

Opening the Doors of Opportunity Conference
Tuesday, February 16, 2010 ~ 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Sitting Bull College, Science & Technology Center
Fort Yates, ND

FEATURED SPEAKERS

DR. LAUREL VERMILLION



Dr. Laurel Vermillion, a recognized member of the Hunkpapa-Lakota peoples of the Standing Rock Reservation, serves as president of Sitting Bull College. She is married to husband Duane and together they have three children and four grandchildren. *Dr. Vermillion is an alumnus of Sitting Bull College. She began her higher education at SBC* when it was known as Standing Rock Community College. She received her baccalaureate degree in Elementary Education through an articulation agreement between Standing Rock Community College and the University of North Dakota in 1980. During her 14 years as an elementary teacher for the Fort Yates, ND school district, she pursued and completed a Masters degree in Education Administration from the University of North Dakota. Soon after, she relocated to Marty, SD and served as Principal at the Marty Indian School. In 1995, she accepted the position of vice president of Academic Affairs at Sitting Bull College and eventually became vice president of Operations in 1999. During her seven years as vice president of Operations at Sitting Bull College she completed a doctorate degree in Teaching and Learning, Higher Education from the University of North Dakota. Dr. Vermillion is also an active board member for numerous non-profit and community service groups, including Bear Soldier Horizons, the Standing Rock Education Consortium, Standing Rock Education Leaders, the ND Association of Tribal Colleges, Recruiting American Indian Nurses program, Quality Education for Minorities, Travois New Markets, and the American Indian Higher Education Consortium.

SCOTT DAVIS



Scott J. Davis was appointed Executive Director of the ND Indian Affairs Commission in April, 2009 by Governor John Hoeven. In his position, Davis serves as a liaison between North Dakota's state and tribal governments to address issues regarding education, business, economic development, transportation, wellness, veterans and youth.

Prior to his appointment, Davis served in a number of capacities at United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, including Development Officer, Wellness Activities Coordinator, Facilitator and Adjunct Instructor for Introduction to Wellness. He also served as Culture Committee Chairman and PowWow Committee Member and worked with the Student Senate and all campus departments to actively pursue fundraising efforts in the private sector to advance the programs and activities at the college.

Davis also worked for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe on environmental quality issues and as a teacher's aide at the Pierre Indian Learning Center and Turtle Mountain Community High School. In addition, he worked as a sales consultant for Northern Documents, a West Fargo company that produces labeling and bar coding products for private and public groups.

Davis holds an Associate of Arts Degree from Haskell Indian Junior College, and a Bachelor's and Master's of Management Degree from the University of Mary. He is a member of the Standing Rock Lakota Hunkpapa/Turtle Mountain Chippewa.