

*Welcome to Parallel Session:*

# **First Americans (FALCON)**



# First Americans Land-Grant Consortium (FALCON) Panel



**ASHLEY STOKES**  
Founder and Executive  
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of Tennessee Extension  
(Moderator)



**BRIAN KOWALKOWSKI**  
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Menominee Nation



**MELISSA WEATHERWAX**  
Director, Institutional  
Development, Blackfeet  
Community College



**ADRIAN QUIJADA**  
Director, Land Grant Office  
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O'odham Community  
College



# The First Americans Land Grant Consortium (FALCON) Panel

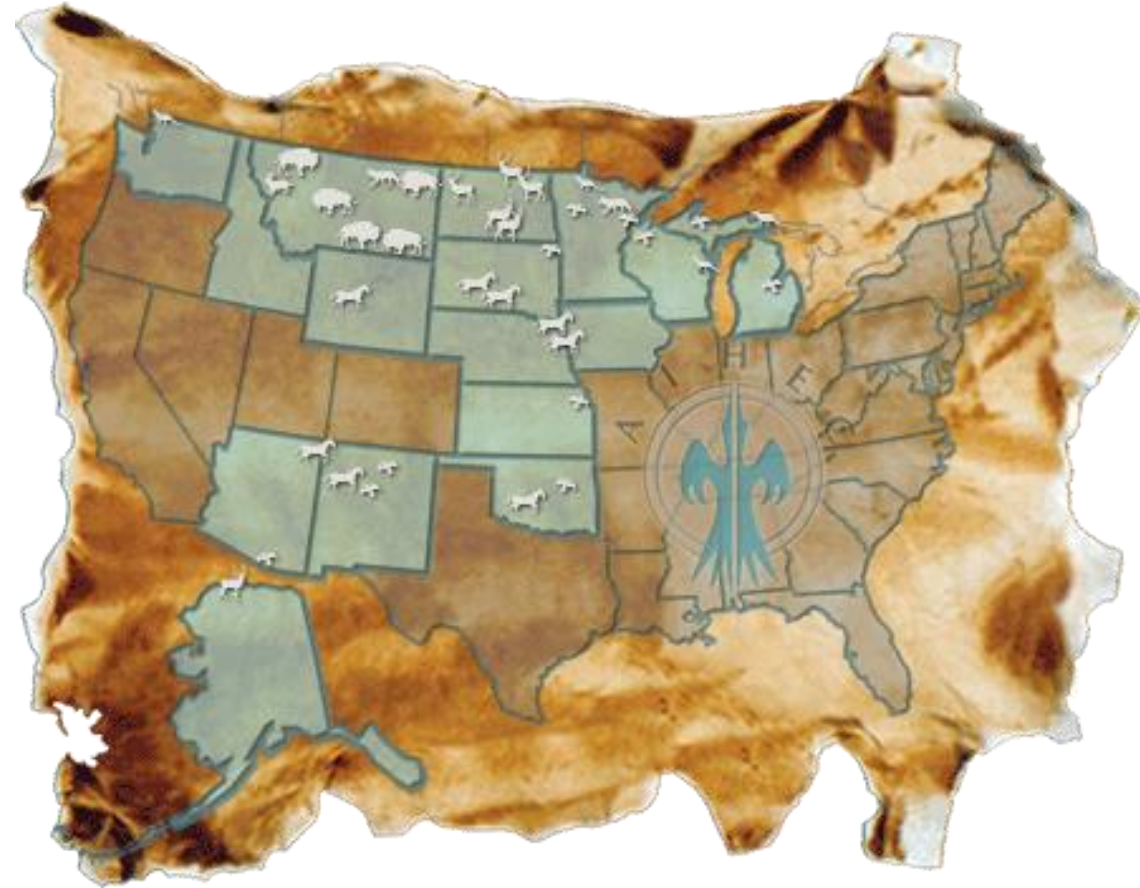
Ashley M. Stokes

Dean and Director of University of Tennessee Extension

Professor of Large Animal Medicine

# About the Tribal Land Grant Colleges

- Funded as land grant colleges in 1994 by US Congress
- 35 institutions across 16 states serving ~ 28,000 students annually
- Mostly rural, reservation-based
- Core Identity:
  - Student are primary focus
  - Open access for Native & non-Native students
  - Community-based & culturally-grounded Extension & research programs



# FALCON (First Americans Land-grant Consortium)



- Professional association of 1994 land-grant administrators, faculty, extension educators, staff & students
- Focused on collaboration, networking, communication, technical assistance, & professional development
- Works at the program & partnership level—not policy
- AIHEC (American Indian Higher Ed. Consortium) is the college president-driven, policy organization

# Tribal College Extension

- Limited \$ = small staff = limited/targeted programs...
- ...but community needs are great & wide ranging; presents opportunities for collaboration
  - Youth development, health & wellness (including dietary & behavioral health), community & economic development, natural resources, environmental management, etc.
- Communities' needs similar to remote rural populations but have unique cultural contexts

# Tribal Colleges and Innovation

- A changing climate
  - Drought tolerant crops & ag. practices
  - Reducing carbon footprint
- Preserving & maintaining biodiversity
- Creating intergenerational knowledge transfer pathways
- Creating global networks of indigenous knowledge



# Appreciation for Our Panelists

Brian Kowalkowski

Department of Continuing Education, College of Menominee Nation

Adrian Quijada

Director, Land Grant Office of Sustainability, Tohono O'odham Community College

Melissa Weatherwax

Director, Institutional Development, Blackfeet Community College

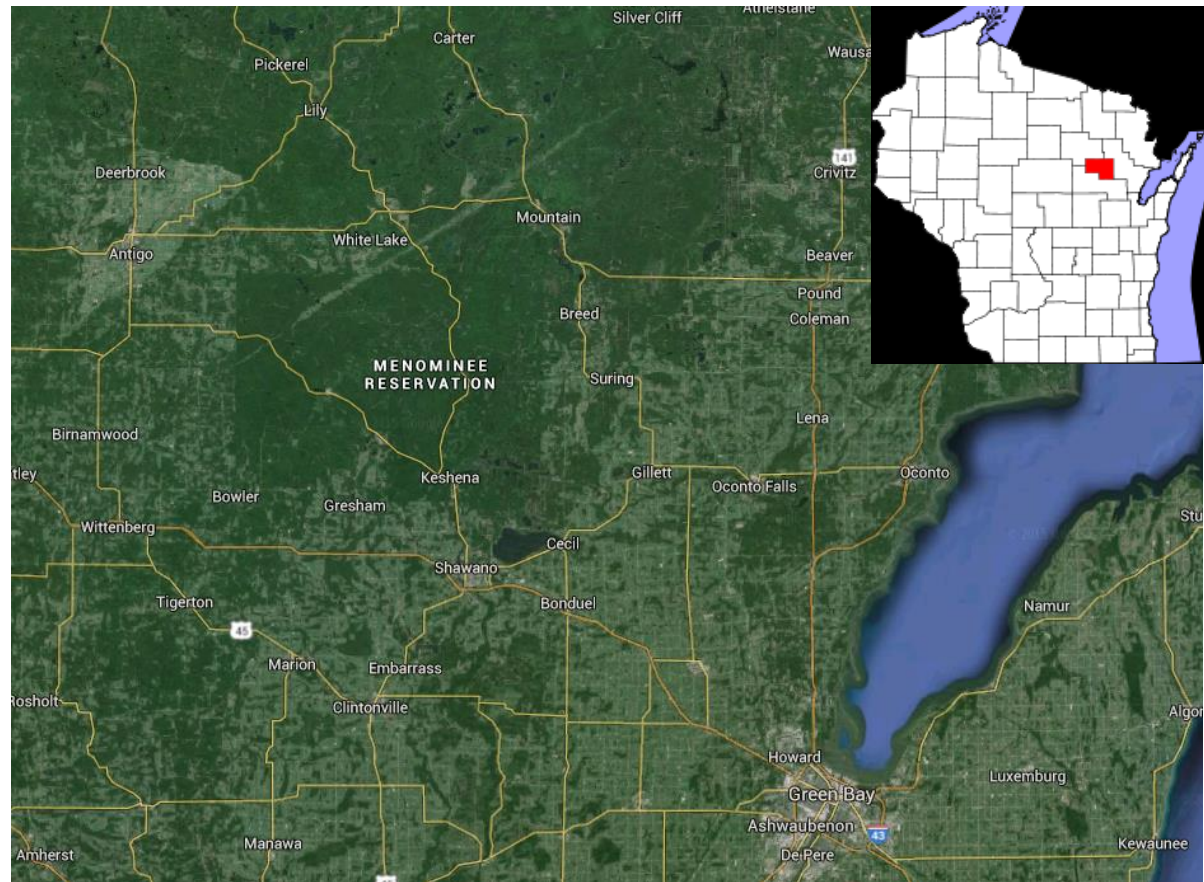


# Thank you!



# Menominee Reservation

- 4,522 population
- History of sustainability
- Termination – 1961
  - Commodities program
- Restoration – 1973
- Lowest county health rankings
  - Diet related diseases



# College of Menominee Nation

- Chartered by Menominee People in 1993
- Land Grant College in 1996
- Keshena and Green Bay Campuses
- Food Sovereignty
  - Department of Continuing Education
  - Sustainable Development Institute
  - UW-Extension



# Youth Leadership/Careers

- Menominee Youth Immersion Program
- USDA-APHIS Sustaining Natural Heritage
- Menominee Wildcrafting



# Ancient Menominee Food Production



Thank you!



**1994  
Land  
Grant  
Native  
Science  
Field Center  
USDA  
Extension**



# Land Connection through Piikani Knowledge Systems





# Experiential Learning through Piikani Knowledge Systems



# Leadership Development through Piikani Knowledge Systems



# Land Grant Piikani Knowledge Systems



# Thank you

Students and Blackfeet Nation Community.

Helen Carlson, Native Science Field Centers

Alicia Yellow Owl Native Science Field Centers

Felix Nez, USDA Tribal College Extension  
Program

# Tohono O'odham Traditional Agriculture at the US-Mexico Border.

*Adrian Quijada, Ph.D.*

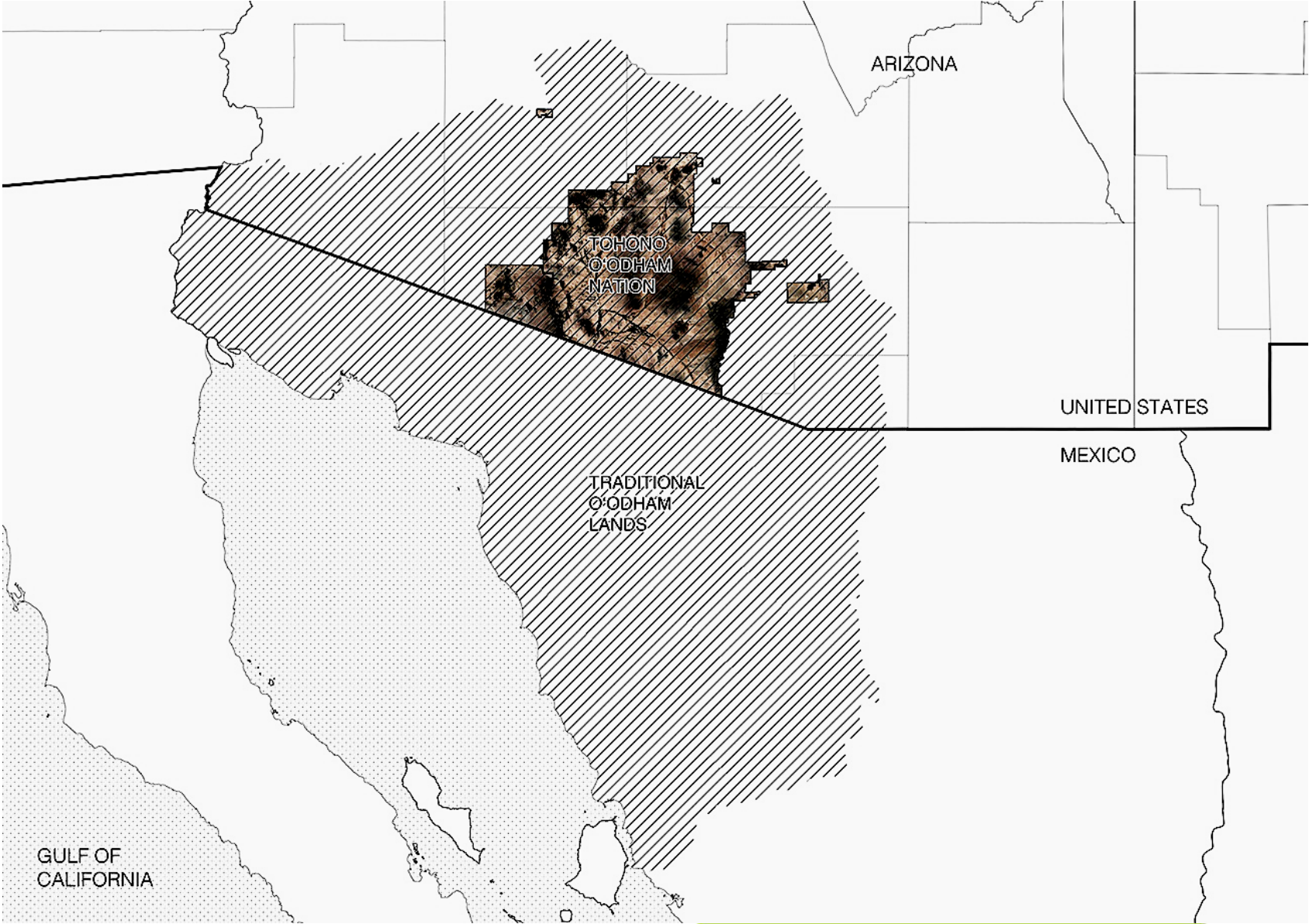
Director, Land Grant Office of Sustainability

Tohono O'odham Community College

Sells, Arizona

Email: [aquijada@tocc.edu](mailto:aquijada@tocc.edu)

# Tohono O'odham territory



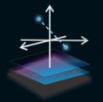
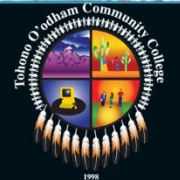
# Ancient Canal Systems



Hombres  
ancos

September 4th 2023

Congregación  
El Desierto de  
Sonora



**EUDISTA G**  
Euclidean Distance Analysis Group  
La Distancia más Corta entre Datos y Conocimiento





September 4th 2023

Ak Kome

Stan Shuatuk

Papago Farms



# Our Training Farm at Wişag Koş Maşcamakud Campus



# Current Programs



**Planting the seeds of culture and food: Agricultural experiential education with Micro-credentials**



**Extension Capacity: Building Together III**



**Sovereign O'oidag (Gardens) for a Sovereign Nation**

# Next steps: Sustainable Integration



# Thank you!



Visit our Site:

<https://tocc.edu/>



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