

ATU Indigenous People Land Acknowledgement

We are gathered on the unceded land of many Native peoples. We ask you to join us in acknowledging their communities, their elders both past and present, as well as future generations. Arkansas is a Native-American word from the Quapaw tribe meaning “people of the downstream.”

As for our various institutions of higher education and the lands they sit upon, we honor all of the native tribes of Arkansas. We honor the Caddo, the Cahinnio, the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Illinois, Kaskinampo, Michigamea, Mosopelea, Ofo, Tunica, Yazoo, and Quapaw tribes. **As for our current institution—Arkansas Tech University—and the native land it sits on, we honor the Osage tribe whose original home is what we now know as Russellville, AR.**

We acknowledge that many of our nation’s institutions across all sectors were founded upon exclusions and erasures of many Indigenous peoples. This acknowledgement demonstrates a commitment to beginning the process of working to dismantle the ongoing legacies of settler colonization and to active participation in initiatives to restore and return native lands back to native people. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Arkansas Tech University Dept. of Diversity and Inclusion