



# USET

**Nashville TN Office**  
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Ste. 100  
Nashville TN 37214  
P: (615) 872-7900  
F: (615) 872-7417

**Washington DC Office**  
400 North Capitol St., Ste. 585  
Washington DC 20001  
P: (202) 624-3550  
F: (202) 393-5218


## USET Resolution No. 2018:003


### **PROMOTING ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE AMONG USET MEMBER TRIBAL NATIONS**

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-seven (27) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribal Nation, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the Tribal Nations' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** higher education programs create potential career opportunities and ultimately strengthens Tribal Nations capacity; and
- WHEREAS,** the rates of Native American students completing post-secondary education are drastically low compared to all other ethnicities throughout the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** college expenses are increasing, presenting students with financial challenges to achieve their educational goals; and
- WHEREAS,** many Native American students can benefit from a partnership between USET and the University of North Carolina at Asheville; and
- WHEREAS,** the University of North Carolina at Asheville has expressed an interest in pursuing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with USET; and
- WHEREAS,** the MOU would set the foundation for increased partnerships in educational and financial opportunities for USET Tribal Nation students, such as in-state tuition; and
- WHEREAS,** in December 2010, the United States recognized the rights of its First Peoples through its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), whose provisions and principles support and promote the purposes of this resolution; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors requests the USET Education Committee to work in coordination with USET staff and the University of North Carolina at Asheville in developing and executing a Memorandum of Understanding between USET and the University of North Carolina at Asheville for the benefit of USET Tribal Nation students.

### **CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET SPF Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Cherokee, NC, October 12, 2017.

  
Chief Kirk E. Francis, Sr., President  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

  
Chief Lynn Malerba, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.