

SKYHAWK PRESS

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Crownpoint SART/Domestic Violence Hosts Health & Resource Fair

Crownpoint, NM - On April 2, 2025, Navajo Technical University recently hosted a Health and Resource Fair where single and married individuals could gather information on physical and mental health issues. The fair brought together several groups and programs, including Presbyterian, Navajo Nation TB Control Program, Tse' Hoo tsooi' Medical Centers Family Advocacy Center, and more. Attendees could collect various swag items to take back home or share with their family, friends, and coworkers to take notice of April's Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

During the fair, Stacey Constante, RN, BSN, MSCN, discussed the mind-body connection and its relationship to trauma. She explained how stress responses affect the mind and highlighted the importance of holistic healing in survivors. Holistic healing can lead to trauma healing, improve the quality of life, and foster long-term resilience. Mrs. Constante covered several topics related to holistic healing, including practical exercises, emotional triggers, and meditation. NTU is grateful to Mrs. Constante for sharing her knowledge and providing resources for self-resilience.

Stacey stated, "The work being done to raise awareness in this community is beautiful. It serves as a shining example for all communities. I appreciate the efforts of everyone involved. They have been so helpful and kind. I hope this event continues every year so I can attend again."

For more information about the event, contact:

Elaine King

P: (505) 786-2237

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2024 Women’s Basketball Signing

Crownpoint, NM—On April 2 and 18, 2024, Navajo Technical University’s women’s basketball team announced the signing of two new players. Navaeh Miller and Alfrearosa Reid have agreed to join NTU. Nevaeh Miller will start playing basketball at NTU in the fall of 2024 while pursuing an associate degree in Veterinary Technology, and Alfrearosa Reid will pursue her degree in Nursing at NTU.

Women’s head basketball coach Aanor Louis expressed excitement about the new players, stating, “We are thrilled to welcome Rosa and Navaeh to NTU. This is a great opportunity for NTU Women’s Basketball and Navajo representation. We are building a strong program and can’t wait to showcase Native American women in sports.”

After signing on, Miss Reid expressed wonder and excitement, saying, “My clans are Tsenjikini, Tabaaha, Ta’neeszahnii, and Naakai dine’. I’m the daughter of Alvita Reid, and I learned about NTU through school counselors and social media. I will graduate from Ganado High School this year and look forward to learning and playing basketball with NTU.”

George LaFrance, Athletics Director for NTU, said, “Signing Nevaeh and Rosa is a great opportunity for them to further their basketball career at the collegiate level, and that’s what Navajo Technical University is all about - giving opportunities to our student-athletes to reach the sky and beyond. Education is the key for a student-athlete, student first and athlete second, and both are looking forward to a great opportunity. I am grateful for Yazzie and Reid’s coaches, who had the chance to mentor and give them this opportunity. Both of their parents are supportive, which is crucial. Having family support and giving them this opportunity is vital. Thank you very much.”

Nevaeh Miller will start her collegiate basketball career at NTU in the fall of 2024 while pursuing her degree. “I chose NTU because it was closer to home and a resource my coaches had for me. The signing was nerve-wracking, fun, and exciting. I expect to keep up with the team of all the new players I will be joining. I should keep up with them.” The Lady Skyhawks will enter their second season next fall and continue to build on the momentum from the last season. Nevaeh will play a vital role in the plan.

The women’s team will play its inaugural season in the fall of 2024. The team features excellent local talent and is eager to compete.



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SAVE THE DATE

NTU Enrollment Day

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NTU Main Campus,
Crownpoint, NM.

2024 NTU SummerCollege Success Skills Class

Online classes being
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For more information,
contact: Eric Arpelar at
earpelar@navajotech.edu

2024 NTU Employee Appreciation Luncheon

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Starts at 11: 00 AM
NTU Wellness Center,
Crownpoint , NM.

Sheep Presentation Workshop

Crownpoint, NM - On April 4, 2024, the Navajo Technical University Vet Tech Land Grant program hosted this year's sheep presentation at the NTU Wellness Center. Jason Arviso opened the event, "This is the first vet tech program being offered, and we are making an impact in communities across the Navajo Nation. We are growing and have many students interning for us who want to learn and make changes."

Stacey Constant, a Ph.D. student at New Mexico State University, came out to Navajo Tech to present on reproducing the ewe in Ram. Sheep and ram owners from around the Navajo Reservation came out to learn and take notes on this important topic. Sarah discusses the male and female reproductive anatomy, how the ovarian structures produce hormones and control the reproductive cycles, Epididymis, BSE-External evaluation, semen evaluation, nutritional flushing, and other valuable topics on healthy ram and sheep breeding.

Dr. Marcy Ward, New Mexico state livestock specialist, also presented on vaccines, the do's and dont's, viral diseases, why booster shots are needed, and what to vaccinate for, such as leptospirosis, Q fever, chlamydia, and Vibriosis within your sheep and ram. Knowing how and where to vaccinate your wooley-running friends safely and effectively on their bodies is vital; Dr. Ward discussed executing these procedures through graphics and photos, saying, "Having someone with expertise to do these procedures for you is always recommended."

Dr. Germany Daye, Director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Land Grant program said, "I am very excited to see such an excellent turnout, where people from all over the reservation got to get together to learn about herd health and other related topics. Especially seeing everyone participating and supporting one another at these events is very exciting. I look forward to seeing all of you out there."



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...



No number before 1,000 contains the letter A.

The # symbol isn't officially called hashtag or pound.



The French have their own name for a French kiss.

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NTU Skyhawks Fastest Indian Running 5k

Crownpoint, NM - On April 6, 2024, NTU Cross Country Head Coach Leonard Lee organized a second successful NTU community 5k run at the NTU main campus. The event started at noon, and participants signed up in the Student Union Building Lobby. The trail began just outside of the student union building and weaved throughout the main campus to the trails just outside of the campus, ending at the starting line.

A total of six runners took on the 5k challenge on a picture-perfect spring day in Crownpoint. After all of the runners finished, Coach Lee shared some words of encouragement for all the participants and was thrilled at the improvement of some of his cross-country runner's times compared to the previous 5k held a couple of weeks ago. Coach Lee then awarded the male and female runners as top finishers.

Coach Lee is passionate about building a solid cross-country team at NTU to win a national title in the near future. The cross country program is actively looking for more athletes who want to showcase their talents at the collegiate level and welcomes anyone to join their program who shares the same passion for achieving at the highest level.



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Shil Naholne': Literary Arts and Oral Stories Symposium

Albuquerque, NM - On April 8th and 9th, 2024, Navajo Technical University hosted a busy yet smooth event, the 2024 Literary Arts and Oral Stories Symposium, at the Isleta Resort and Casino. The university provided bags containing the symposium agenda, NTU merchandise, and brochures to all guests and speakers who arrived early to sign in.

Dr. Jennifer Wheeler commenced the Symposium by outlining what attendees could expect during the next two days of literary and poetry presentations. The event would feature insights into the methods and processes of various storytellers from different nations. This was followed by a blessing from Sharon Nelson, an NTU Lecturer specializing in Diné Studies, who offered a Navajo prayer for the start and end of the event to benefit all who were present.

During the event, guest speakers Dr. Laura Tohe and Sherwin Bitsui took the stage. Dr. Tohe shared her childhood experiences and the people who inspired her to become a writer. She also spoke about her awards, including a Navajo Nation medallion and an NTU shawl. Sherwin Bitsui read some of his poetry and short stories, while inspiring the audience. Both speakers have received numerous awards for their literary contributions.

Influential presenters were divided into groups during the conference and moved to different conference rooms to discuss various writing styles. Participants could learn about other topics such as The Morning as a Metaphor: Before the Poem Is a Poem by Jake Skeets, Writing for Our Culture: Running with Changing Woman by Lorinda Martinez, Diné stories from Dr. Jennifer Denetdale: What Do Archives Have to Do Dine' Storytelling? and many more from established writers who broke ground with their literature or poetry work.

Lyle J. Harvey from Rock Point, AZ, delivered a presentation on the solar eclipse, during which he emphasized the importance of observing the event with reverence. According to Harvey, avoiding eating, drinking, or engaging in activities during the eclipse is customary. Instead, the focus is on quiet reflection and respect, as the eclipse is a moment of rebirth. This approach is intended to provide an atmosphere of peace and tranquility, allowing members to appreciate the event's significance fully.



Dr. Wheeler emphasizes the experience at the Symposium, saying, “We also appreciate all those in attendance who decided to join us on an extraordinary and sacred day - during the solar eclipse. Concerning Diné teachings, we honored Jóhonaa’éeí (Sun) and T’éhonaa’éeí (Moon) by following cultural protocol and listening to stories and songs about the eclipse. These stories and songs also exemplify the importance of bilingualism, an element of the Symposium.” After each session, Navajo Technical University’s BFA Creative Writing program students would present autobiographies, stories, and recent works to guests and attendees.

Presenter Dr. Henry H. Fowler spoke the next day about Dii’ Shaa Hane’ in Diné bizaad. He shared his childhood stories and talked about living in the hogan and sheepherding. Guests enjoyed his performance of songs he learned while growing up in Tonalea, Arizona.

Dr. Fowler replied that he had an excellent experience by saying, “To hear the talents of Indigenous writers and storytellers inspired me. Indigenous life has been based on oral story-sharing, and this event truly touched on the rich oral stories from the presenters. I commend the committee members for their innovative vision that brings many talents together to exchange ideas and preserve the rich indigenous heritage through story-sharing.”

During the break, conference attendees and speakers could mingle and discuss the topics presented while waiting for presenters to switch conference rooms. Door prizes were also distributed among the guests, and were delighted to receive exciting gifts.

The speakers’ panel at this year’s Symposium brought a new depth to storytelling. The stories featured were culturally rich and filled with language from Diné, Cherokee, Mvskoke Creek, and Laguna relatives. The Symposium committee honors and values our published writers and oral storytellers on behalf of National Poetry Month. This event offers an excellent opportunity to gather with relatives nearby and far away and share stories. “We often forget to slow down and appreciate where we come from due to our busy work, school, family, and daily routines. The Symposium allows us to do just that as we share stories around the fire,” Dr. Wheeler said.



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"I extend my sincerest appreciation to the Symposium committee, which includes faculty members Anita Roastingear, Gene Hult, and Sharon Nelson. Navajo Nation Poet Laureate Dr. Laura Tohe, Dr. Dianna Mullet, Dr. Casmir Agbaraji, and Dr. Colleen Bowman also provided immense support. We are very grateful to the Business Office staff and Marketing and Communications team for their valuable contributions. The Symposium would not have been possible without their hard work and productivity," Dr. Wheeler stated.

This year, relatives joined the Symposium from Tuba City to North Carolina, Phoenix to Colorado, and across the Navajo Nation. The Symposium Committee looks forward to planning the 2025 Shił Nahólne: Literary Arts & Oral Stories Symposium. (Shił nahólne' - Tell me a story.)

Dr. Casmir Agbaraji, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies, delivered the closing remarks at the Symposium. He acknowledged the hard work and dedication of the students and faculty who worked together to make this event possible. "I would like to thank all the presenters, speakers, and participants who attended the Symposium and shared their stories of how they became recognized writers along with their process. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!" Dr. Agbaraji concluded.

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NTU Rodeo Team Signs on Three New Members for the 2024-2025 Season

Crownpoint, NM—On April 11 and 23, 2024, three new student-athletes, Taylor Pino, Autumn Sells, and Bailey H. Keesie, signed their letter of intent to join the Navajo Technical University (NTU) Rodeo team. Taylor Pino, a soon-to-be graduate from Crownpoint High School, will pursue a degree in NTU's Business Management program. Autumn Sells and Bailey H. Keesie are current seniors at Rough Rock High School and plan to continue their education at NTU in Crownpoint, NM.

Taylor Pino is a senior at Crownpoint High School and holds two presidential titles, one for the Senior class and the other for the Mathematical, Engineering, Science Achievements Club.

Nicole expressed excitement about the event involving Taylor, herself, and their school. It was a momentous occasion as it was the first time in eight years that Nicole had been appointed as the NTU Rodeo Coach, and they had important guests at a Rodeo Team signing. Taylor, the reigning Miss Indian Junior Rodeo Association Queen, had decided to attend Navajo Technical University because it offered her many advantages, including proximity to her hometown, where she could be around horses and livestock that her grandfather had left her. She had also bonded with the NTU rodeo team and was welcomed as their little sister. Taylor had chosen to major in Business and would receive guidance from Dr. Christine Reidhead. Nicole was thrilled that Taylor would start her college career as she was a dedicated student who loved challenging herself with daily, weekly, and long-term goals.

"It is a moment I will never forget; I felt excitement and determination when I put pen to paper. I knew that by committing to pursue my passion for Breakaway at a higher level, I was also taking a significant step in furthering my education," Taylor said.



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Autumn Sells will participate in team roping, barrel racing, and breakaway roping with the NTU rodeo team. Sell's father and aunt have already competed at the collegiate level, and comes from a family with a rodeo background. Autumn credits her dad, aunt, and paternal grandfather for her upbringing and the opportunity to continue doing the sport she loves at the next level. Her entire family witnessed her remarkable achievement as she signed her letter of intent. Autumn plans to pursue her degree in veterinary sciences while at NTU.

Bailey H. Keesie will compete in team roping and tie-down as a part of the NTU rodeo team. His parents accompanied him when he signed his letter of intent. Bailey started as a wooley rider at a young age and later transitioned to team roping. He is grateful for his rodeo family, which includes Autumn and the Sells family. Bailey's parents are proud that he chose to further his education while continuing his roping to fulfill his dream. Bailey plans to pursue a certificate in welding while at NTU.

Nicole Pino, coach of the NTU Rodeo team, said, "I'm super excited to have these talented individuals be a part of NTU Rodeo. I know these three will do great in school and the arena. Today showed the tremendous family support they have. Being in a rodeo family, support makes everything much easier and sweeter. Fall 2024/Spring 2025 will be a fantastic year for NTU rodeo."

If you're interested in joining the NTU Rodeo team, in that case, we invite you to come check us out and experience the excitement of sports while working towards earning your certificate or degree. Some of the influential people who attended the signing ceremonies were Mr. George LaFrance, the NTU Athletic Director; Ms. Samantha Antone, Miss NTU; Mr. Charles Long, a McKinley County School Board member; Coach Nicole Pino, the NTU Head Rodeo Coach and Mother of Taylor, and Dr. Christine Reidhead, an NTU Professor.

For more information, contact:

Nicole Pino
NTU Rodeo Coach
E: npino@navajotech.edu



2024 SkillsUSA Closing Ceremony

Albuquerque, New Mexico—On April 13, 2024, SkillsUSA held its annual closing ceremony for this three-day event. Students from the top-ranking schools across the Land of Enchantment competed to advance to the next stage of Skills USA Nationals. Unsurprisingly, NTU students placed and received medals within their categories. They will compete with other US states for national champions within their respective categories that they have placed in. Navajo Technical University Students could not have done a better job this year at competing with their skill levels to enhance their job qualities and professionalism. We wish our NTU students the best of luck.

The competitions occurred on April 11th and 12th, ending with an award ceremony on the 13th. New Mexico students competed at the state level to qualify for the nationals in Atlanta, Georgia, from June 24-28, 2024.

Congratulations to our Navajo Tech students who demonstrated their excellent skills and proudly represented their university. This competition was a fantastic opportunity for the students to showcase their talents and connect with other professional students in their desired fields.

Tom Bebo - Advisor
Chaslyn Evans - Carpentry - Bronze Medal

Virgil House - Advisor
Malcolm Boyd - Electrical. Construction. Wiring. - Bronze Medal
Jeremy Hosteen - Electrical. Construction. Wiring. - Gold Medal
Tyler Sundown - Electrical. Construction. Wiring. - Silver

Julie Bales - Advisor
Angelena Shepherd - Baking and Pastry - Gold Medal
Angel Joe - Restaurant Service - Gold Medal
Ricknell Delgarito - Customer Service - Bronze

Wilbur Tso - Advisor
State Officer Elected - MiRyan Phillips - Job Interview/Welding Sculpture - Bronze Medal

Adriane Tenequer - Advisor
Roy Begay and Dylan Dale - Digital Cinema Production - Gold



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Yale School of Medicine and Quinnipiac University Equity and Inclusion Leadership Presentation

Crownpoint, NM—On Monday, April 15, 2024, the Yale School of Medicine and Quinnipiac University gave presentations about their Medical Track in Biomedical Sciences at the NTU main campus. NTU biology students and guests from the Health pathway program at Gallup High School attended the event.

The event began with a welcome address by NTU Provost Dr. Bowman, who spoke about the experiences of former NTU students after graduation. NTU Dine' Studies professor, Sharon Nelson, gave an opening prayer, then, Dr. Palmer Netongo introduced the NTU Biology program and explained how it serves as a feeder program for students who want to attend medical or graduate school.

Current students shared their experiences of the NTU biology program, highlighting their internships and research opportunities at Harvard University and in Chicago, Illinois. Yale School of Medicine and Quinnipiac University then presented their graduate and medical school programs, which usually take three to four years to complete. Both universities have limited spots for NTU students and offer benefits such as paid stipends and housing.

Toward the end of the event, attendees participated in a workshop on the Imposter Phenomenon given by Yale and Quinnipiac. Before departing, guests from Gallup High School toured the NTU Biology labs and saw the current projects and machines used within the lab.

For more information, contact:

Dr. Irene Ane Anyangewe
Chair of the School of Science
E: ianeanyangwe@navajotech.edu



Campus Tour for Two High Schools Visiting NTU

Crownpoint, NM - On April 16 and 25, 2024, two high schools from Alamo, NM, and Portland, OR, visited Navajo Technical University to explore the university's offerings. The NTU faculty and staff warmly welcomed high school students from both schools. Brenda Yazzie, NTU recruiter, delivered a welcoming address and explained how the students could experience the entire university life at NTU. The group was divided into two to cover more ground. While walking around the campus, the high school students met NTU students who were busy attending classes or working on projects. This gave the students a glimpse of the rigorous academic environment at the university.

While enjoying their meal, Miss NTU showed up, spoke to the group, and answered their questions about her experience as an NTU student.

After lunch, the group split into three smaller groups led by Miss NTU, Jarvis Draper from the NTU Chinle campus, and Shawna Begay, Career Services Coordinator. The NTU staff and faculty led the students through the campus, showing them various classes, trades, and services that NTU offers. Many of the classes and trades they visited were in session, so they saw a typical day at NTU. The professors spoke with the groups and explained what the students were learning and what a degree in that field could do for them post-NTU. While touring, some students walking around the campus also spoke with the groups about their experiences at NTU and what made them choose the university.

NTU's Dual Credit program allows high school students to enroll in college-level courses offered by a college or university. These courses may be academic or career-technical and are optional or developmental. Through this program, students can simultaneously earn credit toward high school and a postsecondary degree or certificate.

Before the group left, they gathered back at the wellness center with the NTU athletic director, George LaFrance, who spoke about athletics at NTU and student-athletes' success in their sport and classroom. The group received NTU swag, which included helpful information on whether they wanted to enroll at Navajo Technical University.



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Narcan and HIV-STI Training

Crownpoint, NM— On April 22, 2024, the Substance Abuse Prevention Program of Navajo Technical University organized a free training session for Narcan at the Wellness Center. The event was attended by 43 staff members, faculty, students, and community members. The training aimed to raise awareness about the Opioid Epidemic, risk factors for overdose, harm reduction, and build the capacity of priority districts to lead district-level initiatives to increase the implementation of exemplary sexual health education, access to sexual health services, and safe and supportive environments.

Jacob LaCroix from the University of New Mexico, Nicole Lujan, and Brendon Mexican from the New Mexico Department of Health presented during the event. They shared their insights on the mentioned topics, answered questions, and addressed the audience's doubts.

There are some interesting facts about Narcan. Firstly, it can be given under the tongue if there's a blockage in the nose. Secondly, in the event of a suspected opioid overdose, New Mexico state law allows non-medical individuals to carry and use Narcan Nasal spray. However, it's important to note that even after administering Narcan, an individual can still overdose, and it's crucial to call 911. Naloxone is a medicine used to reverse opioid overdose.

The HIV-STI prevention program also aims to strengthen the state education agency's (SEA) capacity to provide leadership, guidance, and technical assistance to priority districts. The program also focuses on improving working relationships with strategic partners to achieve program impact and sustainability and enhance the Safe and Supportive Environments (SSE) for all students and staff.

Following the training session, all attendees were offered a free box of Narcan Nasal spray. NTU Security representative Derrick Perry reported that there have been no opioid overdoses at any NTU sites. Refreshments were provided for all participants.

For more information, contact:
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Student Counseling Services
P: (505) 387-7473
E: c.atine@navajotech.edu



SKYHAWK PRESS

CHINLE INSTRUCTIONAL SITE

NTU Chinle Athletics Signing

Chinle, Arizona - Five students from Chinle High School are gearing up to pursue college sports on April 5, 2024. Balancing academic commitments, personal growth, and sports passion is challenging for all college athletes. Students can stay updated on their favorite NTU sports division or players who will undoubtedly bring a new dimension to the games. Therefore, all high school athletes should seize this incredible opportunity to showcase their skills, pursue their dreams, and make their mark on the university sports scene.

Siblings Asia and Joshua Kee from Chinle, Arizona, will attend Navajo Technical University, where they will play basketball. While Joshua enrolls in the NTU welding program, Asia will study to become a nursing assistant. Their parents, Ricky and Ursula Kee are proud of their children's achievements.

Antwan Bahe, son of Laonail Brown, is from Holbrook, AZ, "I plan on studying with NTU's welding, technology, and electric programs. I have also played youth and high school basketball for three years through Badd Boyz," Antwan said.

Troy King resides in Many Farms, Arizona, with his parents, Nathan and Tiffany King, and his siblings. Troy is thrilled to have the opportunity to continue his education while playing basketball at Navajo Technical University. "I plan to pursue a major in nursing, which has been my interest since I was a young boy attending Little Singer Community School in Birdsprings, AZ," Troy said. He was introduced to basketball by his dad when he was just five years old and has loved the sport ever since.



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Online classes being offered through June 3 - July 12, 2024. For more information, contact: Eric Arpelar at earpelar@navajotech.edu

TSETS: Tribal Steppingstones in Educational Transformative STEM

Summer session in 2024. NTU Crownpoint campus and Zoom virtual session. Contact Cristina at ctolenti@gmcs.org for more information.

2024 NTU Employee Appreciation Luncheon

May 14, 2024
Starts at 11: 00 AM
NTU Wellness Center, Crownpoint , NM.

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NTU Enrollment Day

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2024 from 10 AM- 2 PM,
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Nelson Charley III is from Chinle, Arizona. Nelson participates in various rodeo events such as tie-down, team roping, bull riding, and saddle bronc riding. "My late grandpa was a rodeo competitor, and he inspired me to follow in his footsteps. My parents are Nelson Charley and Trista Charley. I plan to major in the NTU vet tech program," Nelson said.

Owen Bahe, a graduate of Chinle High School in May 2024, will be pursuing a bachelor's degree in Engineering from Chinle, Arizona. Since 2019, Owen has been an avid mountain biker and is a member of the Silver Stallion Mountain bike organization from Gallup, NM. He has participated in numerous races with the Arizona and New Mexico National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA), the Mountain Bike Association of Arizona (MBAA), and Enduro events in New Mexico, Colorado, and Arizona. Owen loves free riding his mountain bike and making new trails in Chinle, AZ, and hopes to make mountain bike trails available to the Navajo Nation.

Congratulations to these outstanding athletes who are now part of Navajo Technical University's Skyhawk teams. Joining a university athletic program can offer opportunities for personal and athletic growth, team spirit, and unforgettable experiences. A huge thanks go out to all the parents and guardians of these exceptional athletes who witnessed their loved ones signing onto a rapidly growing university with many opportunities.

For more information, contact:

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



Yale School of Medicine and Quinnipiac University Equity and Inclusion Leadership Presentation Empowers Navajo Students for Medical Track

Chinle, AZ — In an innovative collaboration, the Yale School of Medicine and Quinnipiac University recently joined forces with Navajo Technical University (NTU) to present an Equity and Inclusion Leadership Presentation at the NTU Chinle Site. On Tuesday, April 16, 2024, this transformative event brought together NTU biology students, esteemed Window Rock High School guests, and leading figures in medical education.

The presentation, spearheaded by NTU's Biology Program in partnership with Yale and Quinnipiac, aimed to prepare the next generation of Navajo students for the rigorous Medical Track in Biomedical Sciences. Arlena Benallie, Director of NTU Chinle Instructional Site, welcomed attendees and set the tone for an enriching day ahead.

Throughout the event, current NTU students shared firsthand experiences from their biology program, underscoring the invaluable internships and research opportunities they've secured, including prestigious placements at Harvard University and in Chicago, IL.

The highlight of the day was presentations by speakers from Yale School of Medicine and Quinnipiac University, including Darin Latimore, MD, Deputy Dean, and Chief Officer; Karina Gonzalez, Ph.D, Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion Programs; and Charles N. Collier, Assistant Dean for Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity at Quinnipiac's Frank H. Netter School of Medicine.

The presentations addressed critical topics such as equity, inclusion, and diversity in medical education and shed light on the transformative potential of the Medical Track programs offered by both institutions. NTU students learned about the extensive benefits available, including paid stipends and housing, along with the limited spots available for aspiring medical scholars.

The day's agenda also featured a thought-provoking workshop on the Imposter Phenomenon, facilitated by experts from Yale and Quinnipiac. The workshop aimed to empower attendees to overcome self-doubt and excel academically and professionally.

As Irene Ann Anyangwe, PhD, Professor of Biology/Microbiology Chair, School of Science, concluded, "This partnership exemplifies our firm dedication to providing our students with the resources and support they need to thrive in the medical field and beyond."



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The Chinle Instructional Site of Navajo Technical University Organized an Awards Banquet to Honor Excellent Achievements

Chinle, AZ—On April 19, 2024, Navajo Technical University's Chinle Instructional Site will hold its Awards Ceremony. The ceremony celebrates the outstanding achievements of students during the Spring and Fall semesters of 2023. The event began at 11:00 a.m. and lasted until 1:00 p.m. at the NTU Chinle Site's Two-story Building.

The ceremony promises to be an inspiring event celebrating academic excellence and dedication as it began with an invocation delivered by Jarvis Draper, NTU Recruiter, followed by a welcome address from Danielita Haskey, Academic Advisor. During the ceremony, certificates were presented to recognize the accomplishments of outstanding students. Teaira L. Francis, NTU Student Senate Representative, delivered a motivational speech to the students. Finally, Dennis Dedmans, NTU Chinle Lead Security, gave closing remarks. The ceremony is a testament to the commitment of NTU Chinle's students, faculty, and staff to academic excellence, personal growth, and community engagement. It is an occasion to honor the dedication and perseverance of individuals who have demonstrated exceptional performance throughout their educational journey.

Navajo Technical University Chinle Instructional Site extends heartiest congratulations to all the awardees for their remarkable achievements and wishes them all the success in their future endeavors. The university is committed to providing affordable, high-quality education to its students and making it accessible to everyone. NTU Chinle empowers its students to achieve their academic and career goals while preserving Navajo culture, language, and traditions. With a strong focus on innovation, excellence, and community engagement, NTU Chinle remains the epitome of educational opportunity in the region.



NTU Chinle Events

Navajo Technical University's Chinle instructional site organized several events from April 11 to May 1, 2024. One of the events was Paint Night, where students painted on canvas plates using various colors. They learned about combining primary colors to create secondary colors and shades. Some students kept their paintings, while others donated them to be displayed in the NTU Chinle bookstore windows. Those who completed a canvas were awarded NTU logo gear, such as hats, bags, fleece sweaters, pullovers, and beanies.

Another event organized by Chinle NTU was Bingo Night. Students enjoyed playing Bingo and snacked on fresh popcorn and other treats. Many students won NTU gear, and the event had a great turnout.

Chinle NTU also hosted a Pizza with Wings Party. Students, staff, and faculty played volleyball outdoors from 1 pm to 5 pm. Later in the evening, around 25-30 students, staff, and volunteers participated in an outdoor water balloon fight. Over 400 water balloons were used in the battle. This event was organized to help Chinle NTU students relax and destress before finals week. The estimated number of sign-ins for the event was over 74 students. Teaira Francis, the Chinle Representative for the NTU Student Senate, was present for all the events and assisted in ensuring that the evening class students received a plate of pizza, wings, and popcorn or snacks from the shop.

The NTU Chinle staff deserves thanks for their invaluable assistance in making the Student Senate's events a resounding success.

For more information and enrollment procedures, please visit the Chinle Instructional Site at Hwy 191 Navajo Route 7
PO Box 849, Chinle, AZ 86503.



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SKYHAWK PRESS

KIRTLAND INSTRUCTIONAL SITE

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The Kirtland Listening Sessions for the Strategic Plan 2025-2030

Kirtland, NM - On April 10, 2024, the Navajo Technical University Kirtland community gathered inside the plumbing technology laboratory for a listening session to discuss the future of the NTU Kirtland Campus. Students, staff, and faculty from the NTU community shared their thoughts and opinions on what they would like to see from the Kirtland campus from 2025 to 2030.

NTU students, staff, and faculty expressed their desire for an established welding laboratory, dedicated full-time instructors and staff, easy access to financial aid representatives, an on-campus bookstore, and more facilities to bring the community together to grow, learn, and connect. These sessions were conducted to receive and take note of student, staff, and faculty concerns to enhance the Navajo Tech community university experience. The strategic plan formulated from these listening sessions aims to strengthen the culture and integrity of NTU, promote diversity within the community, and enhance the University with innovative programs over the next five years (2025-2030).

Ramondo Begaye is the new welding instructor at NTU's Kirtland campus. With over 44 years of experience in welding, having worked in power plants, and has been an AWS Certified Welding Inspector for 15 years. He brings a wealth of expertise to the institution. Ramondo said, "I have been an inspector for two years and a UA instructor since 2007. I am very privileged to work with my people. It has always been a dream after teaching in other parts of the region of the United States. I have lived what I am teaching and am helping the young ones in the right direction in their trades. Hopefully, it will inspire and encourage this trade. I would love to have the welding program in Kirtland to grow and prepare the students for their future."



NTU Featured Staff/Faculty

Dr. Abhishek RoyChowdhury is an Associate Professor of Environmental Science and Natural Resources at NTU. He joined NTU in 2019 and holds a BS in Biology and an MS in Environmental Science from the University of Calcutta, India. He earned his PhD in Environmental Management from Montclair State University, New Jersey, and worked as a Postdoctoral Fellow at Stevens Institute of Technology, New Jersey.

Dr. RoyChowdhury is an environmental clean-up and remediation expert, focusing on abandoned mine site remediation, water and wastewater treatment, and developing eco-friendly “green” approaches for treating heavy metals from contaminated soil and water. He has received funding for his ongoing research projects from USDA, NSF, NASA, U.S. Department of Interior- Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation Enforcement, U.S. Department of Interior- Bureau of Indian Affairs, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and First Americans Land-Grant Consortium. Since joining NTU, Dr. Roy Chowdhury has achieved several notable accolades.

Dr. RoyChowdhury incorporates laboratory and field activities in most of his courses to provide experimental learning. At NTU, he teaches students how to recognize and address environmental justice issues and generate sustainable solutions for their communities. His students have worked on projects including creating the first-ever community garden on campus, which grows Indigenous crops without chemicals, developing rainwater harvesting techniques, and implementing a campus-wide recycling plan.

Dr. RoyChowdhury is leading a joint initiative between Navajo Technical University and New Mexico Tech, the Navajo Nation Water Purification Project (N 4 WPP). The main objective of this project is to deploy cutting-edge water filtration technology in various locations to provide usable water to the Navajo Nation. These sites will also serve as training facilities for students to learn how to test water quality and maintain filtration units.

For more information about NTU’s B.S. degree program in Environmental Science and Natural Resources or our associate degree program, contact Dr. Abhishek RoyChowdhury at aroychowdhury@navajotech.edu.



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