The University of Montana

Student to Academic Professoriate for American Indians (SAPAI)
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Student to Academic Professoriate for American Indians (SAPAI) is a project funded by NSF to increase rates of degree completion for American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) graduate students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). It also aims to increase the representation of AIAN scholars in STEM faculties at Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU). **SAPAI has three program STEPS.**

Step 1*: Summer Writing Retreat: June 14th – July 23rd, 2010. Location TBA
A 6-week intensive Writing Retreat that supports thesis and dissertation completion. Scholars will fully engage in writing without distraction and with the support of a writing coach, teaching assistant, and peer group.

Step 2*: Faculty Preparation Training: July 26th – August 13rd, 2010. Location TBA
This training prepares participants for assuming faculty position at a TCU and will include instruction on the TCU world, leadership training, grant writing, curriculum development, and the formation of a transition team for each SAPAI scholar.

*Participants in Steps 1 and 2 receive: weekly stipends ($250), lodging, meals, transportation (to and from training location), and limited child care assistance.

Step 3: TCU Faculty Placement
A year of partial financial support in the form of a stipend ($23,000) to ensure the SAPAI scholar will have time to prepare and submit proposals for external grant funding of research and education programs in science to take place at the TCU. The scholar is assisted by a "Transition Team" comprised of an Academic Advisor, a representative from the TCU where they will be placed and a member of the SAPAI administrative team.

Required prerequisites:
AIAN graduate students in STEM fields who have completed all degree requirements with the exception of their thesis/dissertation are eligible.

Deadline and requirements for applying:
March 31, 2010

Contact for applications (name, address, phone/FAX/e-mail/web address):

Online application: http://stepup.dbs.umt.edu/

Have questions? Contact: Rachel Smith
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