to this appointment she served her tribe as the Chief of Tribal Operations. Ms. Cummings also worked as an administrator for Little Priest Tribal College in Winnebago, Nebraska and the University of Iowa Center for Diversity and Enrichment. She has 13 years of experience in higher education working with diverse populations. Ms. Cummings believes strongly in incorporating traditional Native value systems into higher education practices in order to affirm Native students in their identity development. Ms. Cummings serves as a board member for the Sioux City Office of Indian Education, Title XI program. She also is a board member for the Community Action Agency of Siouxland. Ms. Cummings has four children and resides in Sioux City, Iowa.



**Mr. Radell Nared Jr.**  
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**Mr. Radell Nared Jr.** was born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska. He is a proud alumni of Omaha North High School, where he was involved in football, track, student council, National Honors Society, principal advisory, and numerous community service organizations. He was fortunate enough to receive the Bill and Melinda Gates Scholarship his senior year, which allowed him to pursue his dreams of becoming the first in his family to graduate from college. Having been blessed with this opportunity he decided to attend Texas Christian University, where he majored in Psychology with a Business minor. While a student at Texas Christian University, he took on many leadership opportunities. He held numerous positions such as being the President of the Eta Psi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, President of the NAACP, and Vice President of the Word of Truth Gospel Choir. Upon graduation, he decided to return home to help lead the youth in his community. Mr. Nared is currently the senior assistant director of diversity and community outreach at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he oversees all diversity recruitment, while serving all students in Omaha Public Schools, Native reservations, Lincoln and Omaha community contacts, as a Counselor for Winnebago NCPA, and an advisor of the Diversity Ambassadors at UNL. He is currently working to obtain his Masters in High Education Administration. He has been very involved in community service with respect to children and teens, serving as a tutor for students from grade school right up to the collegiate level.



**Dr. Colette Yellow Robe**  
 Assistant Director, Non-Cognitive Learning/Leadership  
 Student Support Services - TRIO Programs  
 University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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**Dr. Colette Yellow Robe** is an educator with a position that specializes in the education of college students from first-generation, low-income backgrounds and/or disabilities with the Student Support Services Program at UNL. She teaches the ALEC 102 course for the department, which is Interpersonal Skills in Leadership.

Her research and additional professional interests focus on Native American education, pedagogy, policy, multicultural education, and educational philosophy. She grew up on the Winnebago Indian Reservation in Nebraska and is an enrolled member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe.

She serves as an active community member with her involvement on a non-profit organization board. She is the Secretary on the Lincoln Community Playhouse Board of Directors. In fact, she began her service to community organizations at age 21 with her first appointment to a local non-profit board.

Dr. Yellow Robe remains committed to social justice, inclusivity and diversity. She is the Vice-Chair for the City of Lincoln's Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) with Mayor Chris Beutler. At UNL, she serves on the Chancellor's Commission on the Status of People of Color (Staff Council).





**Mr. Moises Padilla**  
 Assistant Director  
 Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center,  
 Office of Academic Success & Intercultural Services (OASIS)  
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**Mr. Moises Padilla** currently serves as the assistant director for the Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center and Office of Academic Success & Intercultural Services (OASIS) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). He is also the advisor for the University of Nebraska Inter-Tribal Exchange (UNITE). Previously, he served as assistant director of admissions at UNL and resident manager for university housing at Colorado State University (CSU). He obtained his bachelor's in business administration from UNL, master's in student affairs in higher education from CSU, and is currently pursuing his doctorate in educational leadership and higher education at UNL. His research interests include access, transition, and retention issues for first-generation, low-income, and ethnic-minority students. In his free time, he enjoys reading, running, and spending time with his family.



**Ms. Rebekka Schlichting**  
 Assistant Director  
 Vision Maker Media

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**Ms. Rebekka Schlichting** is the assistant director of Vision Maker Media, whose mission is to empower and engage Native People to tell stories. An enrolled member of the Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, Ms. Schlichting earned a master's in professional journalism from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She earned her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Kansas.

She has served as an adjunct professor and graduate teaching assistant at the University of Nebraska's College of Journalism and Mass Communications. Ms. Schlichting taught Native leadership workshops and skills at the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs, SNYL Academy. Ms. Schlichting served as producer at KUJH TV News in Lawrence, Kansas, and interned at Kansas Public Radio and Vision Maker Media. She is the chair of the powwow committee for the Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska.

Her awards include: 40 under 40 award from The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development, 2018; Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights award, 2017; Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Grand Prize 2017; Outstanding Graduate Student, 2016; Franco's List for Integrity, 2015; 1st and 2nd place for "Best Feature Story" in TV/Online by NAJA, 2014; Academic Achievement by SES Trio, 2010 to 2014; and Best High School News Story by NAJA, 2008.



**Mr. Spencer Thompson**  
 Recruitment Coordinator  
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**Mr. Spencer Thompson** is originally from Grand Island, Nebraska. He attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) and received a bachelor's of Business in Finance in 2013 and a master's of Higher Education Administration in 2017. Spencer has worked in recruitment for UNL over 4 years and has worked towards making transferring to UNL as smooth as possible for students. If you ever need assistance with the UNL Admissions process, feel free to contact him.



**Ms. Sydney James**  
 Civil Engineering Undergraduate  
 University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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**Ms. Sydney James** is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. She is currently a senior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) where she studies civil engineering with an emphasis in transportation. During the school year, she is a mentor for Roads, Rails, and Race cars, MATC's engineering after-school program for middle school students. She is a member of the Midwest Association of Technical Accident Investigators (MATAI) as well as the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) and a recipient of the All Nations Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Scholarship. Ms. James is also an ice hockey official and plays for the Husker Women's Hockey Club team at UNL.



**Mr. Noah Keller**  
Chemical Engineering Undergraduate  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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**Mr. Noah Keller** is a member of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas-Nebraska. He is enrolled at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and is in his sophomore year of chemical engineering. He plans to attend medical school after graduation to specialize in physical therapy. He is a member of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES). Mr. Keller is a business owner and independent marketing director throughout the year working to help people with financial freedom. Alongside his business, he works at a lawn and landscaping company during the summer and winter.

## ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA INTER-TRIBAL EXCHANGE (UNITE)

The Mission of UNITE is to help promote the academic prowess and the professional development of Native American students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), to aid in their personal growth and social well-being, and to facilitate their participation in the UNL community life.

UNITE members pictured from left to right: Shondeen Long, Steven LaPointe (Treasurer), Kendall Dawson (Secretary), Nasia Olson-Whitefeather (Fundraising Chair), Sky Morgan (Vice President), Seth Marshall, Angelica Solomon (President), and Kendyl Parks. Not pictured: Jorge Suarez (Marketing Chair) and Shana LaPointe.



# Wednesday, October 10, 2018

TIME	AGENDA	LOCATION
5:00 p.m.	Arrival and Check-in	Hilton Garden Inn Downtown/Haymarket 801 R Street, Lincoln, 68508
6:00 p.m.	<p><b>Welcome Reception</b></p> <p><b>Opening Prayer and Blessing</b> Ms. Phyllis Stone, Elder of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe</p> <p><b>Opening Remarks</b>  <b>Dr. Laurence Rilett, P.E.</b>                      Director, Mid-America Transportation Center and Nebraska Transportation Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  <b>Dr. Christopher Cornelius</b>                      Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, University of Nebraska-Lincoln</p> <p><b>Panel: Expanding Your Future Using Education</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Colette Yellow Robe</b>                      Assistant Director, Non-Cognitive Learning and Leadership, Student Support Services - TRIO Programs                      University of Nebraska-Lincoln</p> <p><b>Ms. Rebekka Schlichting</b>                      Assistant Director, Vision Maker Media</p> <p><b>Ms. Sydney James</b>                      Civil Engineering Undergraduate Student, University of Nebraska-Lincoln</p>	Husker Rooms 2 & 3, Hilton Garden Inn

# Thursday, October 11, 2018

## Theme: Transitioning from a 2-Year to a 4-Year Institution

6:30-7:45 a.m.	Breakfast (made to order and complimentary for hotel guests)	Hilton Garden Inn
7:45-8:00 a.m.	Transition from Hilton Garden Inn to UNL City Campus	
8:00-8:30 a.m.	<p><b>Pre-Conference Assessment</b></p> <p><b>Bureau of Sociological Research</b>, University of Nebraska-Lincoln</p>	Unity Room, 212 Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center, 1505 S Street, Lincoln, 68508
8:30-8:45 a.m.	<p><b>UNL Welcome and MATC Introduction</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Laurence Rilett, P.E.</b>                      Director, Mid-America Transportation Center and Nebraska Transportation Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln</p>	Unity Room, 212
8:45-9:00 a.m.	<p><b>Overview of MATC Scholars Program</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Christopher Cornelius</b>                      Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, University of Nebraska-Lincoln</p>	Unity Room, 212
9:00-10:20 a.m.	<p><b>Native American Student Experiences &amp; Why a 4-Year Degree Program</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Christopher Cornelius</b>                      Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, University of Nebraska-Lincoln</p>	Unity Room, 212



# Thursday, October 11, 2018

## AGENDA

10:20-10:30 a.m.	<b>BREAK</b>	
10:30-11:45 a.m.	<b>Native Journeys with Indigenous Communities</b>	<b>Unity Room, 212</b>
	<b>Dr. Aaron Thomas</b> Associate Professor of Chemistry, Indigenous Research and STEM Education Director University of Montana	
11:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	<b>Transition to Willa Cather Dining Center</b>	
12:00-1:10 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Red Cloud C, Willa Cather Dining Center 530 N 17th Street, Lincoln, 68588</b>
	<b>Mr. Kevin Abourezk</b> Managing Editor, Indiantz.com	
1:10-1:20 p.m.	<b>Transition to Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center</b>	
1:20-1:30 p.m.	<b>Group Photo</b>	
1:30-2:00 p.m.	<b>Transferring Credits to a University</b>	<b>Unity Room, 212</b>
	<b>Mr. Radell Nared Jr.</b> Senior Assistant Director, Diversity & Community Outreach University of Nebraska-Lincoln	
2:00-2:30 p.m.	<b>Building Your Education Degree</b>	<b>Unity Room, 212</b>
	<b>Mr. Spencer Thompson</b> Recruitment Coordinator, College of Engineering University of Nebraska-Lincoln	
2:30-3:20 p.m.	<b>Funding Your Success &amp; Eisenhower Scholarship</b>	<b>Unity Room, 212</b>
	<b>Mr. Gabriel Bruguier</b> Education and Outreach Coordinator, Mid-America Transportation Center University of Nebraska-Lincoln	
3:20-3:30 p.m.	<b>BREAK</b>	
3:30-4:30 p.m.	<b>Panel: Varied Paths in Educational Journeys</b>	<b>Unity Room, 212</b>
	<b>Members of the University of Nebraska Inter-Tribal Exchange (UNITE)</b>	
4:30-4:45 p.m.	<b>Transition to Nebraska State Capitol and Standing Bear Statue on Centennial Mall</b>	
4:45-5:30 p.m.	<b>Tour of Nebraska State Capitol</b>	<b>1445 K St., Lincoln, 68508</b>
5:30-6:00 p.m.	<b>Transition to Nebraska Club</b>	
6:00-8:00 p.m.	<b>Formal Dinner with Keynote Speaker</b>	<b>Nebraska Club, 20th Floor of U.S. Bank Building 233 S 13 St., Lincoln, 68508</b>
	<b>Ms. Judi gaiashkibos</b> Executive Director Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs	

# Friday, October 12, 2018

## Theme: Strategies for Succeeding in a 4-Year Institution

### AGENDA

TIME	AGENDA	LOCATION
6:30-8:00 a.m.	Breakfast (made to order and complimentary for hotel guests)	Hilton Garden Inn
8:00-8:30 a.m.	Strategies for Success at a 4-Year Institution  Ms. Marisa Miakonda Cummings Director, Native Student Services University of South Dakota	Husker Rooms 2 & 3
8:30-9:00 a.m.	Panel: Succeeding at a 4-Year Institution  Dr. Christopher Cornelius Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering University of Nebraska-Lincoln  Dr. Aaron Thomas Associate Professor of Chemistry, Indigenous Research and STEM Education Director University of Montana	Husker Rooms 2 & 3
9:00-9:15 a.m.	Transition to Memorial Stadium	
9:15-10:30 a.m.	UNL City Campus Tour Guided by Members of UNITE and Memorial Stadium Tour	
10:30-10:45 a.m.	Transition to Hilton Garden Inn	
10:45-11:45 a.m.	Panel: Native Student Groups and Your Success  Ms. Marisa Miakonda Cummings Director, Native Student Services University of South Dakota  Mr. Moises Padilla Assistant Director, Office of Academic Success and Intercultural Services (OASIS); UNITE Advisor University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Husker Rooms 2 & 3
11:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	BREAK	
12:00-1:15 p.m.	Lunch and Closing Remarks  Dr. Robert "Bob" Wilhelm Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development University of Nebraska-Lincoln  Dr. Christopher Cornelius Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Husker Rooms 2 & 3
1:15-2:15 p.m.	Focus Groups  Bureau of Sociological Research, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Husker Rooms 2 & 3
2:15-2:30 p.m.	Post-Conference Assessment  Bureau of Sociological Research, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Husker Rooms 2 & 3
2:30 p.m.	Adjourn	

# ABOUT THE MID-AMERICA TRANSPORTATION CENTER (MATC)

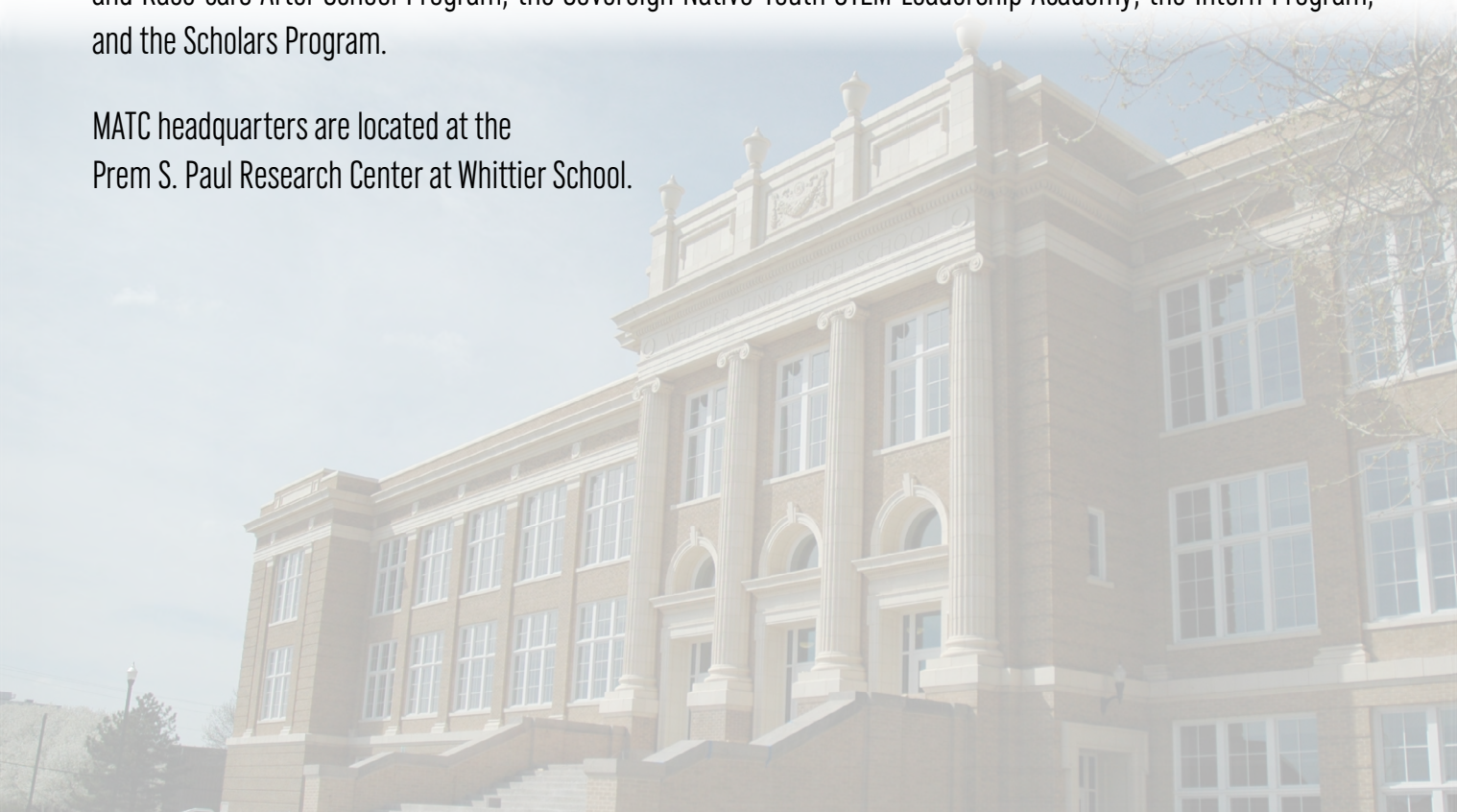
Since 2006 the Mid-America Transportation Center (MATC) has been designated as the United States Department of Transportation Region VII University Transportation Center. Region VII is composed of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. MATC is a consortium of nine universities within the region: the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the University of Omaha, the University of Nebraska Medical Center, the University of Iowa, the University of Kansas, the University of Kansas Medical Center, Lincoln University, Nebraska Indian Community College, and the Missouri University of Science and Technology. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln serves as the lead institution of the consortium, where MATC has its headquarters.

MATC's research priority is promoting safety with an emphasis on reducing the number of incidents involving hazardous material transport, mitigating the negative effects of crashes, and improving emergency response to unexpected events. The implementation of MATC research increases the safety of surface transportation system users and workers in Region VII and across the United States.



MATC's education priority includes increasing the number of students from underrepresented groups in STEM education and transportation-related careers. To achieve this objective, MATC has implemented the Roads, Rails, and Race cars After-School Program; the Sovereign Native Youth STEM Leadership Academy; the Intern Program; and the Scholars Program.

MATC headquarters are located at the Prem S. Paul Research Center at Whittier School.





# MATC SCHOLARS PROGRAM 2018

<http://matc.unl.edu/education/scholars-program-home.php>



The Mid-America Transportation Center and the Nebraska Transportation Center greatly appreciate and acknowledge the generous support of this program from the United States Department of Transportation and Union Pacific.



The University of Nebraska does not discriminate based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and/or political affiliation in its programs, activities, or employment.