

STUDENT AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

The Division of Student Affairs Quarterly Newsletter



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EAGLE FEST

WRITTEN BY STAFF

The Center for Student Engagement recently held its 2nd annual Eagle Fest event, which brought together students, faculty, staff. The event, which took place on April 29th, featured a variety of activities and attractions, including live music, food trucks, games, and giveaways.

One of the main highlights of the event was the live music performances, which featured local DJs and artists, including Ava Paige. For those who were looking for a little friendly competition, Eagle Fest also featured a number of games and activities, including cornhole, giant Jenga, and a tie-dyeing booth. There were also several inflatable attractions, such as an obstacle course and a giant slide. Eagle Fest was sponsored by your Student Government Association, Residence Hall Association, Office of Residential Life, and Dining Services.

Overall, the 2nd annual Eagle Fest was a huge success with hundreds of attendees enjoying the beautiful weather, delicious food, and lively entertainment. Plans are already underway for next year's event which is sure to be even bigger and better than before.



REFLECTING ON A LEGACY: CORINNE JOHNSON RETIRES

WRITTEN BY
STAFF

As Corinne Johnson prepares to retire from her position as Administrative Associate at the Office of Multicultural Affairs at Tennessee Tech University, it's hard not to reflect on the impact she has had on the university community during her tenure.

Corinne has been a dear member of the Tennessee Tech community for many years, and her dedication to her work and her colleagues has never wavered. Throughout her time at the Office of Multicultural Affairs, she has been a steadfast advocate for diversity and inclusion, working tirelessly to ensure that all students feel welcomed and supported on campus.

One of Corinne's greatest strengths is her ability to connect with students. She has a natural warmth and kindness about her, and she has used this to build meaningful relationships with students, faculty, and staff alike. Her commitment to fostering a sense of community has helped to create a welcoming and inclusive environment at Tennessee Tech, and her legacy will continue long after she retires.

Corinne has also been a mentor and role model for countless students over the years. She has always been willing to lend an ear or offer a word of encouragement, and her wisdom and guidance have helped many students navigate the challenges of college life. Her dedication to the success of all students has been truly inspiring.

As Corinne prepares to embark on this new chapter in her life, we want to express our deep gratitude for all that she has done for Tennessee Tech. Her impact on the university and the countless lives she has touched will be felt for years to come. We wish her all the best in her retirement and look forward to hearing about all of her new adventures. Thank you, Corinne, for your years of service and dedication to the Tennessee Tech community.



DAWSON LANE SELECTED AS A NIRSA OFFICIATE

WRITTEN BY STAFF

Dawson Lane is the Intramural Head Official for the 2022-2023 school year. He has been working for intramurals for two years. He is graduating in May of 2023. He is pursuing his education after he graduates. He has won 2021-2022 Overall Official of the Year and the 2023 Basketball Official of the Year awards. He is receiving his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration-Finance.

In order to be selected to officiate at the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) national tournament, officials must have experience in officiating in a 3-person crew. They have to send in at least 3 videos of them officiating a game in a 3-person crew. Dawson officiates for the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) and officiates middle and high school games.

Dawson was selected as 1 of 51 officials in the United States to referee at the NIRSA basketball tournament at the University of Maryland. The tournament was comprised of intramural and/or club teams from all across the country. On the last day of the tournament, only 33 officials were selected to referee the finals. 11 of those 33 were selected to be the crew chief in their game. Dawson was 1 of the 11 selected as the crew chief.

Dawson had the opportunity to officiate men and women club teams, men and women intramural teams and unified teams. Club teams are teams that create a club at their school and play against other schools. Intramurals teams are teams that are created at their school and play other teams at their school in recreational play. Unified teams are teams comprised of individuals (students and non-students) with disabilities (athletes) and students without disabilities (peers) and they play other unified teams in their school and against other schools.



REC YOUR STRESS

WRITTEN BY
STAFF

Campus Recreation, along with Health Services, the Counseling Center, AEC, and the Wellness Ambassadors organized a Rec Your Stress event to provide students with a fun and healthy way to manage stress. The event included a variety of physical activities and wellness programs designed to help students relax and recharge. During Rec Your Stress, students could participate in stress-relieving activities and a showing of the movie *Inside Out*.

In addition, the event offered axe throwing, VR games, and smash plates. The goal of Rec Your Stress was to encourage students to prioritize their well-being and make self-care a regular part of their routine. Stress is a common issue among college students, and Campus Recreation recognized the importance of providing opportunities for students to manage their stress in a healthy way. Overall, Rec Your Stress is an excellent example of the university's commitment to promoting student wellness and supporting student success.



COUNSELING CENTER OPEN HOUSE

WRITTEN BY
STAFF

On April 26, 2023, the Counseling Center at Tennessee Tech University hosted an open house to celebrate the completion of their lobby, front office, and Eagle Resource Room renovations. The open house provided an opportunity for visitors to tour the newly renovated facilities and learn about the Counseling Center's programs and services. The renovated lobby and front office area were designed to be more welcoming and comfortable for visitors, with new furniture, flooring, and lighting. The Eagle Resource Room, which is a space for students to access resources related to mental health, was also renovated.

Overall, the open house was a great success, and the renovated facilities received a lot of positive feedback. The Counseling Center staff expressed their appreciation for the support of the Tennessee Tech community. The renovated lobby, front office, and Eagle Resource Room are now open.



RESIDENTIAL LIFE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

WRITTEN BY
STAFF

Every year, University Housing and Residential Life hosts the Residential Life Scholars Ceremony to honor the academic success of residential scholars who live on campus. The ceremony is a time to celebrate the achievements of students who have demonstrated excellence in their academic pursuits while also recognizing the important role that on-campus living plays in their success. The event features a formal program where students are awarded certificates and a pin.

After the formal program, students, parents, and family members are invited to enjoy a reception with refreshments, providing an opportunity to socialize and reflect on their accomplishments. This event gives residents a nice afternoon to invite their friends and family as we recognize all the hard work they put into their studies.



DENIM DAY

WRITTEN BY
STAFF

Denim Day at Tennessee Tech University is an annual event sponsored by the Counseling Center Office that aims to raise awareness about sexual assault and support survivors. The event typically takes place in April which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Denim Day is marked by campus employees wearing denim to show support for survivors and raise awareness about sexual assault. However, the event is not just about wearing denim. It's about sending a message that sexual assault is never the victim's fault, no matter what they wear or how they behave. It's about creating a culture that supports survivors.

Denim Day at Tennessee Tech University is just one example of how we can all work together to prevent sexual assault and create a safer and more inclusive environment for all.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARDS

**WRITTEN BY
STAFF**

The Student Government Association at Tennessee Tech University sponsored the Student Leadership Awards Ceremony to recognize outstanding student leaders on campus. The event honored individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the campus community through their leadership and service. Some of the award categories included: Outstanding Student Organization Officer, Breakout Student Organization, Rising Student Organization Leader, and Outstanding Student Organization President.

Nominations were accepted from students, faculty, and staff, and winners were selected by a committee. The ceremony is an opportunity to celebrate the hard work and dedication of student leaders who have made a positive impact on campus. The Student Leadership Awards Ceremony is just one example of the many ways that Tennessee Tech University supports and celebrates student leadership.



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF '23

**WRITTEN BY
STAFF**

As spring draws to a close, we celebrate the many accomplishments of the graduating class of 2023 at Tennessee Tech University! Congratulations on completing this important milestone in your academic journey. The hard work and dedication you have shown throughout your time at Tennessee Tech have not gone unnoticed. You have overcome challenges, persevered through difficult courses, and demonstrated your commitment to your education.

Once again, congratulations on your graduation from Tennessee Tech University. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors. Wings Up!



STUDENT AFFAIRS STAFF RECOGNITION

WRITTEN BY
STAFF

On April 18, the Division of Student Affairs held our 2nd annual Student Affairs Staff Recognition event in the Marc L. Burnett Student Recreation and Fitness Center. Dr. Polk-Johnson, VP for Student Affairs, stated, "The work that we do is meaningful, impactful, developmental, and transformative. We put the WOW! in the student experience, and today, we celebrate our many accomplishments."



Department	Award Nomination	Recipient
University Police	Outstanding Staff Member	Captain Fred Nichols
University Police	Campus Partner of the Year	Matt Dexter, Athletics
University Police	External Partner of the Year	Brandon Smith, Putnam County Emergency Management Agency
Burnett Recreation and Fitness Center	People First Award	James Crider
Burnett Recreation and Fitness Center	Campus Partner of the Year	John Woodard, ITS
Health Services	Star Performance Award	Susie Dyer
Health Services	Stand Out Performer Award	Phyllis Kilgore
Health Services	Campus Partner of the Year	Peyton Woodward, ITS
Health Services	Campus Partner of the Year	Jeremy Ey, ITS
Intercultural Affairs	Motivator Award	Josh Gordon, Graduate Assistant



Department	Award Nomination	Recipient
Intercultural Affairs	Campus Partner of the Year	Dr. Rob Owens, Diversity & Inclusion Office
Strategic Initiatives/Dean of Students	Care is a Verb Award	Lisa Bowman
Strategic Initiatives/Dean of Students	I Can Handle It Award	Kathy Hammons
Strategic Initiatives/Dean of Students	Campus Partner of the Year	Kevin Harris, Office of Institutional Research
Counseling Center	External Campus Partner of the Year	Cookeville Regional Medical Center
Counseling Center	Campus Partner of the Year	Lauren Neal, Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning
Counseling Center	Outstanding Young Professional Award	Lara Strate
Accessible Education Center	Excellence in Access Award	Jodi Fox-Perdue
Accessible Education Center	Wings Up Way Collaboration and Outreach Award	Edward Beason, PhD
Accessible Education Center	The Precision Award	Birgit Hoffman
Accessible Education Center	Campus Partner of the Year	Donna Wallis, Purchasing
Housing & Residential Life	Campus Partner of the Year	James Goad, Facilities
Housing & Residential Life	On the Grind Award	Tina Painter
Housing & Residential Life	Roy Kent Award	Emily Qualls
Center for Student Engagement	Squad Leader Award	Keisha Claybrooks
Center for Student Engagement	Campus Partner of the Year	Victor Kline, Chartwells
Student Affairs Division	Division Wide Support Staff of the Year	Corinne Johnson, Intercultural Affairs
Student Affairs Division	WOW! Award	Club Golden Eagle Event, Center for Student Engagement

UPCOMING EVENTS

There is always something exciting going on at Tennessee Tech! Check out all the great upcoming events hosted by the Division of Student Affairs and Tennessee Tech, and contact us for more information!

- **Great Move-in Week**, August 10-13, hosted by Housing and Residential Life. Halls open for the academic year. Check-Ins are from 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM.
- **Week of Welcome**, August 10-17, hosted by Student Affairs and New Student and Family Programs, See Week of Welcome website for a list of all events.
- **Convocation**, August 15, hosted by New Student and Family Programs, Event will be at the Hooper Eblen Center.



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