UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. _94-12-DC_

RESOLUTION FOR EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF FELLOWSHIPS

WHEREAS, the United South and Eastern tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty one (21) federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET, Inc. Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors is comprised of delegates from the member tribes leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Indian fellowship grants provided through the Office of Indian Education (Dept. Of Elementary and Secondary Education) have been helpful to Indian students pursuing higher educational goals, and

WHEREAS, there has been some question regarding the awarding of fellowships and whether there has been equal distribution among tribes and/or among regions, and

WHEREAS, a formula for distributing the fellowships more equally so that Eastern Tribes can be more equitably served (i.e. regional distribution of funds for these fellowships) needs to be explored to address this concern; and

WHEREAS, these fellowships need to be continued and funding increased to better serve the needs to develop a greater pool of Indian professionals, and

WHEREAS, the current proposal regarding the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) proposes the elimination of the Indian Fellowships Grants, redirecting funds into a professional development area, and

WHEREAS, the elimination of the Fellowships and redirecting of funds further limits opportunities for Indian People to realize Educational Opportunities,

"Because there is strength in Unity"
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the USET Board of Directors request that the Indian Fellowship Grants be preserved in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as a distinct entity, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the USET Board of Directors request the Office of Indian Education (OIE) to examine a future practice of developing criteria by which equitable distribution of these fellowships would be realized.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Annual Board meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, D.C., on February 24, 1994.

Eddie L. Tullis, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Keller George, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.