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# The Nebraska Native American Career Ladder Project: A Teacher Education Initiative

#### **Abstract**

This panel presentation will discuss the Nebraska Native American Career Ladder Project, a \$1,200,000 teacher education project funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The purpose of the project is to prepare paraprofessionals working on reservation schools to become teachers. After a brief description of the project, panelists will discuss strengths of the program and make recommendations for ways to improve the program for students.

#### Panelists:

#### Elizabeth Franklin, Ph.D.

Director, Center for Language Arts Education and Professor of Hispanic Studies, University of Northern Colorado

#### **Donald Blackbird**

Student Intern, Nebraska Native American Career Ladder Project, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

#### **Renee New Holy**

Student Intern, Nebraska Native American Career Ladder Project, University of Nebraska-Lincoln