In 2018, a group of ASU students undertook a class focused on Indigenizing ASU’s campus through design. The class was sponsored by Bryan Brayboy, at the Center of Indian Educaiton and taught by Wanda Dalla Costa (design/construction faculty). One of the 16 proposals was a greeting wall aimed at creating awareness of Arizona’s Indigenous languages, which also functioned to welcome our Indigenous students to Tempe’s campus. This is the first Indigenization project on ASU. The materials are wood veneer within resin panels.

Design Drivers: Land Recognition, Language + Indigenous Artist Empowerment
The Tempe campus sits on the ancestral homelands of those American Indian tribes that have inhabited this place for centuries, including the Akimel O’odham (Pima) and Pee Posh (Maricopa) peoples. This greeting wall, is intended to honor the 22 tribes located within the current boundaries of Arizona. As some tribes share common ancestral languages, there are only 19 words featured. We have also included English. Three Indigenous artists, offer a rare interpretation of hand styles, fixed within fiberglass resin panels. The artists are Thomas “Breeze” Marcus (Tohono O’odham, Akimel O’odham, Hopi, Ponca, and Otoe), Douglas Miles (Apache, Akimel O’odham), and Vyal Reyes (Zuni, Yaqui and Rarámuri).