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NTU Hosts Navajo Nation Presidential and Vice-Presidential Debates 1

The 109th Northern Navajo Fair Parade 2022 - Navajo Technical University 2

NTU Men's Basketball vs. Justice College 2

Environmental Science Undergraduate Student Research Showcase Event 3

I bet you didn't know 4

NTU Receives 4 Million In Funds for Environmental Lab .. 4

GMCS Visits NTU for Harvard University's Lecture 5

2022 AISES National Conference 6

NTU Culinary Host Chef Andrea Murdoch 6

NTU Hosts Navajo Nation Presidential and Vice-Presidential Debate

CROWNPOINT, NM - On October 18th, 2022, Navajo Technical University (NTU) hosted the Navajo Nation presidential and vice-presidential debate. Two presidential candidates, President Jonathan Nez and Buu Nygren, and their vice-presidential candidates, Chad Abeyta and Richelle Montoya Chee were given a chance to speak about current concerns of the Navajo Nation.

Virginia Edgewater blessed the debate as NTU's Dr. Delores Becenti, Enrollment Director, and Mr. Cuyler Frank, KCZY Radio Manager, led the discussion giving each candidate five minutes to introduce themselves, explain their strategic plan and top priority in office and preserve the best interest of the people of the Navajo Nation. Starting with the vice-presidential debate, there were questions ranging from modernizing a simpler and more efficient government system within the Navajo Nation to jobs, healthcare, and why the young people often leave the reservation. COVID and Monkeypox also garnered significant discussion as candidates continued to explain their platforms.

Dr. Elmer J. Guy warmly welcomed the presidential debate candidates who responded to their first questions regarding leadership, community involvement, business, and entrepreneurial methods. All candidates had a chance for rebuttal. Toward the end of the debate, each candidate was allowed to ask their fellow competitor a question. All responses from the closing statement were about housing, community investing, and education.

This debate was an excellent chance for the Dine' People to hear and determine their choice in the upcoming election. Navajo Nation Voter Registrars are available at most chapter houses. Navajo Nation voters will head to the polls in November for the general election to determine the next Navajo Nation president and vice-president. Voter registration is also open to Navajos living off the reservation.

All candidates, Jonathan Nez, Buu Nygren, Chad Abeyta, and Richelle Montoya, gave positive feedback for NTU hosting the event.

NTU would like to thank the NTU security team and the Navajo Nation Police Department for their help. KNDN 960 AM and KCZY Radio 107.3 FM for their thorough coverage. NTU also had excellent event coverage from the live stream, photos, and other media.

The 109th Northern Navajo Fair Parade 2022 - Navajo Technical University

Shiprock, NM - On Saturday, October 1st, 2022, Navajo Technical University participated in the 2022 Northern Navajo Nation Fair parade along with the Teec Nos Pos and Kirtland site. The Northern Navajo Nation Fair is the oldest and most traditional Navajo festivities. This year the theme was "Dine' History, Harvest, and Healing." Held each Fall in Shiprock, this fair offers the Navajo people a chance to celebrate the year's harvest with a community celebration.

Also, NTU would like to give a shout-out to the Welding and Construction Technology programs to show our appreciation to those who participated and to all who helped build the NTU float for the Northern Navajo Nation Fair this past weekend; good job, and thank you for your support.

We look forward to seeing NTU represent itself again next year. Seeing the Navajo Nation and everybody enjoy themselves is excellent.



NTU students, staff, and faculty getting ready for Northern Navajo Nation Fair

NTU Men's Basketball vs. Justice College

The Navajo Technical University Men's Basketball won their first regular season game on Friday, October 28th, 2022, at 7:00 pm on their home court against Chandler Justice College from Gilbert, AZ.

It was a close game, but NTU pulled through for a victory. Good Luck to the NTU Men's Basketball team, and good luck on future games.

Final score 81-60



Mitchell Carlos #22 going in for a shot past Justice College

SAVE THE DATE

2022 Fall Graduation

December 16, 2022
Starts at 10:00 AM
NTU Wellness Center,
NTU Main Campus,
Crownpoint, NM

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

AIHEC

March 4 - 7, 2023

For more information, contact **Tilda Woody** at
505.387.7392

Youth Camp

June 5 - 16, 2023

Application Due:
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Environmental Science Undergraduate Student Research Showcase Event

Crownpoint, NM – On October 21st, 2022, NTU's Environmental Science Program organized its 1st Undergraduate Student Research Showcase Event inside the NTU Hospitality Center.

Dr. Abhishek Roychowdhury coordinated the event successfully with sponsors and guests in attendance. Students worked hard during the summer of 2022 at various locations across the U.S. Their research methods include finding ways to clean contaminated water, as Native American communities are more likely to be affected by dirty drinking water. The southwest of the U.S. is experiencing more drought. Thus, studying plant genetics and fungi is essential to help better projections of pinyon survival during drought and future restoration. Student interns acknowledged their instructors and predecessors as they presented their research and what they planned to do shortly in front of the NTU community. Judges were scoring each presentation. As a result, the votes were tallied in the end, and winners were announced.

Presentation awards:

1st place: Chase Bebo
2nd place: Kirby Morris
3rd place: Malyndra Tome

Special thanks to everyone in attendance, Dr. Elmer J. Guy, Casmir I. Agbaraji, and sponsors, Water with Blessings, as they teamed with Sister Lorraine Lauters and her Kentucky organization Water with Blessings to distribute water filters among the NTU and Crownpoint communities in front of the NTU Wellness Center.

Congratulations to all, and may you have tremendous success in your endeavors!

**Dr. Elmer J. Guy,
Steven Chischilly,
Malyndra Tome,
Kirby Morris, Chase
Bebo, Dr. Bowman, &
Dr. Abhishek
Roychowdhury**



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

dmorgan@navajotech.edu

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

I BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW...



A dime has 118 ridges around the edge.



"Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand.



A shrimp's heart is in its head.

NTU Receives 4 Million In Funds for Environmental Lab

CHINLE, AZ - On October 11th, 2022, Navajo Technical University presented a groundbreaking ceremony on its new Environmental Laboratory in Chinle, Arizona. The funds for this were allocated when Arizona Governor Doug Ducey signed the historic \$18 billion Fiscal Year 2023 budget toward the Navajo Nation's Road infrastructure projects, veteran services, housing projects, and tribal education programs.

Navajo Technical University will construct an EPA-certified Environmental Lab capable of radiation analysis of soil, water, and air to clean up the toxic uranium processing facilities throughout the region. The \$4 million NTU Environmental Lab at the Chinle Instructional Site will support STEM programs in northeastern Arizona and will provide instruments and facilities to train students and encourage research needed to meet the environmental challenges residents in and around the Navajo Nation face.

Dr. Elmer J. Guy welcomed NTU Board of Regents guests, the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Los Alamos National Lab, Northern Arizona University, and Arizona Representatives. Raymond Redhouse conducted a traditional blessing with songs and prayer. A warm welcome led by Anson Etsitty, Instructor of Dine' Studies Chinle Facility and representing Jonathan Nez, N.N. President was Rholinda Shirley. AZ Representatives Myron Tsosie, Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren, and State Senator Theresa Hatathlie were recognized for their contributions to establishing the Chinle Instructional Site to serve students from rural communities surrounding Chinle, Arizona, an opportunity for community members to attend/receive a higher education near home, a significant development in establishing healthy communities and sustainable economies to keep our culture alive and our people on the Navajo Nation.

Lunch was provided and served by the NTU Culinary Arts Programs, and Chef Lorencita Billiman gave a speech reflecting on traditional meal preparation.

NTU would like to thank the security team and everyone who contributed and supported this new Navajo Nation Environmental Testing Laboratory!

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“The funds will be utilized for students and their education. They prioritize community first with this new building which signifies progress and change for Chinle, surrounding communities, and the entire Navajo Nation. I appreciate our past and present leaders, the NTU Central Agency Board, Gloria Grant, and NTU Board Chairperson Tom Platero, for their commitment and dedication.” – Dr. Elmer Guy.

“Past NTU leaders and community members had the vision to create jobs, distinguish revenue, and build a nation, and we are excited to be a part of history in the making. New development takes time and requires the collaboration of many individuals to make it a reality.” – Gloria Grant.

Navajo Technical University continues to honor Diné culture and language while educating for the future.

NTU President along with the Board of Regents getting ready to reveal the Lab in Chinle Instrutinal Site



GMCS Visits NTU for Harvard University's Lecture

Crownpoint, NM – On October 17th, Navajo Technical University warmly welcomed Gallup McKinley County Schools (GMCS) as they visited the campus for Harvard University's Dr. Jennifer Lewis's lecture on the topic of Printing of Soft Materials in Three Dimensions inside the Hospitality room.

Dr. Jennifer Lewis took the initiative when broadening pathways for underrepresented minority students, postdocs, and faculty in STEM. She presented her work inside the Hospitality center on the materials paradigm and desired rheology for direct ink writing and 3D printing.

GMCS (Gallup High School, Miyamura High School, and Crownpoint High School) students visited NTU to meet with NTU leaders and visit departments to discuss partnerships for dual credit opportunities. GMCS is interested in having their engineering students tour the NTU's Fab Lab with some engineering classes and attend an administrative meeting. The trip here aims to give engineering students a broad view of the engineering industry that will connect students to NTU and future college endeavors.

GMCS students and teachers' activities included a short presentation on NTU STEM degrees, admissions, and financial aid. NTU Cafeteria provided lunch for all who attended, 38 students and four staff members.

NTU would like to thank its faculty and staff for working with GMCS and putting this together!

2022 AISES National Conference

Palm Springs, CA – On October 8th, Navajo Technical University would like to congratulate Chelsie Whitewater, an AISES member and a Senior student in Biology, as she placed 2nd in Undergraduate Research for an outstanding oral presentation on “The in vitro antimicrobial properties of Navajo medicinal plants” at the 2022 AISES National Conference in Palm Springs, California.

AISES’ ultimate goal is to be a catalyst for the advancement of American Indians as they seek to become self-reliant and self-determined members of society while increasing the representation of American Indian and Alaskan Natives in science, engineering, and other related fields at NTU.



**NTU Biology Major
Chelsie Whitewater
poses with AISES
Chapter Advisors**

NTU Culinary Host Chef Andrea Murdoch

CROWNPOINT, NM - On October 5, 2022, Our Navajo Technical University Culinary students had the opportunity to receive a demonstration by Chef Andrea Murdoch in the Hospitality building, representing her self-founded business, Four Directions Cuisine. Murdoch has visited NTU annually to give presentations and tell stories to our students about seasonal indigenous recipes and how to create delicious and healthy gourmet dishes. 2022 will be her fourth year helping to educate our NTU Culinary Arts students to open possibilities for their futures with different types of cuisines.



**(Left to Right)
Chef Walter Cloud,
Sheila Begay, Chef
Andrea Murdoch, Chef
Brian Tatsukawa,
Lorencita Billiman**

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