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For Immediate Release: November 1, 1978
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Donald A. McCabe, former president of the Navajo Community College, has been appointed President of the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute at Albuquerque, New Mexico, Interior Assistant Secretary Forrest Gerard announced today.

McCabe, a member of the Navajo Tribe, has extensive experience in the administration of education programs. He has been Assistant Director of the School of Education and Program Director at the University of New Mexico. He was the Program Director for the Parent Committee in the San Jose, California, Unified School District. He was also the Coordinator of Research and Development for the Navajo Tribe's Division of Education. A World War II army veteran, McCabe earned a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Business Administration degrees from the University of New Mexico. He earned a Master of Arts from Stanford University and is a doctoral candidate at Stanford.

Since June of this year McCabe has been the staff Executive Director for the Yakima Tribe in the State of Washington. Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) is a unique Bureau of India Affairs School. Built in 1971 on a 164-acre campus north of Albuquerque, it provides technical training to Indian students desiring to learn employable skills. About 70 different tribes are represented in the student body of approximately 500.

Programs offered at the post-secondary school include electronics optical technology, offset lithography telecommunications, drafting commercial food preparation and business education.