

# SKYHAWK PRESS

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## Trade Intern's CookOut

CROWNPOINT, NM – On August 4, 2022, the S.T.E.M. & Skills Program had a cook-out to commemorate their intern's last day tomorrow! They constructed, welded, and built gazebos, grills, and benches around campus over the summer. The interns were all employed by NTU.

Construction Instructor Tom Bebo and Welding Instructors Christopher Storer and Verna Casamero were proud of their interns. "He made a bookshelf," remarked Construction Intern Stanley Yazzie on his fellow intern, Christopher Beyal's work, "and it's nice."

We want to thank the Welding Interns Marcus Burbank, Wade Brown, Kanisha Faber, and Andre Beno; and Construction Interns Stanley Yazzie, Christopher Beyal, Adrianna James, Aaron Billy, Kimitri Tsedah, and Tonya L. Yazzie for their hard work and participation!

The next day they are taking a trip to Cuba, NM, for the recruitment fair.



NTU Trade Interns and Instructors poses by one of the gazebo build located behind the Science Building and in front of Hospitality.

## NTU 2022 Catfish Tournament

CROWNPOINT, NM - On August 6, 2022, Navajo Technical University held its annual catfish tournament in Ganado Lake, AZ.

Catfish anglers made waves over the weekend. George LaFrance of NTU finished registration and payments from 5 am to 8 am. The official fishing competition began at 8 am, with anglers allowed to fish until 7 pm. The final measurements and weigh-ins occur from the start to the final at 6 pm. Opportunities for giant catfish often attract anglers to this area.

Six catfish anglers attended the event along with their families. Every angler received prizes consisting of a few fishing rods, camping equipment for first and second place, and NTU memorabilia. The adult division 18 years and up only participated in the event. All proceeds go to the Navajo Technical University scholarship fund.

- Lane Nakai 1st place – 7.7 lbs., 24 inches
- LaBelle LaFrance 2nd place – 3 lbs., 19 inches
- Lyle Joe 3rd place – 2.14g, 21 inches
- Elisha Begay 4th place – 1.7 oz, 16.5 inches
- Gavin Smiley 5th place – 1.12 oz, 18. 1 inch
- George LaFrance 6th place – 1 lb., 15.5 inches

George LaFrance would like to thank his family for their support in helping him out. His daughter Ah-Shi Beauty owner Ahsaki LaFrance-Chachere for volunteering her time at the NTU fishing tournament, and his other daughter LaBelle LaFrance. His mother, Joycelyn LaFrance, was at the table from 5 am – 7 pm.

## Miss NTU and New Gallup Intertribal Ceremonial Queen

CROWNPOINT, NM - On August 10th, 2022, Navajo Technical University would like to congratulate the current Miss NTU and the new Miss Gallup Intertribal Ceremonial Queen 2022.

At El Morro Theatre and Event Center, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and First Lady Phefelia Nez congratulate the newly crowned 2022 Miss Gallup Intertribal Indian Ceremonial Queen, Cajaun Cleveland. Miss Navajo Technical University 2021-2022, Cajaun Cleveland, is from Pinedale, NM. She is majoring in Certified Nurse Assistant. She was selected based on her ability to share her traditional skills, knowledge of traditional foods, public speaking, and graceful poise.

As Navajo Technical University's ambassador, Cajaun continues to encourage and promote traditional knowledge to other students across our Navajo Nation and outside. Miss NTU guides students and supports students in ways that she can. As a leader, she shows our younger generations that education is near home.

President Nez and First Lady Nez congratulate the six pageant contestants and their families for participating in this year's pageant, including:

- Samantha Antone, Miss Congeniality
- 2nd Runner Up, Penelope Joe, Navajo Nation
- 1st Runner Up, Destiny Touchin, Navajo Nation

Thank you for your commitment and for representing Navajo Technical University. Congratulations.

# SAVE THE DATE

## NTU 10th Annual Research and Competition

Submission Date:

November 4, 2022

1 Page Abstract to  
cagbaraji@navajotech.edu

Competition Date:

March 2, 2023

9 AM - Wellness Center

If you have any questions or want more information, contact Dr. Casmir

Agbaraji at  
cagbaraji@navajotech.edu

## Youth Camp

June 5 - 16, 2023

Application Due:

April 28, 2023

For more information, contact the NTU Land Grant Program at  
505.387.7410

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## Marathon Petroleum Corporation Donates \$100K to NTU

CROWNPOINT, NM – On August 11, 2022, Navajo Technical University's partnership with Marathon Petroleum Corporation announced that it would award \$100,000 and a tractor-trailer rig to NTU for establishing and expanding the Trades and CDL program for students on the college campus.

VJ Smith, Manager of Stakeholder Engagement, Marathon Petroleum Corporation, said, "For over a decade, Marathon Petroleum has worked with the Navajo Nation to make a positive visual impact." In addition to working with NTU to strengthen communities and improve people's lives, amplify workforce development for funding and programs. The grant will be used for the trades program, beginning with new equipment. Mr. Smith presented the check along with Navajo Nation Vice President Myron Lizer, Second Lady Dottie Lizer, 24th Navajo Nation Council Delegate Mark Freeland, and NTU officials.

NTU is working to enrich classroom education while laying a foundation for future career exploration. Its faculty are looking to inspire students to learn about career fields involving science, technology, engineering, math (S.T.E.M.), and other professions related to the energy and refinery industry.

Vice President Lizer and Marathon officials toured the campus to learn about the university's facilities, student life, campus culture, academics, and programs offered by the institution.

"I hope we can solidify and get the attention of the younger individuals. By showing students connections between classroom learning and potential career opportunities, we hope to inspire them to explore career paths they might never have envisioned for themselves." – Dr. Elmer Guy.

"I want to thank Marathon for its continuous support of Navajo Technical University and the Navajo Nation. We also have collaboration and diversity working with NASA and other entities. NTU is ready to unleash the next echelon of services and academia." - Vice President Myron Lizer.

Mr. Smith presented the check  
along with Navajo Nation Vice  
President Myron Lizer, Second Lady  
Dottie Lizer, 24th Navajo Nation  
Council Delegate Mark Freeland,  
and NTU officials.





**I bet you didn't know...**

New Mexico has more cows than people.



The best place to see rainbows is in Hawaii.

Avacados are fruit, not a vegetable.



## **NTU Compliments Chef Walter Cloud**

CROWNPOINT, NM - On August 18, 2022, Navajo Technical University would like to congratulate Chef Walter Cloud. He is now a Certified Chef de Cuisine (CCC). A certification badge from the American Culinary Federation (A.C.F.). The A.C.F. is a self-review process for improving the academic quality of culinary arts/baking and pastry programs.

Chef Walter Cloud, a Certified Sous Chef (C.S.C.) and Certified Working Pastry Chef (C.W.P.C.) from Coolidge, New Mexico, began his education here at NTU in 2013 as a student earning his Certification and Associates in Culinary in 2018. Chef Cloud, now an instructor, believes all his students will be involved in all aspects of baking, preparation, decorating theory, and safety. Chef Cloud demonstrated a benchmark of knowledge to earn the Certified Chef de Cuisine badge, skills, and culinary experience of an intermediate level in food preparation. A good understanding of food safety and sanitation, culinary nutrition, supervisory management, and preparing food to high standards.

Congratulations and BRAVO!



**Chef Walter Cloud, a Certified  
Sous Chef (C.S.C.) and Certified  
Working Pastry Chef (C.W.P.C.)  
from Coolidge, New Mexico.**

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## NTU and the New Mexico Higher Education Department

CROWNPOINT, NM - On August 22nd, 2022, Navajo Technical University met with the New Mexico Higher Education Department (N.M.H.E.D.) on current project updates, state-funded project highlights, and NTU initiatives.

NTU's leadership team presented day-to-day aspects of the higher education capital outlay projects. The New Mexico Higher Education Department has a statutory responsibility to provide an equitable process for reviewing and recommending capital outlay funding for public post-secondary institutions each year. NTU initiatives and matriculation were done by Dr. Delores Becenti, Ms. Shawna Begay, and Mr. Gary Segay. Plans are to increase pathways with High Schools each semester. As the H.S. students graduate and continue at NTU will be part of the recruitment and retention program. Current project updates:

- The Academic Building will be 27,489 square feet and contain 14 classrooms, 14 offices, and one conference room.
- Trades Building Expansion will be 17,000 square feet in addition by Dylon Murphy Architect.
- NTU Science and Trades Building renovation
- NTU class HVAC improvement.

Pending and new requests for future funding cycles include construction of the Trades Building extension, A.D.A. compliance on campus, a proposed Health Careers Center in Ft. Defiance, AZ-NM border, and an Interdisciplinary building.

In keeping with these requirements, N.M.H.E.D. establishes grant agreements between the Department and its grantees, monitors the grant agreement requirements, processes financial drawdowns through the State Board of Finance, and organizes monthly Higher Education Capital Outlay Committee hearings where projects are reviewed and approved before construction. State of New Mexico Officials, Cabinet Secretary Stephanie Rodriguez, Gerald Hoehne, Director, Capital Projects Division, and NTU's Leadership took a tour of the campus as they discussed sidewalk concerns, the Trades Expansion Project location, and the Building Drainage system.

The future looks bright for Navajo Technical University!



State of New Mexico Officials, Cabinet  
Secretary Stephanie Rodriguez, Gerald  
Hoehne, Director, Capital Projects  
Division, and NTU's Leadership  
poses in front of Skyhawk Central.

## NTU Central Fair Parade First Place

CROWNPOINT, NM - On August 27th, 2022, Navajo Technical University won first place in the 36th Central Agency Parade in Chinle, AZ, for the School and Youth Programs Division over the weekend.

The Central Agency Fair consisted of Pow Wow, Beauty Pageants for Miss Central Navajo, Song and Dance, and a Dog Show. A special thanks to Jerrison Jumbo, his fellow student, for driving the CDL semi and trailer, Myron Wauneka from Chinle, and the students who helped with the float. Staff from Chinle and Crownpoint, Jarvis Draper, Mike McMillan, and George LaFrance. Another shout out to Lorena Giesbrecht for her assistance in getting the supplies needed.

A job well done!



DO YOU HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE? CONTACT  
DALE MORGAN AT

**dmorgan@navajotech.edu**

YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT WILL APPEAR IN THE FOLLOWING  
MONTH'S NEWSLETTER.

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