Dear IKEEP Mentor Teacher Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the University of Idaho’s Indigenous Knowledge for Effective Education Program (IKEEP). We are thrilled to be recruiting a cohort of 12 Indigenous teacher candidates to study at the University of Idaho beginning in May 2017. IKEEP is focused on preparing Indigenous teachers to serve Indigenous students through culturally responsive pedagogy. Our specialized cohort offers many benefits, among them: tuition assistance, specialized academic advising, specialized education courses, mentorship from a teacher serving Indigenous youth, participation in Indigenous Pedagogies Summer Institutes, networking with other Native teachers around the U.S, and much more.

A critical component of IKEEP will be the Mentor-Mentee teacher relationship. Research and experience indicate pre-service teacher programs offer general professional support, but lack specific support for Indigenous educators to meet the cultural, linguistic, and academic needs of Indian children and communities. To address this need, IKEEP offers an innovative pre-service mentoring program which pairs pre-service Indigenous teachers with in-service Indigenous/Indigenous-serving teachers for three years (two years of coursework and one full year of induction). We are currently recruiting exemplary teachers to pair with IKEEP students beginning summer 2017. The Teacher Mentor-IKEEP Mentee relationships includes a stipend of $1,500 per semester as compensation for time and effort. The Teacher Mentor/IKEEP Scholar relationship will facilitate professional networks and offer first-hand knowledge of the complexities and joys of teaching Indigenous students in K-12 settings.

You will find in this packet information to get you started:
- IKEEP brochure
- Mentor Teacher Application
- Information about the College of Education

Please visit our website for further information on the application process: https://www.uidaho.edu/ed/resources/ikeep. We invite you to reach out with questions at any point in time as you consider applying to become an IKEEP mentor. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to strengthen Indigenous education in the region.

Thank you.

Dr. Vanessa Anthony-Stevens
Assistant Professor, Social and Cultural Studies
Co-Principal Investigator, IKEEP
Dept. of Curriculum & Instruction
College of Education
University of Idaho
208.885.0718/vstevens@uidaho.edu