

# Graduate Student Experience with TEAs

- Focus was on treaty rights to education
- Contacted several tribes to inquire about tribal holdings/perspectives
- Consistently referred to the TEAs by receptionist
- TEA representatives were hesitant at best to discuss anything legal and usually referred me to the tribal attorney/legal department/court
- Requests for information most often ignored or denied, if responded to, usually was not information that was requested or very simplistic information that I already had

# Teaching TEDNA Endorsed Courses in Native American Studies

- Courses I teach at Northern Michigan University include:
  - NAS 204 The Native American Experience
  - NAS 212 MI & WI Tribes, Treaties & Current Issues
  - NAS 484 Native American Inclusion in the Classroom
  - NAS 485 American Indian Education
  - NAS 486 American Indian Educational Law & Leadership
  - NAS 488 Native American Service Learning Project
- Assignments often include researching tribal issues including education
- Students often report a similar experience in dealing with tribes/TEAs, requests for information often ignored or denied, and data that would be public for other forms of government is often not available or made available from tribes

# Collaborations with TEAs on Grant Writing or Other Common Interests

- TEAs are generally willing to enter into collaborative relationships with NMU CNAS regarding initiatives that may benefit tribal citizens
- Requests for data for grant writing purposes is often forthcoming, but is often incomplete or outdated
- When data is provided, it may also be provided with certain limitations. For example, the tribe may ask that this data be used for the grant writing purposes only

# Developing the Introduction to Tribal Education MOOC

- As part of the effort to develop the ITE MOOC, we requested information from multiple TEAs to be included in the narrative only one TEA responded to the request, but none provided any data as of yet
- Information available about TEAs online is inconsistent across tribes
- TEA websites are non-existent for some tribes and volatile for others
- We are proposing the creation of a TEA database as part of the ITE MOOC
- TEAs can upload their own data at will to one location, and can update it anytime