

SKYHAWK PRESS

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Navajo Technical University 2023 Trout Fishing Tournament

Tsaile, Arizona - On August 5, 2023, Tsaile Lake hosted the highly anticipated Navajo Tech Trout Fishing Tournament. The event, organized by Navajo Technical University (NTU), brought together over ninety participants, casting their lines in pursuit of the prized trout that inhabit the lake.

From amateurs to seasoned professionals, participants of varying skill levels converged upon the picturesque Navajo country to partake in a day of exhilarating fishing and unbridled enjoyment. Boasting a remarkable blend of scenic beauty and angling excitement, Tsaile Lake proved to be the perfect setting for this unique gathering.

"We are thrilled to have witnessed such an enthusiastic turnout for the Navajo Tech Trout Fishing Tournament," remarked George LaFrance, an integral part of the organizing team. "The event brought together families, friends, and fishing enthusiasts, fostering a sense of community and shared passion."

The tournament saw competitors embrace different fishing approaches, with some opting for boats to navigate the pristine waters. In contrast, others stationed themselves along the shoreline, casting their lines with precision and anticipation. The air was alive with the thrill of the chase as each participant sought to claim victory by reeling in the most impressive trout.

The Youth Scoreboard showcased the following outstanding achievements:

1st Place: Warren Begaye - 17 ¾ inches / 1 lbs. 12.5 oz
2nd Place: Riley Begay - 15 ½ inches / 1 lb
3rd Place: Kyler Haudley - 13 ½ inches / 14 oz
4th Place: Aqamya Begay - 12 ¼ inches / 12 oz
5th Place: Damien Shonie - 13 inches / 11.5 oz
6th Place: Kharma Yazzie - 12 ½ inches / 10 oz

Meanwhile, the Adult Scoreboard featured impressive triumphs as well:

1st Place: Ervin Benally - 18 Inches / 2 lbs. 12 oz
2nd Place: Josiah Begay - 16 ½ Inches / 1 lb. 10 oz
3rd Place: Kyle Clark - 17 inches / 1 lbs. 8.5 oz
4th Place: Bryson Sarraciro - 16 ¼ inches / 1 lb. 9 oz
5th Place: Dreake Shorty - 15 ¾ inches / 1 lb. 8 oz
6th Place: Jayce Begay - 17 ½ inches / 1 lb. 6 oz

The event was not just about competition; it also celebrated sportsmanship. Arnold Kinsel was honored with the Sportsmanship Award for his exemplary conduct throughout the tournament.

LaFrance expressed heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the event's success. From the tireless efforts of LaBelle LaFrance, who assisted with organization and logistics, to the culinary talents of Michael McMillan and Kordell McMillan, the collaborative spirit was palpable. Clinton Desiderio and Wilson Gilmore were acknowledged for their invaluable assistance, while Wade Shannah's photography captured the essence of the event for NTU's records.

George LaFrance concluded, "The resounding success of the Navajo Tech Trout Fishing Tournament has energized us to plan an even more remarkable event for next year. We eagerly anticipate bringing families, friends, and fishing enthusiasts together again to create cherished memories and strengthen the bonds within our community."

Go Skyhawks!

For more information about upcoming events or camps at the wellness center, please contact:

George LaFrance
Athletics Director / Wellness Center Manager
E: glafrance@navajotech.edu
P: 505.387.7477



NTU Athletic Director, George LaFrance prepares the prizes for the 2nd Annual Trout fishing tournament.

SAVE THE DATE

Creating Hope Through Action

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Starts at 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

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Crownpoint, NM

For more information, contact:

Cheryll Atine at c.atine@navajotech.edu or 505-726-3901

United Through Metal

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Starts at 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Juggernaut, Gallup, NM
Sponsored by: NTU Skills USA

NTU AIHEC Coach Meeting

Friday, September 15, 2023

At 12:30 PM

NTU Accounting Room
321 Science and Tech Building

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Roychowdury at

aroychowdury@navajotech.edu

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Navajo Technical University 2nd Annual Trail Ride

Crownpoint, NM – On August 8 – 16, 2023, Navajo Technical University's Chinle instructional site director Arlena "Bo" Benallie led NTU's 2nd annual trail ride with students, staff, and community members to bring awareness to higher education and improve the health of the Navajo Nation.

Upon leaving Chinle, AZ, the ride will promote health, wellness, and Diné culture and teachings. The group headed south onto Hwy 191 to the Nazlini turnoff and then to Burnside Junction, where the group camped. The next day, the ride embarked to Milepost 456 and Window Rock, AZ, before crossing into New Mexico and Yah-ta-hey. The events along the way also included 3k/5K fun runs and walks at select locations along the ride to promote healthy activity. Families and community members who helped support and participated in the awareness welcomed the trail ride to their residences.

"Our trail riders safely made it to our Crownpoint campus! We made the 143-mile trek over nine days from Chinle to Crownpoint with the help of several individuals throughout the journey. We had consistent riders while Chinle recruiters made stops to provide water for the riders and horses. Along the route, we also offer a recruitment drive within the communities. We met many people waving and honking at us and yelling from their vehicles. It was a great experience," said Arlena "Bo" Benallie, who rode the entirety of the event on horseback.

The weather provided much rain as the trail ride traversed into NM from AZ. Halfway through the embarkment on August 13, the ride rolled into Brimhall, where they camped at NTU's Director of Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Dr. Germaine Daye's homestead, welcoming them into her residence. The group spent the night and then galloped east early in the morning to Standing Rock and onto Crownpoint, making 15-19 miles daily. The trail ride held four fun runs since the departure in Chinle, including Ganado, Window Rock, and Crownpoint. Along the journey, individuals participated in the series, which led to great experiences for everyone involved, as NTU hopes to gain more participation in the years to come.

"I'm very thankful for everyone who participated in this event, especially to the families and community members who welcomed NTU into their residence," said Dr. Guy J. Guy, who rode at the event on horseback. "This was a great experience for everyone involved, and we hope to gain more participation."

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...



McDonald's once made bubblegum-flavored broccoli

The longest English word is 189,819 letters long



Some octopus species lay 56,000 eggs at a time



On August 16th, the trail riders arrived at the main campus with a welcoming crowd. Community members, NTU staff, and students joined as they walked in from the Crownpoint fair and rodeo grounds.

This trail ride resulted from a movement toward self-determination by expressing the immediate need for higher education. Today, NTU is one of the nation's premier higher education institutions, providing a unique balance between science and technology and culture and tradition. Much of what guides NTU's success is our mission and identity rooted in the Diné Philosophy of Education.

For more information, please contact:

Arlena "Bo" Benallie
Chinle Instructional Site Director
P: (928) 674-5764
E: abenallie@navajotech.edu.



NTU 2nd Annual Trail Riders arrive in Crownpoint, NM

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University Day At the Kirtland Site Instructional Site

Kirtland, NM - On August 3, 2023, Navajo Technical University would like to thank everyone for attending and participating in our University Day at our NTU site in Kirtland, New Mexico. It had a very successful turnout where the NTU community got together and celebrated the upcoming Fall semester with 2023 information, food, radio, and old fashion community hangouts. Our NTU community was able to set up their tables and displays inside the Bond Wilson Technical Center, where the Dine' Saani Tsoi Color Guard kicked off the event with the posting of the colors and the national anthem.

NTU Provost Dr. Colleen Bowman and Kirtland Instructional site Welding Instructor Lorenzo Gurule gave the welcoming address to everyone and introduced our location in San Juan County. Gurule and Mr. Lorenzo Lapahie also gave an overview of their programs and described the fundamentals their students gain through experiencing our programs. Followed by The Naataanii Nez Singers, who performed a mini song and dance as the Honorable Council Delegate, Dr. Andy Nez, also appeared as our keynote speaker and spoke positively about our university and a bright future for NTU and its community.

Dr. Colleen Bowman stated, "Our NTU family showed up in full force, prepared to share the NTU opportunities with the Northern Agency communities. Attendance at the Bond Wilson NTU Kirtland Instructional Site enrollment day was bustling as we provided on-site academic advising, registration, placement testing, and more. There were two highlights of the day for me. One was having a couple of council delegates visit and see what NTU was all about. They stayed with us for much of the day, which spoke volumes of their support of education provided by our tribal university. The other was seeing students go through the process of enrolling for NTU classes for the Fall. The smiles on their faces after getting their class schedules were a sign of accomplishment and preparedness for the next step in their academic adventure!"

NTU would also like to thank the Culinary program for driving the 2023 NTU Food truck to the Kirtland site to provide everyone with lunch.

Navajo Technical University provides an excellent educational experience in a supportive, culturally diverse environment, enabling all community members to grow intellectually, culturally, and economically.

"Sammy" the Skyhawk at the
Kirtland Instructional Site for
University Day.



Navajo Technical University Grant Award Ceremony

Crownpoint, NM – On August 29, 2023, SunShare, a community-solar company, awarded a \$6 million grant to Navajo Technical University toward renewable energy and a \$1.2 million donation to the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women.

Navajo Technical University faculty and staff, Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women, and the SunShare team met inside the wellness center to celebrate the partnership of the Navajo Nation's profound connection with the land, sun, wind, and water. These elements are central to our history and pivotal to future energy solutions. Dr. Colleen Bowman warmly welcomed the event as Dr. Sharon Nelson opened with a blessing and introduction. Along with the celebration, Ryedale Largo entertained guests with traditional Navajo songs and dances.

Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren from Red Mesa, AZ, gave insights on the significance of the grant and future aspirations for renewable power in the Navajo Nation, including a recent solar power energy project near his hometown. "We have been a fossil fuel community as we emphasize renewable energy, that as indigenous people, we not only respect these elements but have a deep-rooted responsibility to utilize them sustainably, echoing the wisdom of our ancestors." Navajo Nation Buu Nygren stated. He also thanked the generous donation. Buu Nygren added, "Navajo Technical University is a hub for innovation and thought leadership. NTU invests in education and training directly in the Navajo Nation's prosperous future."

Dr. Elmer Guy welcomed guests and local dignitaries, appreciation for the grant, insights into how the funding will be utilized, and the college's commitment to education and community development—furthering renewable energy and strengthening our community against socio-cultural challenges. "I encourage Navajo youth to champion this fusion of ancestral values with contemporary innovation," Dr. Elmer Guy said. Navajo Technical University's potential and vision lead the charge toward a sustainable future. "As we venture into renewables, we progress technologically and protect our sacred land for future generations." Dr. Elmer Guy added.

Corrina Kumpe, Chief Financial Officer, and Salina Derichsweiler, Director of New Mexico Development, presented SunShare, the grant's purpose, and the award. "We integrate solar into the community into a more beneficial modern solution. Renewable energy is allowing us to regain control over our cherished resources." Corrina Kumpe stated. SunShare and NTU discussed the potential for job creation, from training programs to hands-on solar and wind energy installation, maintenance, and innovation roles. "This event exemplified what the legislators intended when they enacted the community solar legislation - community engagement, collaboration, partnership, and investment.," added Corrina Kumpe.

Dr. Elmer Guy and Navajo Nation Buu Nygren presented Corrina Kumpe, SunShare CFO, and Salina Derichsweiler with an NTU Pendleton blanket as an appreciation. The group toured part of the campus.

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Angel Charley, Executive Director of Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women, received the grant and gave insights into how it will be utilized and its ongoing commitment to expanding its program for tribal communities. Their vital mission is curbing violence and laying the foundation for resilient, thriving tribal families and communities—native Women.

“It is refreshing to witness NTU and The Coalition’s progress in our communities. The social outreach of SunShare speaks to the company’s willingness to invest in our people’s progress; how unique.” – NM State Senator Shannon D. Pinto.

The ceremony was concluded with congratulatory remarks from Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren, Wilbur Tso, and Jasmin Charley, Student Senate President.

Congratulations to Navajo Technical University and the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women for securing these pivotal grants. A deep appreciation goes out to SunShare for their commitment and partnership with our primary and other invaluable institutions. NTU again thanks the Culinary Arts program for its tremendous dish as they catered the event.

For more information, contact:

Dr. Colleen Bowman
NTU Provost
E: cbowman@navajotech.edu
P: 505-399-8955



**NTU Staff and Faculty receive donation from SunShare
inside the wellness center, Crownpoint, NM**

The 2023 Navajo Nation Central Agency Parade

On August 26, 2023, Navajo Technical University participated in the 2023 Central Agency Parade in Chinle, Arizona. Brenda Yazzie and Chinle recruiter Jarvis Draper organized and gathered volunteers from the NTU community to help bring awareness about our pursuit of higher education to our students, staff, and faculty. The NTU Chinle site is well on its way to becoming an instructional site of its own through independent education, new upcoming programs that they will house, and, with the help of its rising CDL program, where an individual can operate tractor trailers and heavy equipment.

The NTU Chinle Instructional Site is next to a national and historical monument, Canyon De Chelly, Arizona. The Chinle site offers several certificate and associate programs and holds classes at Chinle High School by agreement with the school district.

Library and research services at the Chinle Instructional Site primarily use electronic means (Internet connectivity between Chinle and the NTU main campus at Crownpoint). The programs at the Chinle Instructional Site serve students from the rural communities surrounding Chinle, Arizona, providing a non-residential opportunity to attend higher education near home, which is essential to establishing healthy community relations.

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Chinle Instructional Site
PO Box 849, Chinle, AZ 86503
P: 928.674.5764

NTU Admissions Office
E: admissions@navajotech.edu



NTU participates in the 2023 Navajo Nation Central Agency Fair parade in Chinle, AZ

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Three New Recruits for The Rodeo Team

The NTU Rodeo Team is preparing for the upcoming Spring season as they are accompanied by three new rodeo athletes who join the team. NTU Rodeo team is recruiting for the 2023-2024 season.

Here are the recruits:

Isaiah Tom is majoring in the welding program. Isaiah's goals are: "To get my welding certificate and have a good rodeo season and make the CNFR."

Kadin Jodie would like to have a career in accounting. Kadin's goals are: "To do good academically, stay in good standings, and make the College National Finals."

Hyan Ramos also majors in welding. Hyman desires to expand his mind at our school and work with and care for livestock at home. "I'd like to maintain a B or above in all my classes and make the CNFR," Hyman states.

"I'm pretty eager for this upcoming rodeo season. I've got talented student-athletes I can't wait to unleash into this 2023-2024 college rodeo season," said NTU Head Rodeo Coach Nicole Pino.

NTU's rodeo program is a National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) member. The rodeo sports program allows students to embrace New Mexico's rugged landscape and compete in various rodeo competitions. Student-athletes learn to work as one team with their livestock and team members to represent Navajo Technical University with their dedication and horsemanship skills.

Go Skyhawks!

Ms. Nicole Pino
NTU COVID-19 Education Specialist - HR
NTU Head Rodeo Coach - Athletics
P: 505-387-7385 X1029
E: npino@navajotech.edu

**The 23-24' Fall/Spring NTU Rodeo
Team pose inside the wellness
center, Crownpoint, NM**



NTU Featured Staff/Faculty

This month's featured faculty member is Christine Reidhead! Christine is an assistant professor in our Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration and she runs several of NTU's summer programs like our summer STEM and SKILLS dual credit program.

Prior to instructing at NTU, Christine served as an accountant in NTU's business office as well as our grants and contract manager. Christine had also served as our athletic director. She also recently published her first book, "How to Ace a Job Interview." Christine comes to us from her hometown in Benson, Arizona but she currently resides in Crownpoint, NM.

For more information about NTU's Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration, please contact Christine at creidhead@navajotech.edu.



**B.A. Assistant Professor in Business Administration,
Christine Reidhead**

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