

SKYHAWK PRESS

A PART OF YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE

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NTU 2024 Faculty Convocation

Crownpoint, NM – On August 5-9, 2024, Navajo Technical University attributes its success to the exceptional faculty members who contribute significantly to the university's academic and research prowess. Their diverse expertise, scholarly achievements, and collaborative endeavors make them highly respected. NTU proudly acknowledges the valuable contributions of its faculty, both within and beyond the campus, as they continue to promote knowledge and societal progress.

NTU's tradition of recognizing and celebrating faculty at the start of the academic year during the Faculty Convocation is a meaningful way to honor career achievements, research milestones, and exceptional teaching. This event also allows existing faculty to welcome new members and stay informed about upcoming initiatives from the university leadership.

The event featured open discussions and interactive exercises aimed at personal development. The university is committed to fostering a positive environment for current and prospective students and invites applications for Fall 2024, which commences on August 19, 2024. Prospective students can expect to benefit from exceptional facilities and diverse programs and have the opportunity to learn and grow within a community of like-minded individuals.

"Education is a continuous journey of growth and development. It's not just about gaining knowledge but also about applying what we learn to impact the world positively. Let's work together to transform NTU into a nurturing environment that fosters future scholars and leaders who are pivotal in shaping our community and workforce," Dr. Casmir Agbaraji emphasized.

The university extends its gratitude to all participants, whether in person or online, for their valuable contributions to the event.



NTU Fall 2024 New Student Orientation

Crownpoint, NM – On August 15, 2024, Navajo Technical University welcomed new students for registration and orientation inside the Wellness Center in person and via Zoom for virtual participation. The orientation covered discussions on safety protocols, IT policies, financial aid, and residential transportation and meal arrangements.

Miss NTU Samantha Antone delivered a speech encouraging the new students to succeed and blessed the ceremony. Dr. Elmer Guy, NTU President, welcomed everyone and expressed gratitude for joining the event to honor the students attending NTU for the first time.

“The purpose of the orientation is to learn more about NTU. This day is set aside to educate you on the policies and resources and introduce you to staff, faculty, and new students,” explained Jerlynn Henry, Dean of Student Services.

Students attended NTU departments, toured the campus, participated in helpful sessions, got involved, and built new connections through team-building exercises. NTU presenters and programs made this day memorable and provided the necessary information. This is also a day when parents will come and see what NTU will offer their children as they start their academic journey here at NTU. New students must familiarize themselves with NTU and its various services. Let’s have a fantastic semester!

Go Skyhawks!

For more information, contact:

Jerlynn Henry
Dean of Student Services
E: jhenry@navajotech.edu



SAVE THE DATE

Spring 2025 Pre-Registration

Monday, October 21, 2024

NTU Wellness Center,
Crownpoint, NM

USDA APHIS TCU/ Vet Tech Internship Presentations

September 24-25, 2024
from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Hospitality Room - NTU
Main Campus

For more information,
contact Land Grant
Program at 505-387-
7410 or email landgrant@navajotech.edu

NTU Land Grant Program Presents

Fall Planting Workshops
Seed Saving and Winter
Sowing

September 27, 2024
October 18 and 25, 2024
10-12 PM

NTU Land Grant Building,
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**Petition to Graduate
Fall 2024 Semester**
Deadline for submission is
September 27, 2024

For more information,
contact Wanda Jimmie at
wjimmie@navajotech.edu

SAVE THE DATE

12th Annual Research Competition

March 6th, 2025

Begins at 9:00 am

NTU Wellness Center

For more information,
contact Casmir Agbaraji at
cagbaraji@navajotech.edu
by Friday, November 15,
2024.

NTU Student Club Drive

September 24, 2024

From 1 - 3 PM

NTU Wellness Center

For more information,
contact NTU Student
Senate at
ntustudentsenate@
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1st Annual DNA Sequencing Workshop

September 25, 2024

From 8 AM - 4 PM

NTU Wellness Center

For more information,
contact Dr. Palmer
Netongo at pnetongo@
navajotech.edu

NTU Women's Basketball Team Practice

Crownpoint, NM—On August 20, 2024, the NTU Women's Basketball team kicked off its first full-team practice of the season. Head coach Aanor Louis is gearing up for the new season with excitement and determination. Coach Louis is enthusiastic about the return of four players from last season and the addition of new talent recruited from the local area. He hopes that the new players will lean on the veterans to help them adjust to the pace of collegiate-level play.

The NTU Women's Basketball team will launch its season in October, starting with a preseason game against Eastern Arizona College on Thursday, October 3, 2024, at the Wildcat Den in Chinle, Arizona. A schedule featuring matches against colleges and universities throughout the southwestern region will be announced shortly.

For more information, contact:

George LaFrance

Athletics Director / Wellness Center Manager

P: 505.387.7477

E: glafrance@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 world's oldest wooden wheel has been around for more than 5,000 years.

Dead skin cells are a main ingredient in household dust.



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

NTU Marketing Hosts Coffee Shop

Crownpoint, NM—On Tuesday, August 20, 2024, the Navajo Technical University Marketing Department recently organized a fantastic welcome-back event for students by setting up a delightful free coffee shop in the Wellness Center foyer on the main campus. The doors opened at 10:00 a.m., and the delicious coffee flowed until around 11:30 a.m. Everyone at the NTU Campus, including students, faculty, and staff, was welcome to join the fun!

Meriel Simpson, the graphic design artist of the NTU Marketing team, spearheaded this excellent initiative. She carefully curated the menu and provided top-notch training for the marketing team, ensuring the event was successful. The coffee shop attracted a lively crowd, with students, faculty, staff, and even community members joining in on the fun. The coffee received rave reviews for its taste and presentation, and to top it off, customers were treated to delightful NTU stickers and savory pastries alongside their coffee. What a fantastic way to bring everyone together!

The NTU Marketing team would like to thank everyone who supported the coffee shop and wish everyone a great rest of the semester.



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NTU Men's Basketball Team Practice

Crownpoint, NM—On August 23, 2024, the NTU men's basketball team commenced its first practice of the season under the leadership of new Head Coach Michael McMillan. Coach McMillan, who has assembled a roster of local talent, is guiding the team through the adjustments required to sync with new teammates and adapt to the pace of college basketball. During the practice, Coach McMillan organized team scrimmages to evaluate the players' game-time decision-making and overall performance.

The NTU men's team will start their preseason with a game against Eastern Arizona College on Thursday, October 3rd, at the Wildcat Den in Chinle, AZ. Following the preseason, they will carry forward the momentum from last season, competing against colleges and universities across the Southwest. A complete schedule for the men's and women's teams will be announced soon.

For more information, contact:

Michael McMillan
NTU Mens Head Coach
E: mmcmillan@navajotech.edu



Three Students Join the Lady Skyhawks

Crownpoint, NM— Shanoah Platero, a proud member of the Naakaaii Dine' e' (The Mexican People) and born for To' Baazhni'azhi (Two Who Came to the Water People) from Chichiltah, NM, has announced her decision to join the women's basketball team at Navajo Technical University for the 2024-2025 season. This is an exciting opportunity for her to showcase her skills and succeed.

Raven Tso has also joined the Skyhawk women's basketball team. Raven is a new student pursuing a nursing program. We are thrilled to have such a talented and dedicated athlete on board. This is just the beginning of a fantastic journey, and we're confident that Raven will be a crucial player in helping us reach new heights this season. Let's all welcome her and get ready to cheer her on!

Navajo Technical University is also excited to welcome Kalise Steven to the Skyhawk women's basketball team. Kalise is a new student pursuing the Veterinarian Technology program and looks forward to starting the season and semester positively.

Under the guidance of Head Coach Aanor Louis, Shanoah, Raven, and Kalise happily signed their letter of intent and were supported by their family and friends after a memorable campus tour.



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CHINLE INSTRUCTIONAL SITE

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Central Agency Fair Parade - Navajo Technical University

Chinle, AZ – On August 16, 2024, Navajo Technical University participated in the 38th Annual Central Navajo Nation parade. This year's theme is "Celebrating Life, Íiná Bahoózhó," where the NTU spirit was alive and well. Miss NTU and NTU Chinle Instructional Site Director Arlena Benallie made a special appearance at the parade. They walked warmly, greeting attendees and expressing their deep appreciation for the community's support.

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. Our NTU Chinle instructional site is becoming brighter through independent education, new upcoming programs they will house, and, with the help of the CDL program, where an individual can operate tractor-trailers and heavy equipment.

NTU would like to thank student services, student workers, marketing, staff, faculty, the athletic department, security, and maintenance for helping during the parade. Enrollment is always open here at NTU. Take advantage of your chance to further your education while staying close to home.

For more information, please contact:

Jarvis Draper
NTU Recruiter – Chinle Instructional site
E: j.draper@navajotech.edu
P: (928) 882-3155



NTU Chinle - Fun Run/Walk and Kids Day

Chinle, AZ - The NTU Chinle Site's Back 2 School Fun Run & Walk on Monday, August 12, 2024, was a success, thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of the participants. NTU extends its gratitude to everyone who ran, walked, or cheered from the sidelines, contributing to a great start to the 2024 Fall season.

Runners had a great time, and NTU looks forward to seeing everyone at future events, keeping the spirit of fitness and community alive.

In addition to the run, Chinle hosted Kids Day at the NTU Instructional Chinle site, where kids and parents enjoyed a day filled with outdoor activities and excitement. In collaboration with Chinle Dine Youth, the event was a joyful occasion, and even the Chinle NTU site director, Arlena Benallie, participated.

The event was well-organized, with service providers following parking guidelines and NTU Security ensuring efficient traffic management. Dignitaries, including Navajo Nation leaders and Miss Navajo Nation contestants, joined the event and shared inspiring messages with the youth.

The Department of Behavioral & Mental Health Services provided fresh snacks, and Desert Mobile Sounds offered great music, with support from local agencies and volunteers. A special thank you to Bryan Yazzie for bringing the bouncy house, snow cone, and popcorn machine, which were all massive hits with the kids.



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NTU Featured Staff/Faculty

Christopher Panigeo, an Inupiaq Eskimo originally from Barrow, Alaska, is the Welding Instructor at Navajo Technical University in Crownpoint, New Mexico. He began his role in 2023 at the Teec Nos Pos instructional site, bringing a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm for contributing to a Tribal University. He graduated from West Valley High School in Fairbanks in 1997 and was an active hockey player.

“I’ll never forget the exhilarating moment I struck, arced, and laid down my first weld. It marked the exciting beginning of my welding journey,” shared Chris with genuine enthusiasm.

Having successfully attained his welding certification from the prestigious University of Anchorage, Alaska, and mastered TIG, MIG, and stick welding techniques, he has become a proficient expert in each specific welding process, garnering well-deserved recognition from the industry.

“In the dynamic realm of welding, there’s endless growth potential. I take great pride in my journey as a committed welder, constantly striving to enhance and hone my skills. Actively participating in workshops, embracing new welding techniques, and staying abreast of the latest advancements in welding technology are essential aspects of my continuous development,” Chris passionately affirms.

Chris encountered numerous challenges on his journey to the lower 48 states, but his perseverance and determination prevailed. His path led him to meet his wonderful wife in Alaska, and together, they returned to her hometown in Cove, AZ. Through unwavering dedication and hard work, he has secured a valuable opportunity to work at Teec Nos Pos with the invaluable assistance of Frank Todacheeny, an NTU instructional site coordinator. Looking ahead, Chris is excited to embark on a new chapter at the main site in Crownpoint, NM.

“My welding journey is a continuous process. Each milestone you achieve is a stepping stone for further success. Embrace the challenges, savor the small victories, and keep pushing the boundaries of welding,” emphasized Chris.

Chris’s unwavering commitment to his role ensures that all successful welding, such as stainless steel, aluminum, and exotic alloys, demonstrates versatility and adaptability as a welder. His dedication and passion shine through in every aspect of his work as he passes welding knowledge to others on his journey.

Contact Christopher Panigeo, Navajo Technical University Welding Instructor, at c.panigeo@navajotech.edu or visit www.navajotech.edu.

