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NTU Peer Navigators Benefits Palooza

On April 1, 2026, NTU Peer Navigators Kory Begay and Amber James hosted the Benefits Palooza at the Wellness Center on the NTU main campus.

They invited a wide range of support services and resources, both on and off-campus, to help support student success. The event ran from 10 AM to 2 PM and was well-attended by NTU students who took advantage of the variety of services available all in one place.

The Benefits Palooza provided a great opportunity for students and community members to connect with organizations offering essential support, including healthcare, housing, financial assistance, emergency housing, and food programs.

Representatives were on hand to share information, answer questions, and help students access vital services.

For the Peer Navigators, it's crucial to host events like this to ensure students can ask questions, make connections, and find the resources they need to succeed. A big thank you to all the organizations that participated and engaged with our students!



Navajo Nation Vice President Richelle Montoya Visits NTU's New Academic Building

Crownpoint, NM - On April 3, 2026, Navajo Technical University was honored to welcome Navajo Nation Vice President Richelle Montoya to campus today for a tour and strategic briefing of our new Academic Building.

During her visit, discussions focused on NTU's strategic plan—centered on strengthening our culture and integrity, expanding opportunities, and enhancing the University through innovative programs. Valuable feedback was also shared by our Student Senate, staff, and community members, highlighting priorities such as building partnerships, improving infrastructure, and addressing housing needs.

Vice President Montoya shared her thoughts on the new facility: "The new Academic Building is to inspire and support students in pursuing their dreams and goals. Thank you, Dr. Elmer Guy and his administration, for helping make this University a significant milestone."

We are grateful for her visit and continued support of NTU's mission and future growth. Go Skyhawks!



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Sandia and Los Alamos National Laboratories Visit NTU to Strengthen Partnerships

Crownpoint, NM - On Apr 7, 2026, Navajo Technical University (NTU) hosted leaders from Sandia National Laboratories, including Director Laura McGill, and Los Alamos National Laboratory to expand collaboration in research and workforce development. The event at NTU's Hospitality Center featured welcoming remarks from Dr. Stan Atcitty, who noted NTU's unique status as the only accredited tribal institution with electrical engineering programs.

Provost Dr. Colleen Bowman and President Dr. Elmer Guy detailed NTU's evolution since 1979 and the importance of strategic partnerships in creating student career pathways. Director McGill praised NTU's academic strength and its role in preparing students for critical technical fields. The visit included campus tours of science, manufacturing, and business programs led by Scott Halliday and Dr. Christine Reidhead, highlighting NTU's applied learning environment. Dr. Bowman concluded by reaffirming NTU's commitment to these vital laboratory partnerships.



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...



Japan released sushi-inspired KitKats.

An espresso maker was sent into space in 2015.



The aquarium once referred to a watering place for cattle.

Minnesota Group of Students Visit the NTU Main Campus

Crownpoint, NM - On April 8, 2026, a group of high school students from Minnesota's Osseo Area Schools visited the NTU campus as part of their Tribal Colleges and Universities tour in New Mexico.

The group included students in grades 9 through 12 who have been traveling to various tribal colleges and universities, participating in interactive campus tours along the way.

Led by Michael McMillan and Dee Anna James, the students were divided into two groups to explore a range of academic programs, including New Media, Computer Science, Automotive, and Electrical Trades, among others.

In addition to academic departments, the students toured key campus facilities such as the Academic Building, Wellness Center, dormitories, and the library. Throughout the visit, they actively engaged with professors and presenters, asking questions and gathering information about each program.

The tour concluded with a lunch of Navajo tacos before the group departed campus.



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NTU Peer Navigators and La Planta Organization Successfully Host Multi-Site Produce Distribution Event with Easter Egg Hunt

Crownpoint, NM – April 7-8, 2026, Navajo Technical University (NTU) experienced a successful and impactful two-day produce box distribution event, orchestrated by the dedicated NTU Peer Navigators in collaboration with the La Planta Organization.

The distribution began on April 7th at the Kirtland site, led by NTU Peer Navigators, in an accessible drive-through format from 10:00 a.m., coinciding with an Easter Egg hunt hosted by Malorie McKerry from Student Services. Later that day, boxes were distributed at the Teec Nos Pos site at 2:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, April 8th, the Chinle instructional site hosted the distribution, which also featured an Easter egg hunt, food, and prizes.

Each box contained a diverse selection of fresh fruits and vegetables to encourage healthy eating. The efficient, drive-through operations minimized contact. The events were open to the entire NTU population and the broader local community. This partnership has helped the NTU Peer Navigators master the logistics for regular, vital food distributions.

The outreach successfully served students, staff, faculty, and local community members, including the main campus and across three key instructional sites: Chinle, Kirtland, and Teec Nos Pos.

The NTU Peer Navigators—Kory Begay, Amber James, Shawna Begay, and Malorie McKerry—and NTU Student Services deeply thank the La Planta Organization for their steadfast support and commitment to this successful, multi-site wellness mission. Thank you to everyone who made the trip!



NTU and ASU Strengthen Institutional Partnership

On Apr 9, 2026, Navajo Technical University (NTU) hosted an Arizona State University (ASU) delegation in Crownpoint, NM, to expand collaborations in Manufacturing, AI, and Health Services. NTU President Dr. Elmer Guy opened the event in the new Academic Building, highlighting the integration of resources to address regional challenges.

Breakout sessions focused on key initiatives:

+ Manufacturing: Led by Scott Halliday, focusing on student certifications and Navajo Nation employment pathways.

+ AI & Technology: Discussed community risks and opportunities, with IT Director Jared Ribble outlining broadband infrastructure expansion.

+ Health Sciences: Aimed at preparing students for ASU Health initiatives and the Indigenous Leadership Academy.

NTU students shared research success stories, including internships at Harvard University. ASU speakers, including Robin Hammond, Dr. Clark Miller, and Candace Hamana, presented on workforce development and tribal relations. This partnership advances NTU's mission of sustainability and academic excellence through community-focused workforce development.



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NTU Campus Tour with Shiprock Agency Workforce

Crownpoint, New Mexico - On April 9, 2026, Gaining a competitive edge in today's workforce begins with early exposure to career pathways and higher education opportunities. Workers from the Shiprock Agency Workforce Center visited Navajo Technical University to explore a range of academic programs and career-focused training options available to them as future certificate and degree seekers.

The visit provided insight into how NTU supports students in building meaningful futures for themselves and their communities. Through a behind-the-scenes experience, visitors observed current NTU students actively engaged in their fields of study, demonstrating the pathway toward professional growth and success.

Programs highlighted included automotive technology, electrical wiring, construction, environmental science, chemistry, biology, and the fabrication laboratory, showcasing the diverse opportunities available through an NTU education.

Take the first step toward your future—Navajo Technical University empowers students with hands-on education and career pathways to build success for themselves and their communities.

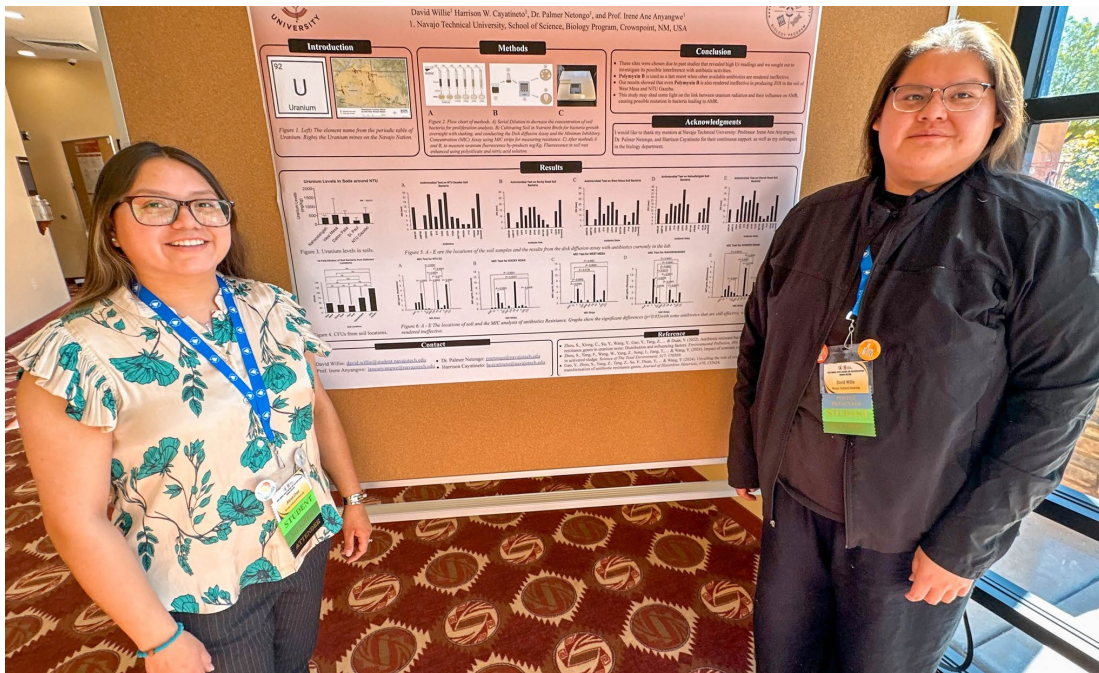


NTU Biology Program Showcases Student Success at ASM Event

Crownpoint, NM - On April 13, 2026, Navajo Technical University Biology students David Willie and Alexia Chee represented NTU at the 65th Annual American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Arizona and Southern Nevada Branch Meeting, held at Diné College in Tuba City, Arizona.

The conference marked the first time an ASM event has been hosted by a tribal college. Willie and Chee also became the first NTU biology students to attend an ASM conference, marking an important milestone for the program.

Their participation reflects the program's commitment to delivering practical, career-focused learning experiences. NTU's Biology Program offers fully equipped wet labs that support studies in biology, chemistry, and physics, equipping students for a wide range of career paths both within Arizona and New Mexico and beyond.



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AIHEC Čangleška Student Success Initiative Goals

Crownpoint, NM – On April 16, 2026, the Navajo Technical University (NTU) Transformation team and the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) Čangleška Student Success Initiative (CSSI) team convened to deliberate upon NTU’s current services and priorities, identify synergistic connections, and establish a framework to assist tribal colleges and universities (TCUs) in Indigenizing higher education and enhancing student outcomes inside the Student Union Building.

The meeting addressed critical areas, including academic advising, student perspectives, developmental education, and prospective opportunities for action. All attendees participated in the initiative, which aims to instigate institutional change and improve student success metrics.

“Project assessment utilizes key metrics such as retention, persistence, and course completion, while AIHEC’s strategic foundation remains rooted in the cultural values of sovereignty, place, and community. The responses clearly indicate that NTU’s work is underpinned by profound dedication, commitment, and community integration,” remarked Denise E. Rubeck, AIHEC CSSI representative.

The team established several priorities, including heightened responsiveness to students and the communities they serve. TCUs are expected to define their specific student success objectives through institutionally developed definitions and customized, innovative methodologies.

The path forward emphasizes aligning efforts using the Institutional Transformation Assessment (ITA) and ensuring the sustainability of this work. This involves using the Institutional transformation assessment, an ongoing, systematic process of data collection and analysis.

The AIHEC Čangleška Student Success Initiative endeavors to elevate awareness of promising and effective transformation strategies for equitable student success among campus leadership and the broader community, inform campus-level decisions on change options and strategies, and support decision-makers in implementing equitable practices.



NTU Golf Tournament 2026 Brings Community Together

Farmington, AZ - On April 18, 2026, Navajo Technical University would like to extend our appreciation to all participants and guests who attended the first annual NTU Golf Tournament. This event brought our community together in support of student-athletes, highlighting the strong commitment to athletics at NTU. As a fundraiser for the upcoming school year, the tournament welcomed over 120 golfers who showed their support.

We also extend a special thank you to Piñon Hills Golf Course for providing a beautiful venue and the opportunity to host this year's tournament.

Tournament Winners:

- 1st Place: Denetso + Harwood + Littleman + Sorenson
- 2nd Place: Navajo Nation Oil & Gas Team
- 3rd Place: Set Inc. Team

Additional awards were presented for Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, and Longest Putt, followed by an exciting raffle drawing for participants.

NTU President Dr. Elmer Guy shared his appreciation, stating, "We are grateful to everyone who came out to support our student-athletes. Events like this reflect the strength of our community and our shared commitment to student success."



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NTU 3D Archery Shoot: Event Summary and Athlete Roster

Crownpoint, NM – On April 18-19, 2026, Navajo Technical University (NTU) hosted a successful 3D Archery Indoor Shoot inside the Wellness Center. The competition followed the Vegas 900 format, challenging athletes with regular and 3D animal targets.

Participants were allotted one minute per target to execute the sequence of ranging, aiming, and discharging a single arrow. Success in hitting targets required strategic use of rangefinders and binoculars, along with adjustments to the bow, to assess both accuracy and tactical proficiency.

Navajo Technical University Coach: Martin Perry

Women's Bowhunter: Nona Nez

Women's Open Compound: Semira Girey

Women's Barebow Recurve: Jayna Wilson, Faith Benally

IAIA (Institute of American Indian Arts) Coach: Soledad

Women's Barebow Recurve: April Rosetta, Kaydee Mila

Men's Barebow Recurve: Erich Mueller

Diné College Coaches: Darwin Henderson & Brandon Begay

Women's Barebow Recurve: Alexandria Attakai, Wilmena Joe, Kylee Manuelito, Kaitlyn Yazzie

Men's Barebow Recurve: Andrius Begay, Seidel Joe, Anfernee Tsoie

NTU extends a special thank you to the student-athletes from Diné College and the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) for their participation and excellent networking. The Archery team also thanks the NTU Welding program for donating gift certificates.



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CHINLE INSTRUCTIONAL SITE

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Navajo Technical University and Diné College Celebrate Dual Credit Success at Chinle High School

Chinle, AZ – On April 28, 2026, Navajo Technical University (NTU) and Diné College recognized Chinle High School (CHS) students for their participation in the Dual Credit Program. This program is instrumental in preparing students for higher education and empowering their academic futures.

The event commenced with a welcome address from Chinle High School Principal, Raymond Andrade. Aimee Lee, a dual credit senior, then offered her appreciation, commending the achievements of both the university and high school students.

CHS faculty members presented awards to Mr. Denny, Instructor of Navajo as a Second Language, and Mr. Vancruz, Instructor of Fine Arts. Both instructors emphasized the value of the program, stating, “The dual credit program enhances both high school and college courses. Students get a sense of what their educational journey will be like and what to expect from college while still in high school. Navajo education allows them to discover or affirm their interests in specific academic areas as potential career paths.”

Tomasita Clarke, the Chinle Dual Credit Coordinator, presented the honor cords. Tomasita expressed her gratitude: “Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible. I am happy to be in this position along with my coworkers. They have done a good job with the Chinle campus, and it is here for your future children and grandchildren, and it is only going to get better.”



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Featured Student

Navajo Technical University recognizes Leanna Joe Lewis, a Certified Nursing Assistant student from Rough Rock, Arizona, with deep Navajo Nation roots through her clans Dibé Lizhinií, Tó'ahdlinii, Tsenáajinii, and Tó'dishchinii. A talented artist, Leanna placed third in pottery design at the 2026 AIHEC Art Competition. Her award-winning piece features multi-perspective sunflowers, inspired by her mother, Stephanie Teller.

Leanna's passion for art began in childhood, when she and her father, Ben Lewis Jr., explored various mediums before specializing in ceramics. Despite having high school projects stolen, she remains hopeful for their return. Her artistic success, including a "Best of Show" plaque in high school, mirrors her academic strength in honors chemistry and computer science.

As the eldest of four, Leanna is motivated by a family legacy at NTU: her father studied Electrical Trades, and her grandmother studied Construction. She credits NTU for aligning her heritage with her education, and she values her uncle Sheldon's unwavering support as she pursues her nursing degree.

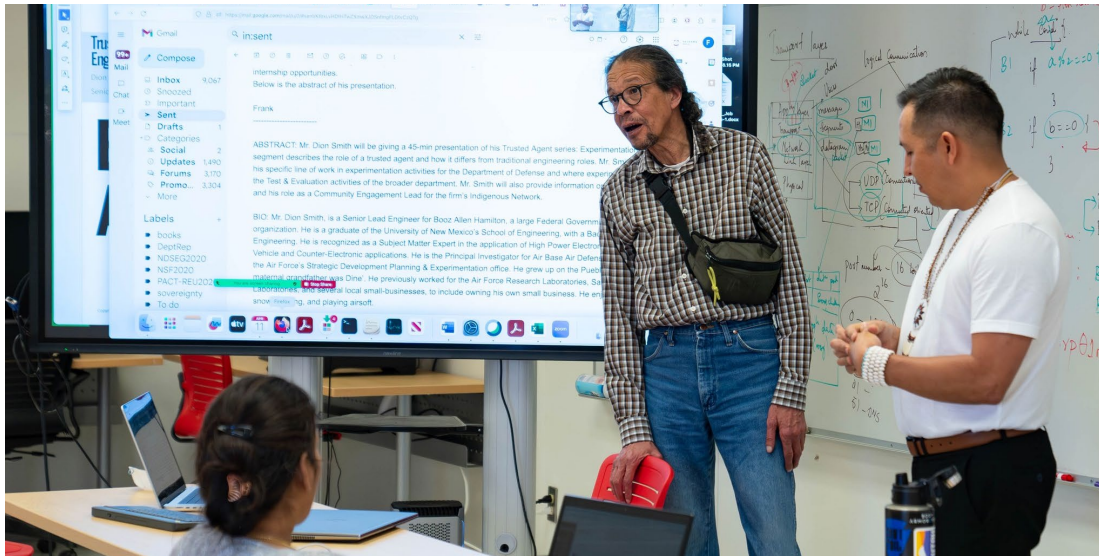


Featured Staff

Navajo Technical University celebrates the distinguished career of Frank Stomp, an esteemed faculty member who has served as a cornerstone of our academic community for 13 years. Throughout his tenure, his mentorship has profoundly influenced both his colleagues and the many students he has guided.

Dr. Stomp possesses a formidable academic background, having obtained his B.S. and M.S. in mathematics from the University of Utrecht. He furthered his expertise by earning a Ph.D. in computer science from Eindhoven Technical University in the Netherlands. As a dedicated scholar, he has contributed several significant publications to the field of formal software verification, reflecting his career-long devotion to scientific innovation and rigor.

During his decade-plus tenure at Navajo Technical University, Dr. Stomp transitioned from an IT instructor to a vital institutional leader, serving as chair of the Engineering, Mathematics, and Technology department for 2 years. His legacy is defined by his pivotal role in creating the B.S. in computer science. This landmark achievement was the first of its kind at a Tribal institution, fundamentally transforming STEM education opportunities within the community.



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