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**Final Report to the  
U.S. Department of Energy-Oakland**

**AISES 1995 Annual Conference (\$10,000)  
AISES Scholarship Fund (\$5,000)**

1995 Annual Conference

The conference took place in Detroit, MI, November 9-12, 1995, at the COBO Convention Center. This educational event and career fair serve as part of the reward for students pursuing or about to complete their education. The community of peers, professionals, elders, family and mentors embrace the students' ambitions and celebrate the students' accomplishments. For students who might otherwise feel disconnected while in school, the annual gathering at the conference is a vital part of maintaining their motivation and inspiring perseverance.

The 1995 Conference attendance was 1,900 students and professionals. Some 230 companies, government agencies, universities and organizations were represented at the Career Fair where students gathered information regarding employment and educational opportunities.

In an effort to provide as many opportunities as possible for students and recruiters, a networking room was available throughout the conference for interviewing, networking and socializing. Student poster research presentations were displayed in this area as well. A Job Information Center was also open to provide announcements for specific job opening as well as cross-referenced lists of majors/disciplines and the organizations that recruit in those areas of interest.

Computers were available for the entire Conference for attendees to experiment with the Internet. Twelve computers were connected to the Internet with high-speed lines making access possible to World Wide Web sites with full graphic capability so participants could experience the full capacity of Internet technology. Participants were given tips on using e-mail, exploring web sites, searching the Internet, downloading files, using the Internet for research purposes, and optimizing computer access to the Internet.

Three other computers were specially-devoted to demonstrations of a resume database for students, employers and other conference participants. Students were asked to submit a resume for inclusion in the database. The resumes were stored and made accessible to corporate and government recruiters. Recruiters were able to search and sort through the resume database to identify students who they wished to interview based on field of study, geographic location, and other data.

Thursday's conference activities included special workshops for Pre-College Teachers and College Chapter Advisors, along with special committee and board meetings.

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AISES High School Day was held on Friday morning. American Indian high school students participated in hands-on sessions with American Indian scientists, engineers and other professionals. Topics included: Leadership Skills, Native Culture, Space and Design Workshop, Private School Opportunities, Pre-College Chapters, Native American History and Culture.

The remainder of Friday was comprised of concurrent sessions on the following topics:

Code of Ethics Talking Circle

Traditional Science Panel

Conflict Resolution

Jobs & Internships

A First Nation Approach to Partnerships

Economic Development on Indian Lands

Inquiry Based Learning

Resume Writing and Interviewing

Grant writing

Accessing Private Philanthropy

Indians in the Workplace

Creative Alliances & Partnerships

Corporate and Academic Mentorships

School-Community Alliances

Oceanography

Federal Internships

Effective Education Programs for American

Indian Students

Career Development

Indigenous Wisdom and White Minds

Following concurrent sessions, special interest forums were held. This included a Teacher's Resource room where teachers could discuss topics from concurrent sessions with presenters and staff. There was also a high school poster session, cultural demonstrations, teacher training, chapter coordination meeting, and storytelling with the AISES Council of Elders.

Saturday's general sessions included Men's and Women's Talking Circles, Traditional Values of the Great Lakes Region, Living in a Traditional Way, Natural Prophecy and the Power of Wisdom and Respecting and Strengthening Native American Traditions.

The Conference provided a reaffirmation of the efforts and commitment of all members of the AISES family. Together, we experienced a sense of vitality and inner strength that will continue to inspire us individually and collectively.

#### 1995 Scholarship Fund

Total scholarship disbursements for 1995 exceeded \$600,000. Scholarships were granted to some 375 students in awards of \$1,000 to \$4,000. AISES scholarships are awarded to American Indian/Alaska Native undergraduate and graduate students who are members of AISES majoring in the sciences, engineering, health-related fields, business, natural resources, math and science secondary education, and energy resource management. Scholarship are awarded din recognition of students' leadership and academic achievements.