

MR. BURNS: Thank you very much. My name is Dan Burns. I'm with the American Indian Higher Education Consortium which represents the 36 tribal colleges. We have just had a wonderful meeting of tribal college agriculture faculty and extension, and we talk about long term. Just a brief comment I wanted to make is that I know there is a -- we have had USDA AIHEC liaison. There is a proposal, I think, with USDA to have a federal liaison or national liaison and some regional liaisons. And our concern about that is we want to ensure that that person or persons are people who really understand tribal communities and tribal colleges rather than being federal employees. I know I in the past have been a federal employee with the National Science Foundation. We want to have a relationship with USDA under the model that was just -- we have just experienced. It has been a good model. So we really want people on the reservations, native people, in those liaison positions. So the description of those positions and the set-up of those positions, I just wanted to point out to keep those at home and in the region. Thank you.