

# Utah Tech University Policy

## 134: Land Acknowledgment Statement



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### **I. Purpose**

- 1.1 To establish responsibility for, and provide guidelines concerning, the appropriate usage and presentation of Utah Tech University (“the University”)’s Land Acknowledgment Statement, which recognizes the University’s connection to the ancestral homelands of the Paiutes Indian Tribe of Utah and the Kaibab Paiute Tribe by recognizing and honoring the diverse Indigenous Peoples’ connection to the land upon which the University is situated.

### **II. Scope**

- 2.1 This policy applies to all students, employees, student organizations, and employee organizations.

### **III. Definitions – N/A**

### **IV. Policy**

#### 4.1 Responsibilities

- 4.1.1 To ensure that usage of the Land Acknowledgment Statement is respectful and honorable, rather than routine, the Land Acknowledgment Statement Committee is responsible for identifying and establishing a predetermined schedule of events and/or special occasions, such as Commencement and the State of the University, at which the Land Acknowledgment Statement should be used.

- 4.1.1.1 The Land Acknowledgment Statement Committee is

comprised of the Senior Equity and Inclusion Officer, the Executive Director of Athletics, the Director of the Center for Inclusion and Belonging, the Student Body President, and the Director for University Events and Promotions.

- 4.1.2 Based on the schedule determined by the Land Acknowledgment Statement Committee, the Senior Equity and Inclusion Officer, or designee, is responsible for implementation and usage of the Land Acknowledgment Statement at University events and/or special occasions which are not athletic events, University student events, or University-sponsored events or occasions with a community-focus.
  - 4.1.3 Based on the schedule determined by the Land Acknowledgment Statement Committee, the Executive Director of Athletics, or designee, is responsible for implementation and usage of the Land Acknowledgment statement at athletic events.
  - 4.1.4 Based on the schedule determined by the Land Acknowledgment Statement Committee, the Director of the Center for Inclusion and Belonging, or designee, is responsible for implementation and usage of the Land Acknowledgment Statement at University student events.
  - 4.1.5 Based on the schedule determined by the Land Acknowledgment Statement Committee, the Director for University Events and Promotions, or designee, is responsible for implementation and usage of the Land Acknowledgment Statement at University-sponsored events and/or occasions with a community focus.
- 4.2 The Land Acknowledgment Statement reflected in Section 6.1 of this policy should be read at the beginning of events and/or special occasions scheduled by the Land Acknowledgment Statement Committee.
- 4.2.2. In addition to the scheduled institutional events/special occasions established by the Land Acknowledgment Committee, the Land Acknowledgment Statement may be included in course syllabi, and academic and non-academic University presentations and publications, including scientific reports.

## **V. References**

- 5.1 <http://www.president.utahtech.edu/land-acknowledgment>

## **VI. Procedures**

- 6.1 The University's Land Acknowledgment Statement is: "Utah Tech University acknowledges Indigenous Peoples as the original stewards of the land on which the University is built. We recognize the ancestral homelands of the Paiutes (Nung'wu), the Paiutes Indian Tribe of Utah (Cedar Band, Kanosh Band, Koosharem Band, Indian Peaks Band, and Shivwits Band), and the Kaibab Paiute Tribe. Aligning with the University's core value of "Inclusion", it is an institutional responsibility to recognize and acknowledge the people, culture, and history of the many diverse Indigenous People connected to this land on which we gather."
- 6.2 The University Land Acknowledgment Statement must be read verbatim. It is inappropriate to create or use alternative statements, alter the statement, or implement any ceremonial rituals when reading the University Land Acknowledgment Statement. It is important and necessary to use the names which the Indigenous Nations call themselves, rather than the names that are commonly used in the United States mainstream, to avoid using exonyms.

## **VII. Addenda—N/A**

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Policy Owner: Senior Equity and Inclusion Officer  
Policy Steward: Senior Equity and Inclusion Officer

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