



**NUETA
HIDATSA
SAHNISH
COLLEGE**

ANNUAL REPORT **2023-24**

Welcome To NHS College

A Message From Our President



President Twyla Baker

President Baker, *Mia Maa Arawic*, is a member of the Waterbuster clan and a child of the Knife clan. She graduated from New Town High School, attended Bismarck State College on athletic scholarship and graduated from the University of North Dakota with a BS in Environmental Geology & Technology, a Master's in Education, and a PhD in Research Methodology.

Dosha, Tashgaasha, Nawah to our Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College family, partners, and community! On behalf of our staff, faculty, and our Board of Directors, we present to you the 2023-2024 Annual Report.

As we reflect on another remarkable year, I am filled with great pride and gratitude for the incredible strides we have made as an institution. This year we closed out a significant milestone in our journey – the 50th anniversary of Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College. For half a century, our college has been a beacon of learning, culture, and community empowerment. This celebration is not just about our past; it is a tribute to our resilience, our spirit, and our unwavering commitment to education and cultural resilience.

This year has been one of extraordinary achievements. I am delighted to share that we have seen a notable increase in student retention, a testament to the hard work of our dedicated faculty and staff, as well as the determination and resilience of our students. Our professionals poured energy into a multi-year initiative focusing on student success with our partners at Achieving the Dream, and those efforts to create a supportive and enriching educational environment are bearing fruit, ensuring that more students are staying on course to achieve their academic and personal goals. Additionally, I am proud to share that our school was recognized by Achieving the Dream as an ATD Leader College at their 2024 national conference.

Another historic achievement is our landing of the ten-year, \$160 million dollar FARMS grant in partnership with the North Dakota Tribal College System, North Dakota State University, and other North Dakota collaborators. This grant will have a transformative impact on our college and the broader community. The FARMS initiative will enhance research, education, and economic development opportunities, aligning perfectly with our mission to empower our students and serve our community.

In athletics, our men's basketball team made us all proud with their performance at the AIHEC National Basketball Tournament in Minneapolis, MN, finishing 2nd in Division II. This finish speaks volumes about the dedication, teamwork, and talent of our athletes and coaching staff, considering our season reached its end with an 'Iron Five' team. This achievement highlights the strength and spirit of our student body, both on and off the court. We look forward to a bright future for our athletics programs as our men's and women's cross country, golf, and basketball seasons kick off.

One of the most profound moments of this year was the repatriation of a mid-20th century warbonnet and other Mandan Hidatsa & Arikara Nation artifacts to our college. These items are not just artifacts; they are living pieces of our history, culture, and identity. Their return to our community is a powerful reminder of our enduring connection to our heritage and our responsibility to preserve and honor it for future generations.

As we celebrate our achievements at the start of our next 50 years, let us remember that our journey is far from over. We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us, and it is our honor, duty & privilege to continue their legacy. The successes of this year are a collective achievement, and I am deeply thankful to our entire Storm family who has contributed to making this a year to remember. Here's to another 50 years of growth, learning, and history making.

Maaciigiraac, maara Nuxxbaaga'o,



Dr. Twyla Baker

President, Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College



Our History: 1973-2023

1973

May 2: The Three Affiliated Tribes founded Fort Berthold Community College (FBCC). Courses were offered through other ND colleges via articulation agreements.

1981

FBCC was granted candidacy status at the Associate Degree level by the North Central Association.

1988

February 12: FBCC received full accreditation to grant their own degrees.

2011

February 25: The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) approved the first three bachelor-level degrees to be offered at FBCC in Elementary Education, Environmental Science, and Native American Studies.

2015

March 27: The TAT Tribal Business Council signed a resolution to change the college's name to **Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College** to honor and recognize their tribal members.

2022

September: NHS College received approval to offer their fourth bachelor's degree: Business Administration and Management

2024

NHS College looks forward to serving Fort Berthold well beyond 50 more years!

Mission

A unique educational community founded in culture and spirituality that nurtures holistic student success.

Vision

Integrates dynamic, cultural principles to honor the past, for those living in the present and shaping the future.

Values

Honesty
Respect
Responsibility
Tenacity
Curiosity
Being a Good Relative
Innovation



Board of Directors

President
North Segment
Lisa Lone Fight

Vice President
South Segment/
Twin Buttes
Cory Spotted Bear

Member
West Segment/
Mandaree
Kelly Bradfield

Member
East Segment/
White Shield
Don Yellow Bird

Member
Four Bears Segment
Cesar Alvarez

Member
North East Segment/
Parshall-Lucky Mound
Patrick Packineau

Member
Chairman
Representative
Harriet Good Iron

Stats At-a-Glance

NHS College is committed to providing culturally rich courses and programs while also following training and workplace trends. The following enrollment data encompasses Fall 2023, Spring 2024 and Summer 2024.

Degrees & Certificates Offered

-  **4** Bachelor's Degrees
-  **14** Associate Degrees
-  **3** Certificates

High School Dual Enrollment

-  **61** Unduplicated Students Served
-  **16%** of the Student Body
-  **91%** Course Success Rate

Degrees & Certificates Awarded

-  **3** Bachelor Graduates
-  **19** Associate Graduates
-  **20** GED Graduates

CNA and CDL Completions

see more on page 11

-  **24** CNA Trainee Completions
-  **24** CDL Trainee Completions

Faculty of the Year Vernell Buckman



Vernell has been teaching full-time at NHS College for just over a year, but has taught as an adjunct instructor since 2012. She has business degrees from Fort Berthold Community College and University of Phoenix and will be starting a PhD at the University of Mary.

Student of the Year Kacey Murdock



Kacey graduated from NHS College this Spring with 3 degrees: A.S. Environmental Science, A.S. Science, and B.S. Environmental Science. She is currently employed as a Senior Project Manager at MHA Construction Management.

Enrollment Demographics

381 Total individuals* educated

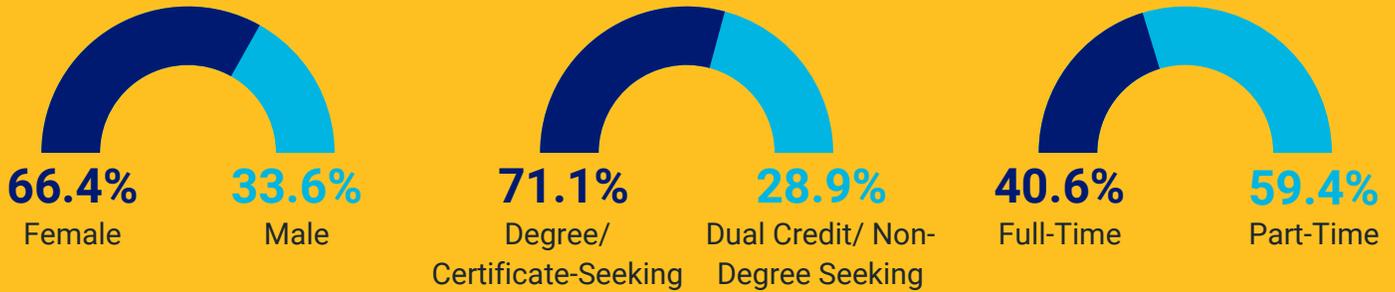
**includes for-college credit, dual credit, and continuing education students*

-  **202** Fall Term Students
-  **226** Spring Term Students
-  **87** Summer Term Students
-  **133** Continuing Education Students



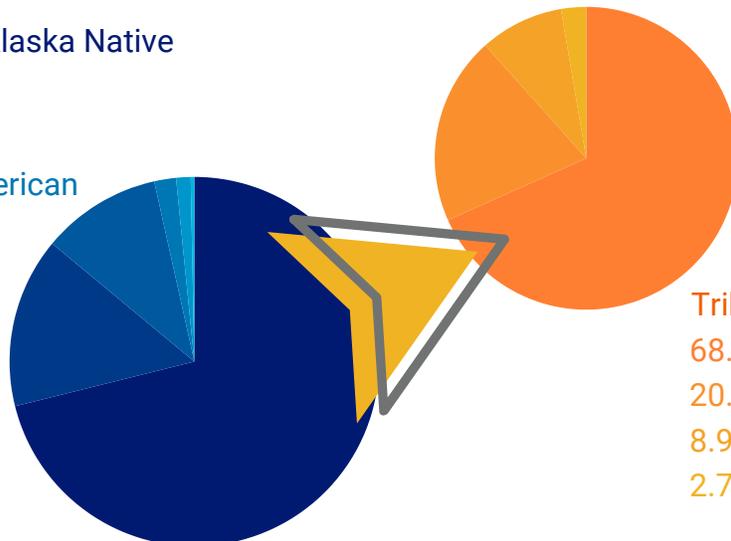
Undergraduate* Student Breakdown

**Undergraduate includes all for-college credit and dual credit students; does not include continuing education students*



Undergraduate Student Ethnicity

- 71.1% American Indian/ Alaska Native
- 14.9% Asian
- 10.5% White
- 1.9% Black or African American
- 1.3% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- 0.3% Not Disclosed



Tribal Affiliation:
 68.3% Three Affiliated Tribes
 20.1% Other - US
 8.9% Other - North Dakota
 2.7% Not Enrolled

Programs of Study

Unduplicated students for Fall, Spring and Summer

Bachelor Students

- Business Administration/ Management, BA
- Elementary Education, BS
- Environmental Science, BS
- Native American Studies, BA

Associate Students

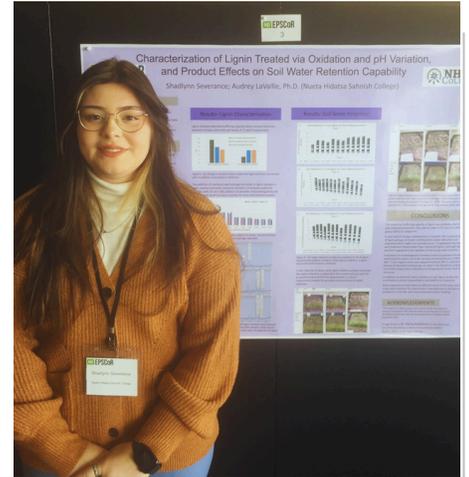
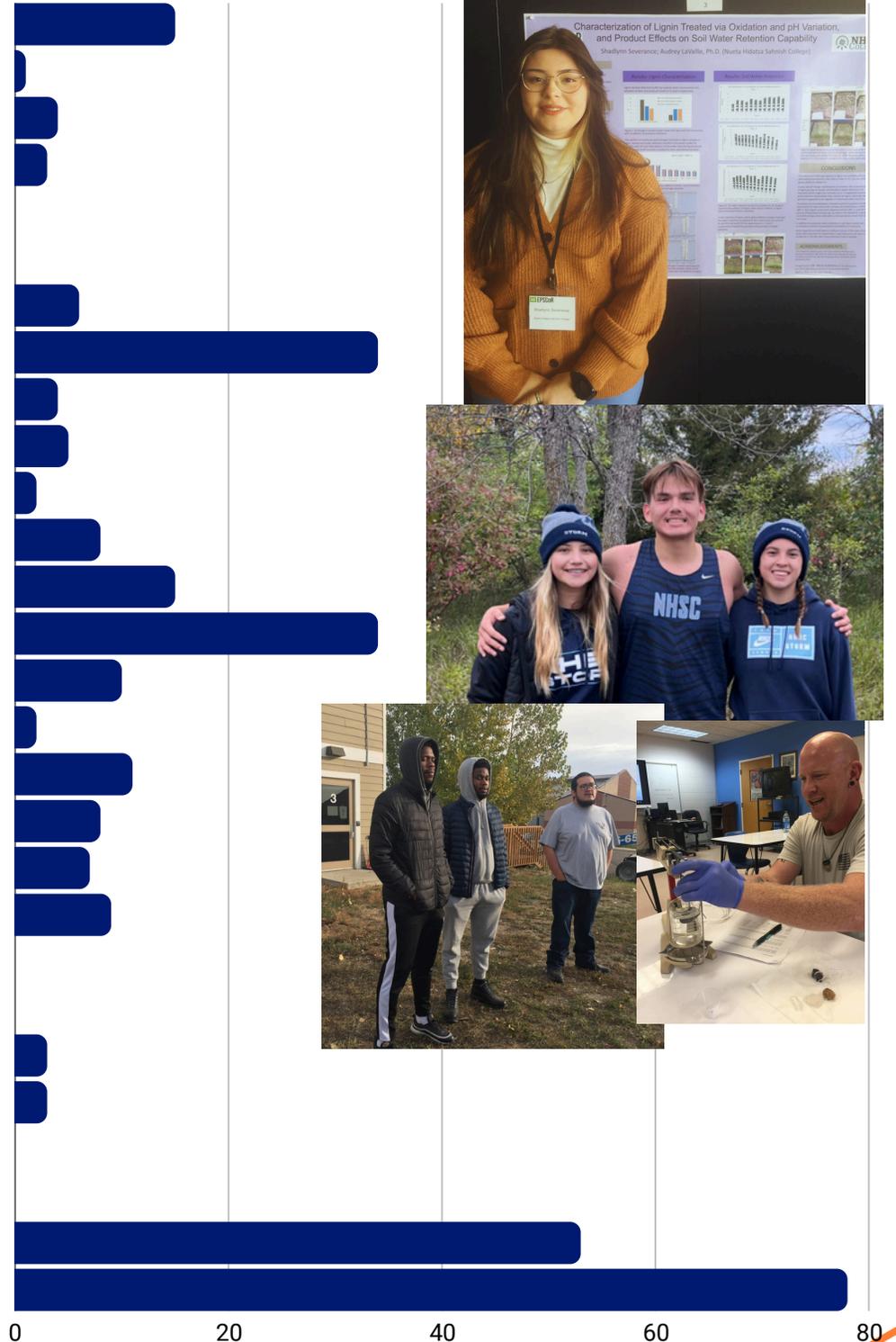
- Addiction Studies, AA
- Business Administration & Management, AA
- Computer Science, AS
- Early Childhood Education, AA
- Elementary Education, AA
- Environmental Science, AS
- Equine Science, AS
- General Studies, AA
- Human Services, AA
- Mathematics, AS
- Native American Studies, AA
- Pre-Engineering, AS
- Pre-Nursing, AA
- Science, AS

Certificate Students

- Early Childhood Development Certificate
- Welding Certificate

Non-Degree Students*

- Dual Credit
- Non-Degree Seeking



*Non-Degree Students only includes students who are taking courses for college-credit. It does not include continuing education students such as CNA students, CDL students, or New Town High School staff

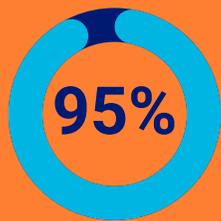
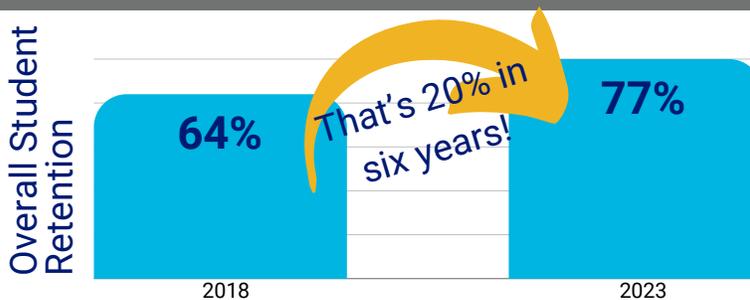


Spotlight on Retention

Retention is a buzzword in Higher Education. It means the number of students that came back the next semester or the next year; the continuance of students' educations.

Rise in Retention

Our retention rates have steadily increased since 2018 when we started making data-driven decisions to help our students thrive. Our Fall to Spring Retention Rate (the number of students who returned to NHSC in the Spring after completing the Fall semester) was 64% in 2018 and has steadily risen to 77% in 2023!



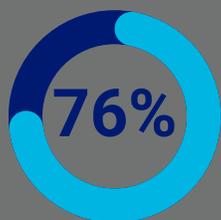
Retention in Bachelor Programs

Collectively, the four bachelor's degree programs had a 95% Fall to Spring Retention Rate in 2023!



Retention in Non-Traditional Students

Older-than-average students have been EXCELLING at NHS College! Male and female students over the age of 35 had a 79% Fall to Spring Retention Rate in 2023!



Nueta, Hidatsa, and Arikara Students

In Fall 2023, 88% of our degree-seeking students were American Indian/ Alaska Native (AI/AN). Of those AI/AN students, 70% were enrolled in the Fort Berthold Agency, making up 62% of our degree-seeking student enrollment. The 2023 Fall to Spring Retention for TAT members was 76%, as compared to 61% in 2018!

Financial Highlights

From the FY2023 Audit



Operating Expenses: \$11,717,901

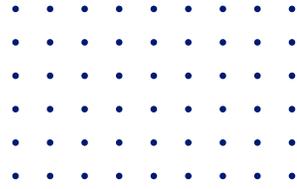
Academic Support	\$2,719,822
Institutional Support	\$2,352,696
Instructional Services	\$1,871,722
Student Services	\$1,527,984
General and Administrative	\$1,480,002
Operation and Maintenance	\$814,086
Public Service	\$288,494
Auxiliary Enterprises	\$261,925
Research	\$213,440
Library	\$187,730

Revenues: \$14,424,053

General and Administrative	\$6,851,889
Academic Support	\$3,822,521
Instructional Services	\$861,360
Institutional Support	\$700,692
Operation and Maintenance	\$614,154
Investment Income	\$368,898
Public Service	\$297,744
Other Operating Sources	\$264,724
Research	\$259,398
Library	\$222,873
Student Services	\$152,656
Auxiliary Enterprises	\$7,144



Special Events



50th Anniversary Gala

April 5, 2024 was a special evening for NHS College at 4 Bears Event Center as it celebrated its 50th Anniversary and all of its achievements since 1973. The Old Hollywood theme included a red carpet photoshoot, comedy by Tatanka Means and Auntie Beatrice, and honored the legacy of past presidents of the College whose vision, leadership and dedication was instrumental in shaping the College into the institution it is today.

NHSC Honors Past Presidents

- Phyllis Howard
 - 1973-1983, 1986-1991
- Bennet Yellowbird
 - 1983-1986
- Lyn Dockter-Pinnick
 - 1991-1993
- Karen Gillis
 - 1993-1997
- Alyce Spotted Bear
 - 1997-1998
- Elizabeth Demaray
 - 1998-2004
- Kerry Hartman (interim)
 - 2004-2005
- Russel Mason, Jr.
 - 2005-2014
- Twyla Baker
 - 2014-Present

2024 Culture Camp

Every summer for the past 7+ summers, NHS College has held a Culture STEM Camp for youth grades 9-12. In July, 30 students from 12 high schools attended and stayed four nights in the MHA Earth Lodges. The students stayed busy with activities such as: ribbon skirt/shirts, corn roasting, ethnobotany, food sovereignty, earthlodge building, horsemanship, college readiness, drones, traditional art, and medicine picking.



Other NHS College Activities

Four Sisters Gardens

NHS College's Four Sisters Gardens cover 30-acres a few miles west of campus. The full-time and seasonal staff manage a high tunnel, greenhouse, two MHA Traditional Gardens, an orchard, and fields, as well as help with 30 community garden plots. The Four Sisters crops can be found at the local Farmer's Market and donated to MHA Elders Meal Sites. During the winter they hold workshops on topics such as canning/pickling and making salsa and jelly. In addition, focus is put on the holistic wellness and spirituality of planting, gardening, and harvesting, as well as the nutritional benefits of growing your own food. Plans for the future include securing funding for a winterized building to house the Ag Department and offer more year-round workshops.



CNA Course

A Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Training Course is offered at NHS College twice per semester and once in the summer. The course consists of 7-asynchronous weeks and 2 days of in-person labs. Upon completion of the course, students can take the North Dakota State CNA Licensing Exam and work in any capacity that holds that title or similar such as in a hospital, assisted living or home health-care.

CDL Training

The Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training is an 8-week course that meets the new FMCSA Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) regulations, which includes in-classroom and on-the-road training. The course focuses on the CDL permit test, entry-level driver training, behind-the-wheel, and prioritizes completers passing their Commercial Driver's License Test.



April 5, 2024

NHS College's 50th Anniversary Gala





May 10, 2024 Spring 2024 Graduation

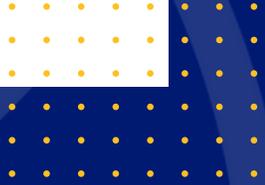






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