

Questions for the Record

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Chair, Board of Trustees  
Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation

Before the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States

of the

House Committee on Natural Resources

on

H.R. 5715, to Amend the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act

March 31, 2022

**Question 1: The Udall Foundation has a statutory requirement to support environmental policy and Native Nations programs at the University of Arizona. How will this legislation further support that requirement?**

The purpose of the Udall Foundation as specified in its enabling legislation (20 U.S.C. § 5601) required the establishment of a program for environmental policy research at the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy (Udall Center) at The University of Arizona, and the development of education, management, and leadership resources at the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy (NNI), a program of the Udall Center, to train Native American and Alaska Native professionals in health care and public policy, tribal leadership, and policy analysis. The enabling legislation further directed the Udall Foundation to assist The University of Arizona in maintaining the repository of the papers of Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall and assuring their availability to the public. This is facilitated through the Udall Archives, a Political Affairs Special Collection at The University of Arizona Libraries.

Financial support from the Udall Foundation to The University of Arizona is specified in both the enabling legislation and through the annual Congressional appropriations process. The Udall Foundation provides not less than 20% of the interest earned annually on the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund (Trust Fund) to the Udall Center for the activities specified in 20 U.S.C. § 5601. This allocation of funds also supports the annual requirements of the Udall Archives. Since 2001 Congress has also permitted the set-aside of up to \$1,000,000 of the Udall Foundation's annual Trust Fund appropriation to support the activities of NNI; the total of such set-asides through Fiscal Year 2022 is \$18,050,000. Finally, beginning in Fiscal Year 2020 the Udall Foundation has made additional strategic investments in the Udall Center's work to enhance its environmental collaboration and conflict resolution (ECCR) research and services

portfolio and strengthen its partnership with the Udall Foundation's John S. McCain III National Center for Environmental Conflict Resolution (National Center). The total of such investments through Fiscal Year 2021 is \$425,000 from the Udall Foundation's Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund.

The Udall Foundation-University of Arizona partnership is realized through a range of specific activities and initiatives. Current and recent examples include:

- *Co-management of the Native American Congressional Internship program between the Udall Foundation's Education Programs and NNI.* Internships are awarded annually to deserving and qualified Native American and Alaska Native undergraduate, graduate, and law students in order to provide them with practical experience with the Federal legislative process. Since the program's inception, the Udall Foundation has provided funding to 295 Native American Interns from 131 Tribal Nations and Alaska Native villages and 106 colleges and universities, and they have served in 68 participating Congressional and Executive Branch agency offices. The Native American Congressional Internship is the only Federal program of its kind in Washington D.C.
- *Expansion of ECCR research and service collaborations between the National Center and the Udall Center.* This includes establishing and awarding the first Udall Center Fellowship in ECCR; initiating a pilot postdoctoral research scientist program for investigations of stakeholder engagement, inclusivity, and accessibility as cornerstone ECCR principles; and creation of a three-part agency dialogue series highlighting the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the future role of NEPA in support of stakeholder, Tribal, and cooperating agency engagement, and the need for expanded data access to support NEPA implementation including through ECCR initiatives. The Udall Foundation also participated in the recruitment of a new permanent Udall Center Director in 2021 with a focus on growing the Udall Center's capacity for ECCR public policy research.
- *Recognizing the centennial births of Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall and their lasting impacts in environmental and Native American policy.* "Stewart L. Udall's Environmental Diplomacy Legacy," a virtual event held in November 2020, highlighted Stewart L. Udall's half century of distinguished national leadership promoting shared environmental values including across borders. The first "Morris K. Udall Centennial Celebration" will be held in April 2022 and will recognize Morris K. Udall's support of Tribes and Indigenous communities and his legacy of inspiring public servants in Arizona and the western United States. A second "Morris K. Udall Centennial Celebration" event will be held in November 2022 to recognize Morris K. Udall's contributions to national environmental and Native American policy.

An updated memorandum of agreement between the Udall Foundation and The University of Arizona was signed in Fiscal Year 2021. The agreement specified that both parties investigate opportunities for office co-location to further strengthen the broad and long-lasting partnership. The Udall Foundation has since leased office space

from The University of Arizona at its Washington, D.C. Center for Outreach and Collaboration (D.C. Center) and has initiated program and training services at the D.C. Center. These include selection of the 2022 Native American Congressional Internship cohort, convening of the ECCR Federal Forum, and delivery of its Collaboration in NEPA course.

In summary, the Udall Foundation's partnership with The University of Arizona has never been stronger. This legislation will allow this critical requirement of the Udall Foundation's mission to continue flourishing at current appropriations levels through Fiscal Year 2029.

**Question 2: Your testimony highlights a few programs specific to supporting Indian Country. Can you speak to the success of these programs in supporting Tribal leaders and Indigenous scholars and students? Are there any stories you'd like to highlight?**

The Udall Foundation's commitment to Indian Country is embedded in its Strategic Plan and throughout its suite of programs, including those conducted in partnership with The University of Arizona. The success of these programs is evident in individual and organizational success stories in Indigenous scholarship, Tribal public policy, environmental conflict resolution, and education.

Specific programs and initiatives include:

- *Udall Undergraduate Scholarship.* The Udall Foundation has awarded \$9.59 million in scholarships to 1,788 undergraduate students. A portion of the Scholarships that are awarded annually are reserved for outstanding students who intend to pursue careers related to Tribal public policy or Native health care. The Udall Foundation has awarded Scholarships to representatives from 88 different Tribal Nations and Alaska Native villages.
- *Native American Congressional Internship.* Internships are awarded annually to deserving and qualified Native American and Alaska Native undergraduate, graduate, and law students in order to provide them with practical experience with the Federal legislative process. Since the program's inception, the Udall Foundation has provided funding to 295 Native American Interns from 131 Tribal Nations and Alaska Native villages and 106 colleges and universities, and they have served in 68 participating Congressional and Executive Branch agency offices. The Native American Congressional Internship is the only Federal program of its kind in Washington D.C.
- *Morris K. Udall and John S. McCain III Native American Graduate Fellowship.* Fellowships are awarded annually to outstanding Native American and Alaska Native graduate students who intend to pursue advanced degrees in health care and Tribal public policy, including law and medicine. The program was reconstituted in Fiscal Year 2021 with the awarding of three Fellowships.

- *John S. McCain III National Center for Environmental Conflict Resolution – Native American and Alaska Native (NAAN) Service Area.* The National Center's NAAN Service Area supports Federal agencies in developing collaborative processes that are inclusive of Tribal interests and that honor Native Nation self-determination. The National Center uses ECCR tools and approaches to support complex interactions to resolve challenges between Federal agencies and Tribes and increase the potential for co-developing efficient, long-term, workable solutions. The National Center also provides critical training and capacity-building services for Federal personnel, Tribal members and staff, and others to support work between Federal agencies and Native Nations. The "Collaboration with Native Nations and Tribal Consultation" training course further strengthens these efforts and creates capacity within the Federal workforce for Government-to-Government engagement in environmental processes. In Fiscal Year 2021, the National Center supported 24 assessments, facilitations, and mediations involving issues of concern to Native Nations and their communities.
- *Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy*, a program of the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy. NNI was founded in 2001 by The University of Arizona and Udall Foundation as a self-determination, self-governance, and development resource for Native Nations. Its programs of policy analysis and research, education, digital resources, and Tribal and direct services are grounded in the Udall Center's research findings. NNI has provided nation-building services to individuals and groups representing 62% of Federally Recognized Tribes in 33 of the Lower 48 states as well as to several Native entities in Alaska. Over 600 Native leaders have participated in NNI's Indigenous Governance programs since 2013; since 2014, NNI's Indigenous Governance database has had over 149,000 visitors who have reviewed over 398,000 pages of material.

Many alumni of the Udall Foundation's Scholarship, Internship, and Fellowship programs have become leaders in Indian Country, in Government at all levels, and in the private and public sectors. Recent examples include:

- Qay-liwh Ammon, a current Policy Aide for the House Committee on Natural Resources Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples of the United States and a former Udall Scholar. Qay-liwh is a member of the Hoopa Valley Tribe and a graduate of Oregon State University. She has served in multiple roles on the Committee and Subcommittee and been a Policy Aide since 2021.
- Bryan Newland, the current Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs at the Department of the Interior and a former Native American Congressional Intern. Bryan is an Ojibwe from the Bay Mills Indian Community in northern Michigan. Following his Internship he went on to earn his law degree from Michigan State University and serve his Tribe as Chair of the Tribal Council before being nominated by President Biden and confirmed by the Senate in 2021 to the position of Assistant Secretary.
- Kristyn Yepa, a current Udall Fellow who is pursuing her Doctorate of Nursing Practice at the University of New Mexico with a concentration in Nurse Executive

and Organizational Leadership. Kristyn a tribal member of the Pueblo of Jemez and is currently the Director of Public Health Services at the Pueblo of Isleta.