

# Memorandum of Agreement For Cherokee Language, History and Culture

BETWEEN CHEROKEE NATION, EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS,  
NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY AND WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

WHEREAS; THE EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS (EBCI) AND THE CHEROKEE NATION (CN), ARE  
HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO COLLECTIVELY AS THE "TRIBES":

WHEREAS; NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY (NSU) AND WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY (WCU) HERE-  
INAFTER REFERRED TO COLLECTIVELY AS THE "UNIVERSITIES," ARE UNIVERSITIES ON THE STATE LEVEL  
ENGAGED IN THE ACADEMIC STUDY AND PROMOTION OF THE CHEROKEE LANGUAGE, HISTORY AND CUL-  
TURE:

WHEREAS; THE TRIBES AND UNIVERSITIES, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE SIGNATORIES, DESIRE TO  
DEVELOP COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS;

WHEREAS; THE SIGNATORIES DESIRE TO SEEK EXTERNAL FUNDING TO ASSIST IN THESE PROJECTS;

WHEREAS; THE SIGNATORIES DESIRE TO EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR AND BY FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS,  
AND COMMUNITIES;

WHEREAS; THE SIGNATORIES ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE CHEROKEE LANGUAGE IS A LIVING, VIABLE LAN-  
GUAGE THAT DESERVES COMMUNITY PRESENCE AND ACADEMIC STUDY;

WHEREAS; THE SIGNATORIES ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE HISTORY OF THE CHEROKEE PEOPLE DESERVES  
INCLUSIVE REPRESENTATION; AND

WHEREAS; THE SIGNATORIES ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE CHEROKEE CULTURE IS AN EXISTING LIFEWAY OF  
THE CHEROKEE PEOPLE.

THEREFORE; THE SIGNATORIES AGREE TO RESPECT AND TEACH CHEROKEE CULTURAL VALUES AND TO PRO-  
MOTE THE CONTINUANCE OF CHEROKEE CULTURE;

THEREFORE, THE SIGNATORIES AGREE TO PURSUE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FOR THE  
USE OF THE TRIBES, UNIVERSITIES, AND COMMUNITIES;

THEREFORE, THE SIGNATORIES AGREE TO COORDINATE, AS A GROUP, THE FUNDRAISING EFFORTS FOR LAN-  
GUAGE, HISTORY AND CULTURE PROJECTS;

THEREFORE; THE SIGNATORIES AGREE TO SEEK OPPORTUNITIES FOR FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, AND  
COMMUNITIES TO ADVANCE THE STUDY OF THE CHEROKEE LANGUAGE, HISTORY AND CULTURE;

UPON SIGNING, THE PARTNERSHIP SIGNATORIES WILL EACH APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE TO CONSTITUTE  
THE INITIAL STEERING COMMITTEE. THE STEERING COMMITTEE WILL SET PRIORITIES ON A CONSENSUS  
BASIS.

IF ANY PARTY WISHES TO DISENGAGE FROM THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT, THEY MUST PROVIDE A 90  
DAY NOTICE TO THE OTHER SIGNATORIES.

THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE REEVALUATED IN TWO YEARS FROM THE DATE OF SIGNING.

  
HONORABLE CHADWICK "CORNTASSEL" SMITH,  
PRINCIPAL CHIEF CHEROKEE NATION

4-9-08 Paul Westbrook  
DATE ATTEST

  
HONORABLE MICHELL HICKS, PRINCIPAL CHIEF,  
EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS

April 9, 2008 Paul Westbrook  
DATE ATTEST

  
KIM CHERRY, INTERIM PRESIDENT,  
NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

4/9/08 Paul Westbrook  
DATE ATTEST

  
DR. JOHN BARDO, CHANCELLOR,  
WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

5/5/08 Paul Westbrook  
DATE ATTEST