

SKYHAWK PRESS

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Business and Leadership Student Conference

CROWNPOINT, NM - On April 4th, 2023, Navajo Technical University, American Indigenous Business Leaders (AIBL) Chapter won First Place in the Chapter of the Year - Tribal College category at the Ceasars Palace, Las Vegas, NV.

The Chapter of the Year competition highlights the unique and dedicated work of AIBL Chapters through a presentation summarizing past and present activities, leadership activities, integration of Indigenous Culture, community service projects, and fundraising efforts. The competition is separated into three divisions; High School, Tribal College, and University, with a \$1,000 cash prize in each category.

NTU AIBL Chapter won one thousand dollars to add to their pot. Tilda Woody, an Advisor, is honored and so proud of them. NTU AIBL Chapter members that attended the event are Frederika Thomas, President; Romulus Cordova, Vice President; Christopher Beyal, Secretary; Devin T. Chee, Treasurer; Larris Enrico, Coordinator; Kaitlin Freeland, Student Senate Representative.

"My perspective as an educator and chapter advisor is to see students' potential; they do not see in themselves. Helping them believe that their learned skills and knowledge with NTU and AIBL will make them successful in what they aspire to become. It is an addiction and my passion to see our NTU students achieve their goals. I see them laying a foundation for being an outstanding leader in their business endeavors. It's a privilege to be a part of their journey."

- Tilda A. Woody, Assistant Professor of Accounting, NTU AIBL Chapter & COBC Advisor.

For more information:

Tilda A. Harrison-Woody
Assistant Professor of Accounting
NTU AIBL Chapter & COBC Advisor
P: (505) 387-7392
E: twoody@navajotech.edu



**NTU AIBL Chapter
Spring 2023**

NTU Chinle First-Year Student's Achievements

NTU Chinle, AZ - On April 27, 2023, Navajo Technical University (NTU) held an event to recognize the academic achievements of their First Year Students from Fall 2022. Fifty-four students were recognized for their CGPA (Cumulative Grade Point Average) and celebrated for their hard work and dedication to their studies.

The event was held at the NTU Chinle site by Danielita Haskey, an academic advisor, and Arlena Benallie, M.M., Chinle Instructional Site Director. The main campus had a team of professionals from Financial Aid, Marketing, HR, Athletics, and Student Support to assist and support the First Year Students throughout their academic journey.

Thirteen students were recognized for having a GPA between 2.00 and 2.99, 17 students for having a CGPA between 3.00 and 3.99, and an outstanding 24 students for achieving a perfect 4.00 CGPA.

Hosts Wilbur Tso and Sherietta Martinez warmly welcomed the students and congratulated them for their achievements. Rooster's Grill & Catering provided a delicious meal to celebrate the occasion.

NTU is proud to recognize its First Year Students' achievements and support them throughout their academic journey. The university is committed to providing an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all its students.

For more information, contact:

Sherietta Martinez-Brown
First-Year Experience Academic Advisor
P: 505-387-7470
E: smartinez@navajotech.edu



SAVE THE DATE

Youth Camp

June 5-16, 2023

Application Due:

April 28, 2023,

For more information,
contact NTU Land Grant

Program at

P: 505-387-7410

Heartbeat Music Camp

May 22-June 2.

Grades K to 12 grade,
ages 5 to 18 year old.

For more information
contact

Natalie R. Desiderio

P: (505) 387-7520

E: ndesiderio@navajotech.edu

**First Year students receive awards at
the NTU Instructional Site.**

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Navajo Technical University Rodeo Team Excels at NMSU Rodeo

CROWNPOINT, NM - The Navajo Technical University (NTU) Rodeo Team recently competed at the NMSU Spring Rodeo in Landmark Mercantile in Mesquite, NM, on April 21st 22nd, 2023. The team, comprised of four students, demonstrated their skills and determination throughout the competition.

In the long go-round, Amytheiss Marvin achieved a time of 17.60 in Barrels, a time of 13.0 in Goats, and no time in Breakaway. LaBelle LaFrance received no time in the breakaway. Matthew Jodie went over the time limit in the Tie-down, resulting in a no time, no time in the steer wrestling, and placed 4th with points in the team, roping with a time of 8.7. Hiyo Yazzie was winning the Tie-down, but the calf got up, resulting in no time. He tied for 1st place in steer wrestling with a time of 6.1 and 1st in team roping with 5.3 points.

During the short go, Matthew Jodie placed 7th with a time of 13.9 in steer wrestling but received an NT in the team roping. Hiyo Yazzie received a NT in both steer wrestling and team roping. Though no average places were awarded, the NTU Men's Team received 165 points overall and placed 4th in the competition.

Moreover, the team excelled in the overall year-end standings of the Grand Canyon Region. Hiyo Yazzie achieved 2nd Place, and Matthew Jodie earned 4th Place in the Steer wrestling Event. Hiyo Yazzie placed 1st in the Tie Down Event and 4th Place in the team roping. Hiyo Yazzie also attained the title of "Champion All Around Cowboy."

"We have the top cowboy in the Grand Canyon Region right here at Navajo Technical University," said Coach Pino. "300 points separate #1 and #2 Nationally. Navajo Technical University is well represented at the National Level of College Rodeo. NTU is College National Finals Rodeo bound in June. Casper Wyoming, we punched our ticket, and we're ready! Congratulations to the NTU Rodeo Team."

The Navajo Technical University is proud of its Rodeo Team's accomplishments and looks forward to continued success in the upcoming competitions. Big thanks to the fantastic folks at NMSU Rodeo for having us.

For more information:

Nicole Pino

NTU Head Rodeo Coach

P: (505) 387-7385 x1029

E: npino@navajotech.edu

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...



The Philippines consists of 7,641 islands.

Human beings can use only a small fraction of Earth's water.



Japan has one vending machine for every 40 people.

NTU 2023 SkillsUSA NM State Leadership and Skills Conference

CROWNPOINT, NM - On April 13-15, 2023, Navajo Technical University (NTU) students competed in the NM SkillsUSA State Leadership and Skills Conference in Albuquerque, NM. Students had technical competitions in Central New Mexico (CNM) and other locations. The SkillsUSA New Mexico Championships are competitive events that showcase the state's best career and technical education students. The philosophy of the Championships is to reward students for excellence, to involve the industry in directly evaluating student performance, and to keep training relevant to employers' needs.

The awards ceremony housed more than a hundred students from high school to college/prep schools. NTU brought a total of 21 competitors; 18 returned with medals. NTU achieved seven gold, four silver, and four bronze. The welding fabrication was a 3-person team competition in which they were awarded bronze. All medalists also got gifts prior to their respective fields of work. During the closing ceremony, a special guest appearance from NM Lieutenant Governor Howie C. Morales. A former classroom teacher and proven leader who stands up for seniors and public education gave a speech to build a fair economy that works for all of us and moves New Mexico forward. High School students attending Bond Wilson Technical Center classes also achieve medals.

The NTU gold medalists are Alayne Kinlacheenie for Baking; Greg Perry for Restaurant Services; Teva Castillo for Prepared Speech; Jalio Jake for Culinary Arts; Jennelle King for Job Skill Demonstration A; Dylan Dale and Royan Begay for Digital Cinema Production, and Julian Martinez for Carpentry.

The NTU silver medalists are Avery Velasquez (AJ) for Prepared Speech, Amber Castillo for First Aid/CPR, Vivianne Joe for Culinary Arts, and Cristopher Wesley for Auto Service Technology.

The NTU bronze medalists are Angelena Shepherd for Job Skill Demonstration O, Andre Beno for Welding, Gregg Perry for Job Skill Demonstration A, and the team of Sarah Dennison, Irvin Charley, and Henry Charley for Welding Fabrication.

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E: ndesiderio@navajo-tech.edu

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“As an educator, I love to see my students succeed at whatever they choose to undertake, and competing in SkillsUSA is no different. Our student competitors gave each of their competitions their best. I am very proud of our NTU SkillsUSA students’ efforts at the NM State SkillsUSA Leadership and Skills Conference.” said Julie Bales, coordinator for the NTU SkillsUSA Team.

Advisors, Steve Kollas, Automotive Service Technology; Tom Bebo, Carpentry; Walter Cloud, Culinary Arts; Virgil House, Electrical Construction wiring; Julie Bales, Job Skill Demo A; Wilbur Tso, First Aid/CPR, and Chris Storer, Welding Fabrication could not be prouder of their student’s accomplishments and cannot wait to see more opportunities for their students’ professional development as they prepare to compete on the national level this June.

The National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC) will be held June 19-23, 2023 – in Atlanta, GA. The NLSC is a showcase of career and technical education students. More than 19,000 people, including students, teachers, and business partners, participate in the weeklong event. Before the conference technically begins, experiences for students and advisors include Activate, Leverage, and Engage. Intense and rewarding, these three events cover individual, group, and interactive leadership training.

Go Skyhawks!

For more information, contact:

Julie Bales

Associate Professor of English

P: 505.387.7430

E: jbales@navajotech.edu

NTU students at the 2023 SkillsUSA NM State Leadership and Skills Conference.



Early Childhood Education and Care Department NTU Campus Visit

Early Childhood Education and Care Department NTU Campus Visit
Tribal Colleges and Universities Consultants of Navajo Technical University's Early Childhood Multicultural Education program, Ms. Kelly Dineyazhe-Hunter, and Ms. Seratha Largie presented an overview of what Navajo Technical University offers. The welcoming address for our NTU ECME Department was given by our University Provost and TCU Partnership Grant Principal Investigator, Dr. Colleen Bowman

Introducing the ECME Faculty, attendees would get to know each other at the department recognition. Introductions included a brief history of our program with the goals, visions, existing collaborative partners, and continuing projects the department strives to complete. The visit had an opportunity for an NM ECECD overview, discussions on identifying common goals for data collection, and developing clear next steps to evolve the department and programs within. NTU is increasing staff access to higher education.

For more information, contact:

Seratha Largie
MSW - Early Childhood Multicultural Academic Coach
P: (505) 387-7451 ext. 1093
E: slargie@navajotech.edu

Kyle Arviso
Academic Advisor
P: (505) 387-7513



**Early Childhood Multicultural
Education program visits NTU.**

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NTU Ph.D. Celebration Program

Crownpoint, NM – On April 24th, 2023, Navajo Technical University held its celebration for the Doctor of Philosophy in Diné Culture and Language Sustainability program inside the Wellness Center from 9:00 am and ended at Noon.

This is a historic moment for the Navajo Nation, higher education, and the preservation and advancement of Indigenous knowledge. The Doctor of Philosophy is the first accredited Ph.D. program at a Tribal College or University in the United States.

The ceremony began as former NTU Diné Studies instructor Mr. Raymond Redhouse conducted a traditional blessing with songs and prayer. At the same time, the NTU Board of Regents, Navajo Nation staff, NTU Administration, and many others sat and enjoyed a traditional bowl of mutton stew and other refreshments inside the NTU Hogan.

Master of Ceremony Dr. Wesley Thomas welcomed everyone for coming to participate in the celebration of the Ph.D. program as Director of the NTU Chinle Campus, Arlena Benallie, opened up with NTU's traditional anthem inside the Wellness Center. Dr. Elmer J. Guy is honored to have former Navajo Nation Presidents and other dignitaries at the event, allowing NTU to unite as a community and celebrate the significance of this achievement. Dr. Elmer J. Guy encourages you and your students to join us in celebrating this achievement and its impact on future generations.

As speakers, we are honored to have former Navajo Nation Presidents and other dignitaries at the event. Dr. Wafa Hozien recited a poem and awarded the Human Services, Education & Health Committee, Navajo Nation Tribal Council Board of Regents, and Navajo Technical University with a Pendleton vest with their name stenciled on them. This achievement represents a significant milestone in Navajo education and is a testament to commitment and hard work. The NTU Culinary Arts Program provided those who attended with rations for a healthy lifestyle and nourishment.

Elmer Guy, the President of Navajo Technical University, is the vision behind the Ph.D. program and believes that this program will have the potential to positively and profoundly impact the future of the Diné people, "this is one way that we demonstrate our sovereignty," he explains. In 2000 he started placing the basic building blocks to the Ph.D. by having a Navajo Culture course for all NTU graduates. "I am very thankful for the faculty here at NTU. The Dine' Studies program worked with Indiana University and Swarthmore College. They all contributed in a good way. I am excited for these new Ph.D. students. I am also excited about what new research and knowledge they will bring," said Dr. Elmer J. Guy

"Native language is a superpower. With this new program, we can continue to educate our students that our culture and languages are important," said Naomi Miguel, Executive Director for the White House Initiative on Advancing Education Equity, Excellence, & Economic Opportunity for Native Americans & Strengthening Tribal Colleges & Universities.

“The launch of this program is a significant achievement not just for the Diné community but for all indigenous peoples worldwide who are working to preserve their cultural heritage and pass it on to future generations.” Explains Dr. Wafa Hozien, Dean of Dine’ and Graduate Studies.

The IT department broadcast the event via Livestream on NTU’s YouTube channel with Mr. Dody Begay. KCZY 107.3 FM and Cuyler Frank and his broadcast operations. NTU would also like to thank the Dept. of Indian Affairs, Dr. Theodore Fernald from Swarthmore College in Philadelphia, PA, Former Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez, and many others who continue to support Navajo Technical University and our commitment to advancing Indigenous education.

For more information, contact:

Natalie R. Desiderio
Administrative Assistant
Graduate Studies & Undergraduate Diné Studies
P: (505) 387-7520
E: ndesiderio@navajotech.edu



NTU President, Dr. Elmer Guy, Navajo Nation Vice President Richelle Montoya and the NTU Board of Regents.

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387-7410
E: ndesiderio@navajotech.edu