

Academic Affairs Newsletter

Ribbon Cutting on 84 Acres, February 4, 2019



A Message From the Academic Affairs VP

Dear Colleagues,

On February 4th, a sunny 80 degree winter day greeted elected officials, trustees, community leaders, students, faculty, and staff as ATU held a ribbon cutting at the newest addition of property adjacent to campus. The 84-acre parcel, located west of the climbing wall just off Phoenix, will primarily serve the immediate needs of the Department of Agriculture and permit continued planning and developments within our campus master plan. The ribbon cutting also underscored the importance of Tech to Arkansas' leading industry, the engagement of our programs with our communities, and the contributions our alumni make to improving the quality of life for everyone. Clearly, the great work that happens across our campuses is recognized and appreciated by all of our colleagues and constituents. **Thank you** for your contributions that make Tech an important place of opportunity. I wish everyone a great semester!

Sincerely,
Phil Bridgmon, Interim VPAA

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College Accomplishments

COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

Goal 4 - Citizens of the Region State and World

Advanced painting students supervised by Professor David Mudrinich have completed a public mural at Entergy's Nuclear One Facility.



*"Art enables us to find ourselves and
lose ourselves at the same time." -
Thomas Merton*

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Goal 1 - Human Core

Sarah Gordon has been appointed the Editor-elect of the Journal for College and University Student Housing (<https://www.acuho-i.org/journal>). She has served as an associate editor since 2016 (and was a reviewer prior to that), and was nominated to this role by the current editor and ACUHO-I staff. Her term as editor is expected to start in Summer 2019.



Sarah Gordon had an article published with Elizabeth Smith, from the University of Tulsa, in the most recent issue Assessment Update:

Progress, Trends, and Practices in Higher Education

(<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15360725>). They have conducted a multilevel mixed-method research on the ways faculty engage in assessment work and how they are rewarded/recognized for that work at different institutions across the nation. The article in Assessment Update summarizes some of their preliminary findings regarding how to promote faculty engagement in assessment work.



*"A teacher affects eternity; he can
never tell where his influence
stops." - Henry B. Adams*

College Accomplishments Continued

COLLEGE OF NATURAL HEALTH SCIENCES

Physical Sciences

Goal 1 - Human Core

Deborah Leslie, ATU Assistant Professor of Geology is a co-PI, along with Cammy Willett of the University of Arkansas and Michele Reba of the USDA-ARS Delta Water Management Research Unit, on an awarded Arkansas Water Resources Center - US Geological Survey 104B program project entitled "Herbicide mitigation potential of tailwater recovery systems in the Cache River Critical Groundwater Area." The \$25,000 grant along with \$50,000 in matching funds will support student research projects and continued monitoring efforts in February 2019 to March 2020.



"Rocks are records of events that took place at the time they formed. They are books. They have a different vocabulary, a different alphabet, but you learn how to read them."
- John McPhee

SPONSORED PROGRAMS & UNIVERSITY INITIATIVES

Goal 4 - Citizens of the Region State and World



Greg Crouch, Director of Grants and Sponsored Programs for Pre-Award, presented at the National Council of University Research Administrators 2018 Pre-Award Research Administration national conference in Orlando, Florida. The presentation was entitled Transitioning from Post-Award to Pre-Award at a PUI.



College Accomplishments Continued

STUDENT SUCCESS

The College Reading & Learning Association's (CRLA) International Tutor Training Program Certification (ITTPC) team approved Arkansas Tech University's entire Trio Program staff the Advanced Academic Coaching certification.

Lindsey Riedmueller



**Lori
Wineland**



Nichole Edwards



Upward Bound

Students of Upward Bound programs collected over 200 toys to donate to the Angels of Gold toy drive for the Arkansas Children's Hospital toy closet. This toy drive has been a part of their community service project for 13 years and continues to grow each year.



College Accomplishments Continued

STEM



The STEM Education Collaborative will be hosting the VEX Robotics State Competition for VEX IQ on March 7th and VEX VRC on March 9th in Tucker Coliseum. There will be 102 robotics teams representing Arkansas 3-12th grade students. Of these 102 top Arkansas teams, 23 teams will qualify for the World's VEX Championship in April. Robotics season in Arkansas begins in October and ends in March with the State Championship. This season there will be a total of 50 regional tournaments hosted across the state. This year, Arkansas experienced the largest growth within a single season for total number of 430 registered teams. Statewide, the STEM Education Collaborative supports teams, tournaments, and teacher trainings year round. This includes providing support to first year teams, showcasing VEX Robotics at the Little Rock Air Force STEM Fest with over 20,000 students in attendance, and providing equipment and technical assistance to the statewide regional tournaments.

In addition to supporting VEX Robotics throughout the state, our math and science specialists have been providing high quality STEM professional development to regional teachers.

Announcements

February 8

RCB 134 from 3:30-4:30 pm

Interdisciplinary Research Series Speaker:
Dr. David Plaxco, Clayton State University
"Cubes Underscore Art".

February 22

RCB 134 from 3:30-4:30 pm

Interdisciplinary Research Series Speaker:
Dr. Kelly Jones, Assistant Professor of History
"'We just got what we could:' food and power in
the lives of enslaved arkansans"

February 25

Last day to drop with a "W" for the
Spring 2019 semester.

February 27

Black History month Speaker
Doc Bryan Lecture Hall
7:00 pm