

SKYHAWK PRESS

A PART OF YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE

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Navajo Technical University vs Eastern Arizona College

Chinle, Arizona—On October 3, 2024, the Skyhawks men's and women's basketball teams faced the experienced and disciplined Gila Monsters from Eastern Arizona College. This highly anticipated competition was crucial for the Skyhawks, who aimed to continue building their new foundation in year 3.

The Lady Skyhawks began their second season at the Chinle High Wildcat Den against Eastern Arizona College. NTU women's coach Aanor Louis expressed confidence in the team's abilities and desire to elevate the program.

The Men's Skyhawks and the Gila Monsters fiercely competed, trading baskets and identifying each other's weaknesses in the early stages. However, the Skyhawks struggled as a unit as the first half progressed. EAC capitalized on this, causing the separation both teams were striving to achieve. Eastern Arizona College provided intense competition, highlighting the components the Skyhawks needed to improve offensively and defensively.

In the second half, the Men's Skyhawks worked to narrow the gap, showing their competitive spirit and determination. Despite their efforts, EAC maintained discipline and emerged victorious against NTU.

The game in Chinle drew a great crowd that created a lively atmosphere in the arena, showing strong support for the teams. The match against EAC marked the first collegiate program the Skyhawks had faced, providing valuable insights for the team and coaches on areas for improvement in upcoming games.

Looking ahead, coaches Michael McMillan, Aanor Louis, and the Skyhawks are preparing for an exciting upcoming week, starting with an away game against Benedictine University on October 24-25.



NTU Midnight Madness

Crownpoint, NM– On October 2, 2024, Navajo Technical University unveiled its Weightlifting, Cross-Country, Archery, Rodeo, and women’s and men’s Basketball teams. The event kicked off with all the students making their entrance with their chosen music, accompanied by a spectacular light show.

Coach Mike McMillan hosted the event as other coaches thanked the crowd for attending and rallied support for their teams for the upcoming year.

The weightlifting team took the stage first, followed by the cross-country and archery teams. Students began by dancing in pairs to country music, and the lively crowd joined in with cheering and applause.

The women’s basketball team posed for pictures with a basketball in hand, followed by the men’s team. Each participant at Midnight Madness showcased their unique style and personality, providing a fantastic introduction for student-athletes.

The music selection was diverse, featuring rock, rap, country, and pop.

Go Skyhawks!



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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.

Western Dance

Presented by NTU
Student Senate
Performance by Western
Edge Band 2
November 22, 2024
8:00 PM to 11:00 PM
NTU, Crownpoint, NM
Public Event!

Contact for more
information at
ntustudentsenate@
navajotech.edu

Thanksgiving Day/ Navajo Nation Family Day

Observed Holiday
November 28 – 29, 2024

NTU Library Bingo and Karaoke Night

Crownpoint, NM - On Tuesday, October 8 - 10, 2024, the NTU Library hosted a free Bingo and Karaoke event for students, faculty, and staff at the main campus in Crownpoint, NM. The event occurred in the library's first-floor conference room from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Throughout the evening, attendees enjoyed light refreshments and had the chance to win various prizes during the Bingo games. The library staff has organized these evening events to help students unwind during midterms. The turnout for Bingo night was fantastic, providing a fun and engaging atmosphere for everyone in the NTU community.

The NTU Library continues to serve as an excellent study space with a quiet environment as Karaoke night continues. The turnout was fantastic, with staff and students cheering each other on and encouraging everyone to sing their hearts out. The library became a vibrant space filled with positive energy and great tunes. The library extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in this week's event and wishes you the best of luck throughout the fall semester.

The NTU Library team encourages everyone to use the library's resources during midterm week. It's a welcoming place to study, and our friendly staff can always assist. We look forward to seeing you at the NTU Library!



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...

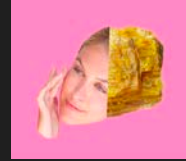


Wally Amos is responsible for making more than just cookies famous.

People once ate arsenic to improve their skin.



Professional athletes used to perform in vaudeville during the off-season.



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Spear 3 Ground, Smith Lake, NM

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Students finish up the Fall '24 semester.
December 9 - 12, 2024

NTU Fall Graduation

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NTU Wellness Center,
Crownpoint, NM
10:00am – 3:00pm

Monument Valley HS and Wingate High School Campus Tour

On Wednesday, October 9 and 15, 2024, Navajo Technical University welcomed Monument Valley High School and Wingate High School students to its main campus in Crownpoint, NM, for an engaging campus tour. NTU recruiter Brenda Yazzie led the tour, starting from the NTU Student Union Building.

Brenda Yazzie, NTU Recruiter, Kory Begay, NTU Peer Navigator, and several members from the NTU Rodeo team led the tours for the fifty visiting students, who were divided into two groups for a more interactive experience. Kory kicked off the tour at the science labs and then guided the students through the Culinary Arts program, the trades building (which encompasses Construction, Welding, Electrical Trades, and Automotive), Information Technology, the Fabrication lab, and the campus Hogan, home to the Diné Studies program. Program instructors and advisors were on hand to answer questions and share insights about what a typical class entails and the career opportunities available upon graduation.

The visit concluded with lunch at the cafeteria before the students departed. Apply and enroll today to become part of the NTU community and bring education closer to home!



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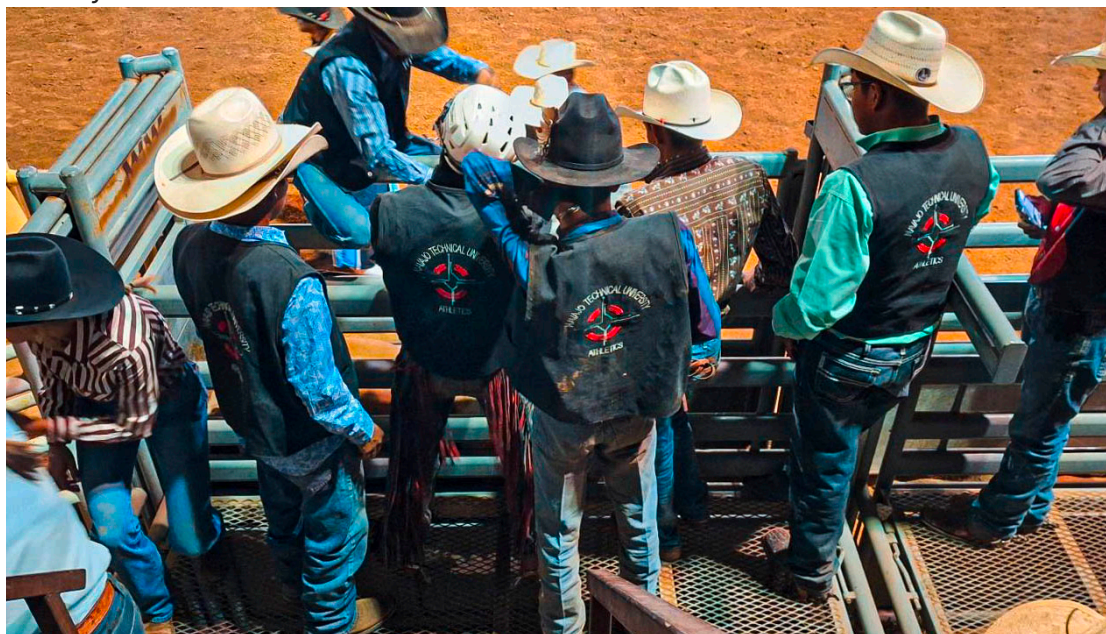
NTU Rodeo Team at Mesalands Community College

Tucumcari, NM—On October 11 – 12, 2024, Navajo Technical University's rodeo team competed at the 16th Annual Mesalands Community College Grand Canyon Region Intercollegiate Rodeo at the Quay County Fairgrounds.

The Navajo Technical University men's team placed 5th with 410 points in the NIRA standings. NTU is thrilled to report that Isaiah Tom won the bareback short go for a 67-point ride and received 60 points for 1st place. Wyatt was a 79 in the long go, received 50 points, and placed 2nd in the average with a 79-point ride with another 50 points, totaling 100 points for the weekend. The women's team is currently in 5th place with 145 points.

Our teams are gearing up for the upcoming college rodeo event at Dine' College in Tsale, AZ, on November 2 and 3. Navajo Technical University is proud of its Rodeo Team's accomplishments and looks forward to continued success in the upcoming competitions.

Go Skyhawks!



NTU Breast Cancer Awareness Walk/Run

Crownpoint, NM—On Monday, October 21, 2024, the Navajo Technical University Student Senate organized a walk/run on NTU's main campus to raise awareness for breast cancer. This free event, open to the public, featured a scenic one-mile trail that began outside the wellness center and circled the campus. Following the trail, NTU student senate members distributed snacks, water, and complimentary T-shirts.

The NTU Student Senate extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in the walk/run and contributed to the event's success. We invite you to join us for the Spook 5K Fun Run/Walk next Tuesday, October 29. Registration opens at 7 AM, and the run/walk will kick off at 8 AM.

For more information, contact:

NTU student senate
E: ntustudentsenate@navajotech.edu



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NTU ABET Accreditation Celebration

Crownpoint, NM— On October 24, 2024, Navajo Technical University (NTU) celebrated its Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) inside the hospitality center. The event began with introductions from NTU staff and visitors, including the President, Vice President, and members of the NTU Engineering Club.

Dr. Elmer Guy began by discussing NTU's history and the role of higher education. He emphasized how the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) view tribal colleges as pathways to four-year institutions. He noted that the Industrial Engineering program has laid the groundwork for a fabrication lab overseen by instructor Scott Halliday. Students are paving their way into STEM fields through collaborations with organizations such as NASA, Sandia Labs, and the NSF. Engaging with high school students, counselors, and teachers provides a significant advantage. "Our board is incredibly supportive and believes in our vision. We're excited to expand Ph.D. programs in engineering at NTU, which will enhance student retention and success," Dr. Elmer Guy stated.

Dr. Casmir Agbaraji, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, provided an overview of ABET accreditation. He explained the various programs and commissions involved, emphasizing the benefits for students, the institution, and the global community after graduation. "The criteria for ABET accreditation focus on our student outcomes, which are interconnected. The needs of the students drive improvements. The NTU Partnership presents over seventy compelling proposals from leading employers specifically tailored for NTU Engineering graduates and exciting opportunities for further studies," he stated.

The ABET accreditation ensures that students in NTU's engineering and technology programs meet the industry standards necessary to prepare for careers in STEM fields. NTU continues to enhance its STEM offerings, providing students with both hands-on and theoretical applications. The university offers 40 STEM programs and three graduate degrees in Engineering and Technology.

Several tribal, state, and federal leaders discussed the accreditation during lunch.

Tarique Hasan Khan, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, expressed his gratitude for the event, stating, "Thank you, Dr. Agbaraji, for all your assistance during the accreditation process for the ABET program. I hope all current and future students will feel encouraged and benefit from this accreditation."

Dr. Andy Nez, a Navajo Nation Council delegate, said, "First, I congratulate President Guy, the Board of Regents, and everyone involved in securing additional accreditations for your baccalaureate and associate degree programs, particularly in 21st-century fields. This accreditation by ABET is a significant achievement, highlighting NTU's international recognition and commitment to excellence."

Dr. Colleen Bowman delivered an inspiring speech on the importance of accreditation in STEM education for the Navajo Nation. “I want to thank the faculty; your dedication to the university amazes me. I recognize that our partners go above and beyond to provide opportunities for the Navajo people.”

Dr. Jody Chase from the Division of Human Resource Development (EHR/HRD) at NSF stated, “I have been fortunate to build strong relationships with faculty members such as Scott Halliday and Peter Romine. However, the greatest blessing has been working with Dr. Elmer Guy, who has quietly played a vital role in shaping NTU’s opportunities. Thank you all for the many gifts you provide to the students of NTU.”

Navajo Technical University honored its engineering alums, faculty, and advisory board members by presenting them with vests. Among the recipients were Dr. Gil Gonzales, Chair of the IT Advisory Board, and Marcie Vandever, an NTU alumna, who discussed the history of ABET accreditation and its ongoing significance. Dr. Jason Arviso, Vice President of Operations, and Dr. Phil Pohl, Chairperson of the Engineering Advisory Board, also contributed to the discussion. Let us congratulate them:

- Marcie Vandever, Alumni, Former President of the Engineering Club
- Tarique Hasan Khan, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering
- Mark Trebian, Assistant Professor of Applied Computer Technology
- Dr. Thiagarajan Soundappan, Associate Professor of Chemistry
- Adriane Tenequer, Industrial Engineering
- Wanda Jimmie, Alumni, Information Technology
- Dr. Bhagya M. Patil, Assistant Professor of Computer Science
- Dr. Peter Romine, Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering

Thanks to Scott Halliday’s insightful presentation, guests had the opportunity to explore the fabrication lab and its innovative features. Additionally, thank you to the Culinary Arts department for a beautiful lunch!



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NTU Students Participate in ASPV Training Focused on NC Clean Energy Technology

Raleigh, NC - In a significant initiative to enhance renewable energy education, Navajo Technical University (NTU) students participated in the Advanced Solar PV Design and Installation course at the North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center (NCCETC) from October 21 to October 25, 2024.

This program underscores NTU's commitment to equipping its students with advanced solar technology skills and aligns with broader efforts to promote sustainable energy solutions within Indigenous communities.

The Advanced Solar PV Design and Installation course at the North Carolina State University provides participants with comprehensive knowledge and hands-on experience in solar photovoltaic (PV) systems. The curriculum covers essential topics such as system design, installation techniques, and maintenance practices, ensuring that students are well-prepared to enter the growing field of renewable energy.

During the course, NTU students engaged in both theoretical learning and practical applications, allowing them to gain valuable insights into the complexities of solar energy systems. The hands-on training component included real-world scenarios that equipped students with the skills to address potential challenges. This experiential learning approach is essential for fostering a deep understanding of solar technology and its implementation.

The NTU students' participation in this course reflects the university's dedication to promoting sustainable practices and addressing energy needs within the Navajo Nation. By investing in renewable energy education, NTU prepares its students for successful careers while contributing to broader energy independence and sustainability goals for Indigenous communities.

Additionally, the partnership with NCCETC emphasizes the importance of collaboration in advancing clean energy education. The center is renowned for its expertise in renewable energy technologies and has successfully trained professionals nationwide.

As the demand for renewable energy solutions continues to grow, the skills acquired by NTU students will be invaluable. They will be equipped to contribute to developing and implementing solar energy projects within **their communities and nationally**. This training is vital to empowering students to become leaders in the renewable energy sector.



NTU Spooky 5k Walk/Run

Crownpoint, NM—On Tuesday, October 29, 2024, Navajo Technical University hosted a 5K Spook Walk/Run on its main campus to raise awareness for Red Ribbon Week.

This free event was open to the public and featured a scenic two-mile trail that began at the wellness center and circled the campus. NTU staff and faculty provided participants with snacks, water, and complimentary T-shirts.

NTU extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone participating in the Spook 5K Fun Run/Walk. Registration began at 7 AM, and the run/walk started at 8 AM, with over 40 participants joining the event. NTU staff guided the runners back to the Student Union Building (SUB) after the walk/run. The dedication and teamwork exhibited by participants were commendable, as they set a great example by promoting a healthy lifestyle.

After the event, Brenda Yazzie, the NTU recruiter, joyfully presented prizes to the top adult and youth runners of the 5K race. It was a delightful moment as participants received gift certificates for the NTU bookstore as tokens of appreciation!

Go Skyhawks!

For more information, contact:

Brenda Yazzie

NTU Recruiter

P: (505) 387-7427; 505-488-3722

E: b.yazzie@navajotech.edu



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2024 NTU SkillsUSA Club

Crownpoint, NM - On October 24, 2024, the Navajo Technical University SkillsUSA Club will hold weekly meetings on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Members can get involved by attending regular seminars and conferences. They will gain essential knowledge of community service, fundraising, donating, and volunteering.

We welcome the NTU SkillsUSA Club, which includes:

- President: MiRyan Phillips
- Vice President: Brett Cowboy
- Treasurer: Roberta Hale-Charley (not pictured)
- Parliamentarian: Avery Velasquez
- Secretary: Pauline Mescale
- Reporter: Dylan Dale
- Historian: Shinaeya Watson (not pictured)
- Club Advisor: Julie Bales

SkillsUSA chapters across the U.S. conduct an annual Leadership and Skills State Conference. However, New Mexico SkillsUSA once again organized an in-person meeting where students showcased the skills they developed during their academic pursuits at both the high school and college levels.

Let’s go, Skyhawks!

For more information, contact:

Julie Bales
Associate Professor of English
E: jbales@navajotech.edu
P: 505.786.4191



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CHINLE INSTRUCTIONAL SITE

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NTU Chinle Site Hosted a Fun-Filled Trunk or Treat Event

There were some amazing participants, including EMS from Chinle IHS, Natasha Bitsui from the Division of Behavioral & Mental Health Services Chinle Outpatient Treatment Center, and many other community organizations who set up tables to bring treats, smiles, and resources to the community!

Thank you to everyone who joined us in celebrating and making this event a success!



NTU Featured Staff/Faculty

Marie Zwierlein is the Travel Coordinator at Navajo Technical University in Crownpoint, New Mexico. She belongs to the Ashiihi (Salt) clan and the Kinyaa'anii. Her grandfathers are Ts'ah yisk'idnii (Sage Brush Hill) and To' aheadliinii. Originally from Nahodishgish, NM, Marie graduated from the Navajo Academy in 1989. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Phoenix and is pursuing an MBA or an MPA at the University of New Mexico.

Marie is a devoted wife to her husband, Jim Zwierlein, and a loving mother to their three boys. She also values her roles as a daughter, sister, aunt, and grandmother. Marie enlisted in the Marines Corps in 1990, beginning her training at boot camp in Parris Island, South Carolina. She then attended the Maintenance Management School (MIMMS) in Virginia Beach, Virginia, before transferring to the Bulk Petroleum Specialist School at Fort Lee, Virginia.

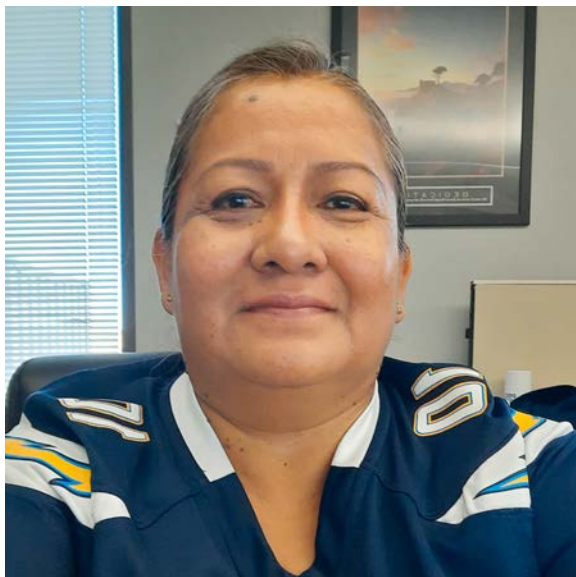
As a proud U.S. Marine, Marie embraces the principle, "Know yourself and seek self-improvement."

After completing her bachelor's degree, she is pursuing an MBA or MPA at the University of New Mexico (UNM). Additionally, she has worked as a program supervisor for the Navajo Nation. Marie resonates with Socrates's saying, "The only true wisdom is knowing you know nothing."

"I am grateful for the opportunity to showcase my true talent, helping others, even when they may not want assistance. I am earning my place here in the business office, and I appreciate all the support from my hardworking colleagues," Marie emphasized.

Marie's unwavering commitment to her role involves managing every aspect of business travel process and most importantly ensuring compliance with travel policies. Her efforts enable employees to travel efficiently and smoothly to meet business objectives. Marie lives by the quote, "Learn as if you will live forever; live like you will die tomorrow."

Contact Marie Zwierlein, Navajo Technical University Travel Coordinator, at mzwierlein@navajotech.edu or visit www.navajotech.edu



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