

# Academic Affairs

## HIGH IMPACT AND HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

This edition of the Academic Affairs Newsletter is likely to be the last one to which I will be able to contribute. Fittingly, I intend to visit an older work, rather than newer ones, to demonstrate that many of what we now call “high impact practices” evolve from more humble beginnings.

I have always believed that, as faculty, we have an obligation to know our academic discipline and a mandate, or sometimes a calling, to teach it to others. The learning of the discipline is something we chose. We pursued knowledge because there was something intangible within us that made us want to learn and something we found particularly invigorating about the discipline we chose—or the one that chose us, as it might be more appropriately put. It is this interface between teaching and learning that can be particularly perturbing but informative. What was it that made us want to learn while many of our students do not seem to be so keen on the idea? Was it something in our makeup, or was it something we acquired from an outstanding teacher? I am willing to bet that for most of us, we could on any given day identify one or more teachers from our past who were responsible for instilling the love of learning and hooked us on the fascination with our discipline.

Ernest Boyer in *Scholarship Reconsidered: Priorities of the Professoriate* urged us to consider the scholarship of teaching and learning. This was perhaps the first time that a call had been put forth for focusing scholarly methods on, and legitimizing the study of, the intricacies of teaching and learning. It is easy for us to teach as we were taught: without putting a lot of effort into identifying the differences between those gifted faculty who inspired us and changed our paths and those we suffered through. It is a worthy effort and I believe, as Boyer did, that there are characteristics that are shared by those teachers who had the greatest impact on our academic development. It is likely that those individuals had a spark of curiosity and a good measure of humanity beyond most. However, I believe they also adhered to known principles of good practice in teaching and learning, whether intentionally or naturally, because of their gift for teaching. That is why I am referencing a 1987 work by Arthur Chickering and Zelda Gamson. These seven principles are simplistic and yet powerful. If you look closely, you will see them in many of the currently touted “high impact practices.” These have stood the test of time, are easy to implement, and can powerfully change the outcomes for your students in a positive way. As my parting gift, I ask you to consider this simplistic sounding approach as a way to help more of your students to be successful and to help you become the name they give as the person who inspired them to learn and succeed.

“The Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education” was published in 1987 by Arthur W. Chickering and Zelda F. Gamson. In 1991, Chickering and Gamson published a book entitled *Applying the Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education*. The original article and book are based on decades of research on undergraduate education supported by the Association for Higher Education, The Education Commission of States, and the Johnson Foundation. (continued on next page)



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### SAVE THE DATE

- Summer I classes begin  
June 5
- Last day to withdraw/drop a course with full reduction of tuition/fees  
June 6
- Last day to register and add courses/change sections  
June 6
- Last day to withdraw/drop a course with 80% reduction of tuition/fees  
June 9

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## SEVEN PRINCIPLES FOR GOOD PRACTICE IN UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

### **1. Good Practice Encourages Student-Faculty Contact**

Frequent student-faculty contact in and out of classes is an important factor in student motivation and involvement.

Faculty concern and assistance helps students deal with learning problems and keep on working.

Interacting frequently with faculty may enhance students' intellectual commitment and encourage them to think about their own values and future plans.

### **2. Good Practice Encourages Cooperation Among Students**

Learning is enhanced when students collaborate and cooperate in learning experiences.

Good learning, like good work, is collaborative and social, not competitive and isolated.

Working with others often increases involvement in learning.

Sharing one's own ideas and responding to others' reactions improves thinking and deepens understanding.

### **3. Good Practice Encourages Active Learning**

Learning is not a spectator process.

Students do not learn much just sitting in classes listening to teachers, memorizing pre-packaged assignments, and spitting out answers.

Learners must talk about what they are learning, write about it, discuss it, relate it.

They must make what they learn part of themselves.

### **4. Good Practice Gives Prompt Feedback**

Knowing what you know and don't know focuses learning.

In getting started, students need help in assessing existing knowledge and competence.

In classes, students need frequent opportunities to perform and receive suggestions for improvement in performance.

Students need chances to reflect on what they have learned, what they still need to know, and how to assess themselves.

### **5. Good Practice Emphasizes Time on Task**

Time plus energy equals learning.

Time on task should be efficient and effective/productive.

Students need to learn to manage their time.

Students need help in effective time management.

Allocating realistic amounts of time means effective learning for students and effective teaching for faculty.

How an institution defines time expectations for students, faculty, administrators, and other professional staff can establish the basis for high performance for all.

### **6. Good Practice Communicates High Expectations**

Expect more and help students achieve more.

High expectations are important for everyone--for the poorly prepared, for those unwilling to exert themselves, and for the bright and well motivated.

Expecting students to perform well becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy when teachers and institutions hold high expectations for themselves and make extra efforts.

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## 7. Good Practice Respects Diverse Talents and Ways of Learning

There are many roads to learning.

People bring different talents and styles of learning.

Students need the opportunity to show their talents and learn in ways that work for them. Then they may be directed to learning in new ways that do not come so easily

David Underwood, Ph.D.

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

*Compiled in a study supported by the American Association for Higher Education, the Education Commission of the States, and The Johnson Foundation. Source: New Directions for Teaching and Learning, Applying the Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education, Arthur W. Chickering and Zelda F. Gamson Editors, Jossey-Bass, 1991.*



# UNIVERSITY HONORS

## ATU HONORS STUDENTS COMPETE IN *CHOPPED*

This year, the graduating Honors Students concluded their years at ATU with a food competition based on the Food Network hit, *Chopped*. The seven graduating seniors formed three teams that competed against each other in this cutthroat, but friendly, competition on Thursday, April 13.



# IMSSO

## IMSSO HOLDS GIVE BACK EVENT



On April 15, International and Multicultural Student Services (IMSSO) volunteered in the third annual Saturday's Fair, a fundraiser event for Arkansas Hospice River Valley Home, held at Hughes Community Center. This is part of the IMSSO Gives Back program, a series of volunteer opportunities for Tech's international students to serve the greater Russellville community. Thirteen international students worked at a variety of carnival game booths to entertain children and families.

During the months of March and April, the IMSSO also hosted a series of Tax Prep sessions to assist international students with filing non-resident tax returns. In this self-paced session, students learned how to log in on the Foreign National Tax Resource software and how to prepare their 1040NR-EZ forms by themselves. More than sixty international students completed their filing through the program.

# WILDLAND FIRE ACADEMY

More than 230 professionals representing organizations in the public and private sectors have spent the last two weeks participating in the 2017 Arkansas River Valley Wildland Fire Academy on the ATU campus in Russellville. This spring marks the 20th consecutive year the event has taken place at Arkansas Tech. The program is operated under the auspices of the ATU Department of Parks, Recreation and Hospitality Administration.



# NEW DEGREE PROGRAM

## ATU OFFERS BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Arkansas Tech University will offer a new degree this fall for those who have completed an Associate of Applied Science degree to take the next step in their education. Associate of Applied Science graduates entering the Bachelor of Applied Science degree program may transfer 54 hours of credits. Students will complete an additional 66 hours in pursuit of the bachelor's degree, including 26 hours of required general education courses and 40 hours of upper-division courses. Individuals seeking more information about the online ATU Bachelor of Applied Science degree may call 479.968.0318 or send an e-mail to [ps@atu.edu](mailto:ps@atu.edu).

# DESIGN FOR CHANGE

## ATU HOSTS DESIGN FOR CHANGE SYMPOSIUM

The Design for Change Symposium was held on April 7 on the ATU Russellville campus and concluded the inaugural Students Design for Change program. At the event, five teams of high school students put homeless shelters that they constructed on display in the Chambers Cafeteria parking lot. The finalists included four teams from Arkadelphia High School and one team from Little Rock Central High School. Each of the finalist teams received up to \$1,000 to fund construction of their short-term homeless cabins, which will be distributed to service organizations for use in their efforts to provide the homeless with temporary shelter. Mitch McCoy, a reporter for KARK 4 and FOX 16, served as the guest speaker.



### Office of Events

The Office of Events provides the college with a comprehensive, transparent scheduling process. Institutional scheduling policies and guidelines establish that all university space, including academic and non-academic facility space, athletic space, outdoor event space, and free speech areas, is centrally scheduled to make efficient use of university resources.

You can find [scheduling policy and guidelines](#) and [University Master Calendar submission guidelines](#) by visiting the [Office of Events page](#).

*“The value of a college education is not the learning of many facts but the training of the mind to think.”*  
-Albert Einstein

# GOVERNOR'S CUP

## ATU STUDENTS FINALISTS IN COMPETITION



On March 30, a team of six ATU mechanical engineering and business students competed in the 2017 Donald W. Reynolds Governor's Cup Business Plan Competition in Little Rock. Brody Barker, Evan Carter, Bailey Davis, Braden Davis, Shawna McNeeley, and Katelyn Stanley gave a presentation entitled “Tractor Quick Attach Adaptor” in the agriculture division finals of the competition. Teams were vying for \$154,000 in cash prizes, which were awarded during a luncheon on April 11 at the Statehouse Convention Center. The ATU team, which was one of the five finalists in the Agriculture Division, operated under the mentorship of John Riggins, Visiting Instructor of Management and Marketing and Entrepreneur in Residence on the ATU College of Business faculty.

## CETL

### ATU COURSE REDESIGN ACADEMY

For Summer and Fall 2017, you are invited to submit a proposal to participate in the Course Redesign Academy, a 12-week program that will help you examine, redesign, and rebuild a course from the ground up. This program is a modular process that will guide you step-by-step throughout the redesign process. This program will cover all aspects of the redesign process including: the examination of the practical realities of your course environment (e.g., available resources, student preparation, etc.), the examination and creation of course learning goals and objectives, the investigation of including high-impact practices, and the redesign of the course syllabus.

Faculty chosen for this program will receive compensation equivalent to one course overload. For courses taught by multiple instructors, instructors will be invited to provide input (including invitation to a kickoff workshop), but only one faculty member will be provided compensation as the leader of the course redesign process. A committee will review proposals and select finalists to participate in this program.

Course Redesign Academy applications can be accessed at the following website: <http://www.questionpro.com/t/ALoQmZY15Y>

Please feel free to contact Jason Warnick ([jwarnick@atu.edu](mailto:jwarnick@atu.edu)) with any questions you may have about this program.

## NEW FACILITY

### GROUNDBREAKING FOR NEW MULTI-SPORTS COMPLEX

Arkansas Tech University recently hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for a new multi-sports complex on its Russellville campus. The new facility will provide an indoor practice space for the intercollegiate baseball, softball, tennis and golf programs at Tech. Locker room and office space for the baseball program, a training room, and a conference room are also included in the project. It is anticipated that additional intercollegiate athletics programs at Tech and students from the Department of Health and Physical Education will also utilize the facility, which is scheduled to open in spring 2018.

## Upward Bound

### INTRUSIVE ADVISING INITIATIVE

The Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS) and Upward Bound Classic (UB) programs at Arkansas Tech University are federally funded pre-college preparatory programs that serve students who are low income and first generation. The programs begin serving students in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and continue to help the students through high school graduation. The Upward Bound programs provide weekly advising and tutoring sessions and monthly workshops throughout the academic year and an intense 6-week summer program to motivate students to succeed in high school and prepare for postsecondary education.

Twenty-five of the UBMS and UB Classic participants will be attending an institution of higher education. Eighteen of the participants will be attending Arkansas Tech University. The scholarship total for those attending Arkansas Tech University is \$288,000.

This year, the Upward Bound staff will implement a new intrusive advising initiative that has proven to show positive results in increasing retention among low income students. The UB staff will use the study, *The Forgotten Summer*, as a guide to help students not only enroll in college, but also receive degrees. The UB staff will provide mentoring services with their seniors in the months of June, July, and August before their first semester of college. Once the students begin college, the Upward Bound staff will continue to be in contact and serve as mentors until the students receive degrees. The anticipated goal of the new advising initiative is to help the retention rate of the UB and UBMS alumni and in return help the retention rate of Arkansas Tech University.



# OSPUI Connection

## OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS AND UNIVERSITY INITIATIVES (OSPUI)

### *Congratulations!*

The Office of Sponsored Programs and University Initiatives congratulates the following individuals for securing external funding to support their programs and careers.

**Mariusz Gajewski, Assistant Professor of Chemistry**

Received \$32,603 from AR INBRE for a summer research project

**Lucy Jones (grant writer) & Jill Hendricks, Director of Upward Bound**

Received \$257,500 from the Department of Education for Upward Bound

**Regina Olson, ATU – Ozark Adult Education Director**

Received \$538,847 from the Arkansas Department of Career Education

**Debra Fithen (grant writer), former Director of Corp. & Foundation Relations**

Received \$600,000 from ANCRC for the renovation of Williamson Hall, Phase II

**Efosa Idemudia, Associate Professor of Business Data Analytics**

Received Fellowship in Nigeria in summer 2017 from the Advisory Council of the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program (CADFP)

**Newton Hilliard, Associate Professor of Chemistry**

Received \$20,000 from AR INBRE, made possible by NIH funding, for a shared instrumentation grant and \$10,000 from Burroughs Wellcome Fund for a collaborative research travel grant

**Muhammad Khan, Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering**

Received \$1,000 from Arkansas Academy of Science for an undergraduate research grant

## OAIE

### OFFICE OF ASSESSMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS (OAIE)

On Tuesday, April 18, staff from the Office of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness, along with 12 members from the institutional assessment committees, had the opportunity to travel to Harding University to attend the Arkansas Association for the Assessment of Collegiate Learning (AAACL) Spring Conference. The association hosts two drive-in conferences each year; this spring's theme was "Assessing the Co-Curricular." Keynote speakers included Dr. Jeremy Penn, Director of Student Affairs Assessment at North Dakota State University, and Dr. Karen Solomon, Vice-President for Accreditation Relations and Director of Standard Pathways at the Higher Learning Commission.

The sessions focused on strategies for building and maintaining a co-curricular assessment program, as well as reviewing the HLC standards pertaining to co-curricular assessment. This was a great introduction for the faculty and staff in attendance on HLC expectations regarding co-curricular assessment and the appropriate evidence needed for each standard. The Institutional Effectiveness Assessment Committee will be reviewing the PowerPoints provided at the conference and completing the activity guide over the summer in order to create a broader campus-wide understanding of the co-curricular programs here at Arkansas Tech University as we begin to look at not only the assessment planning and documentation for each, but also the broader connection of co-curricular learning to the institutional mission.



# Promotion and Tenure

## FACULTY MEMBERS RECEIVE PROMOTIONS AND TENURE



The following individuals were promoted to professor:  
Ernest Enchelmayer, *English and World Languages*  
Neal Harrington, *Art*  
Sean Huss, *Behavioral Sciences*  
Stephen Jones, *Management and Marketing*  
Eric Lovely, *Biological Sciences*

The following individual was promoted to professor and granted tenure:  
Rockie Pederson, *Health and Physical Education*

The following individuals were promoted to associate professor:  
Lisa Harless, *Nursing*  
Kathryn Pearson, *Mathematics*

The following individuals were promoted to associate professor and granted tenure:

Jeff Aulgur, *Professional Studies*  
Joshua Fisher, *Art*  
Mohamed Ibrahim, *Curriculum and Instruction*  
Efosa Idemudia, *Management and Marketing*  
Justin Killingsworth, *Agriculture*  
Jeffrey Pearson, *History and Political Science*

The following individuals were granted tenure:  
Pamela Dixon, *Center for Leadership and Learning*  
Sean Reed, *Music*  
Jack Tucci, *Management and Marketing*

# Leadership Tech

## SECOND COHORT ANNOUNCED

Thirty members of the faculty and staff at ATU have been selected as members of the second cohort for Leadership Tech:

Mohamed Abdelrahman, *Vice President for Academic Affairs*  
Linda Bean, *Associate Dean of the College of Education*  
Angela Black, *Technical Services Librarian*  
Tosha Bradley, *Associate Director of Admissions Operations*  
Sandra Cheffer, *Chief Fiscal Officer at ATU-Ozark Campus*  
Peter Clifton, *Maintenance Assistant at ATU-Ozark Campus*  
Greg Crouch, *Director of Grants and Sponsored Programs, Pre-Award*  
Angela Crow, *Director of Student Accounts*  
Abby Davis, *Head Tennis Coach and Health and Physical Education Instructor*  
Ashley Dixon, *Human Resources Assistant*  
Debra Fithen, *Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations*  
Patrick Hagge, *Assistant Professor of Geography*  
Linda Hensen-Jackson, *Visiting Instructor of College Student Personnel*  
Sean Huss, *Associate Professor of Sociology*  
Efosa Idemudia, *Assistant Professor of Business Data Analytics*

Lindsey Ingmire, *Assistant Director of Programming (IMSSO)*  
Amanda Johnson, *Employer Relations Coordinator*  
Pete Kelly, *Visiting Instructor of Health and Physical Education*  
Tammy Marcoe, *Commander for Department of Public Safety*  
Johnette Moody, *Associate Professor of Computer and Information Science*  
Thomas Nupp, *Professor of Wildlife Science*  
Lou Ann Reeves, *Budget and Restricted Funds Accountant*  
Kim DuVall Renteria, *Visiting Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice*  
Jeff Robertson, *Dean of the College of Natural and Health Sciences*  
Sandy Smith, *Head, Department of Emergency Management*  
Kevin Solomon, *Associate Dean for Campus Life*  
David Spicer, *Public Safety Officer, ATU-Ozark Campus*  
Sam Strasner, *Director, University Marketing and Communication*  
Heather Taylor, *Project/Program Specialist, Office of Financial Aid*  
Clay Wyllia, *Coordinator of Alumni Engagement*





### *Norman Gallery Closure*

The Norman Art Gallery will be closed for scheduled maintenance and changing of exhibit during Summer 2017.

### *2017 Arkansas River Valley Art Center's Collegiate Competitive*

Winners of the 2017 Arkansas River Valley Art Center's Collegiate Competitive are:

Desirae Deal—Best of Show  
 Miranda Ponder—1st Place  
 Lauren Saab—3rd Place

*“The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows.”*

*- Sydney J. Harris*

### *Game and 3D Design Renovation Complete*

The renovation of the new Game and 3D Design building is now complete. The building will be used for students in upper level classes for the Game and Interactive Media Design degree. The building contains a gaming space, a 3D printer, and a motion capture studio, as well as classroom space.

# College Highlights

## ARTS AND HUMANITIES

### *Department/Faculty Accomplishments*

Tommy Mumert and Hanna Norton served as faculty representatives on the first Communication and Journalism Study Abroad trip to Ireland and Great Britain the week of March 20.

Penny Willmering co-authored the following work: Oswald, G.R., Alderman, L.A., Willmering, P. (2017) Short-Term Job Shadowing Experience Benefits for Undergraduate Rehabilitation Students. <https://doi.org/10.1017/jrc.2017>. Cambridge University Press.

Communication and Journalism completed the purchase of a \$180,000 production trailer for Tech TV and Tech's Athletics. The trailer will be used in the fall for breaking television news stories and off-site television interviews.

Michael Brodrick edited a [special journal edition](#) of *The Pluralist* (Volume 11, Number 3, Fall 2016) and wrote the introduction for “Why We Remember Royce: An Introduction.”

Diane Gleason is happy to announce that pre-orders for her new (and second) book, *Dardanelle and the Bottoms: Environment, Agriculture, and Economy in an Arkansas River Community, 1819 - 1970*, began in early April on Amazon and through the University of Arkansas Press. The book will be available in mid-August, 2017.

On March 30–April 1, Arkansas Tech University hosted one of eleven Music for All affiliate music festivals at the Center for the Arts at Russellville High School. More than 2,000 students representing more than 40 high school, junior high, and middle school bands from around Arkansas performed in the 2017 Southern Regional Concert Band Festival. The Arkansas Tech Wind Ensemble performed at the event. Students in attendance were given the opportunity to work with and learn from a panel of five nationally-renowned clinicians: Gary Green of the University of Miami, Allan McMurray of the University of Colorado, Cody Birdwell of the University of Kentucky, Robert Ambrose of Georgia State University, and Sarah McKoin of Texas Tech University.

### *ATU Students Develop Life Skills Program*

For their Sociology Capstone course, Arkansas Tech University students Mary Thompson, Danielle Hurst, Kyle McCabe, and Sarah Rutherford recently partnered with River Valley Food 4 Kids to develop a life skills education program. The 2017 summer food program will begin on June 6 and continue until August 8. For more information, click [here](#).

## EDUCATION

### *Faculty Accomplishments*

David Bell, Jackie Paxton, and Timothy Leggett were invited to present at the 10th Annual Western Early Childhood Conference in Fort Smith at the UAFS campus student union.



COE faculty participated and presented at the Arkansas AACTE Spring Conference held at Harding University on April 6 - 7. David Bell, President of the AACTE, presided over the conference and was presented with a plaque for his service.

## ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

### *ATU CIS Faculty Participate in MidSouth Region Consortium*

David Middleton, Department of Computer and Information Science, served as conference chair of the annual MidSouth Region Consortium for Computing Sciences Conference at Lyon College on March 31. He also served as a panelist for the Future Directors of CCSC Mid-South, as well as presented a workshop entitled, "Introducing Arduino to Early Computing Classes."

Matt Brown presented "Students in HCI Experiment" at the conference, and Becky Cunningham served as a panelist on the panel, "Teaching CS I the K-12 Business Curriculum," with Matt Brown serving as the moderator. Larry Morell served as a proposal reviewer for submitted papers, as well as a regional registrar, and David Hoelzeman served as the regional webmaster.

### *5th Annual EMHS Conference*

The 5th annual Emergency Management and Homeland Security (EMHS) Conference was held April 12 -13 on the ATU Russellville campus. Over 150 attendees from all over the state were present to listen to the prestigious speakers from the Naval Postgraduate School and the FBI. Major topics of the conference included homeland security issues, cyber security, and intelligence. The 2018 EMHS conference will be held during the spring 2018 semester.

### *Student Accomplishments*

The Computer Club and the Women in STEM Club recently travelled to Fort Smith to tour ArcBest. Upon arrival at ArcBest, the students were divided into groups that then toured the facility, shadowed three departments, and then met with recruiters and management. Management noted that there are currently forty ATU graduates working for ArcBest. Johnette Moody, faculty advisor for both student organizations, accompanied the clubs to ArcBest.

Six Agriculture students were recently selected to serve in the role of Go Bold new student orientation leaders at the beginning of the fall 2017 semester. Tyler Haywood, Konnor Holland, Kyle Russell, Matthew Smith, Katie Welch, and Will Welch were among the 133 students selected to assist new students during the Go Bold orientation series of programs. Fall 2017 new student orientation on the Russellville campus of ATU is scheduled for August 21 -22.

In March, the ATU Agriculture Department took thirteen women to the Arkansas Women in Agriculture Conference in Little Rock. Attendees had the opportunity to network with other women in agriculture and learn more about good farm practices and how to advocate for agriculture.



In April, ATU students attended the Shell Eco-Marathon Americas in Detroit; this program was designed to provide a challenging platform for the new generation of young engineers to design, build, test, and drive the world's ultimate-energy-efficient vehicles. The ATU team consisted of a core of senior design students from the Mechanical Engineering department and other volunteers who dedicated their time.

### *ASBTDC Wins Awards*

The Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center regional office at ATU collected several honors at ASBTDC's statewide meeting in April.

Nathan George won top awards in three categories: capital formation (\$10 Million Club), sales (Sales Star), and start-up excellence (Start-up Star).

Ronda Hawkins also received the Start-up Star Award, and the ATU staff was named the Star Marketing Team.

To read the full article, click [here](#).



### Graduate student of the month

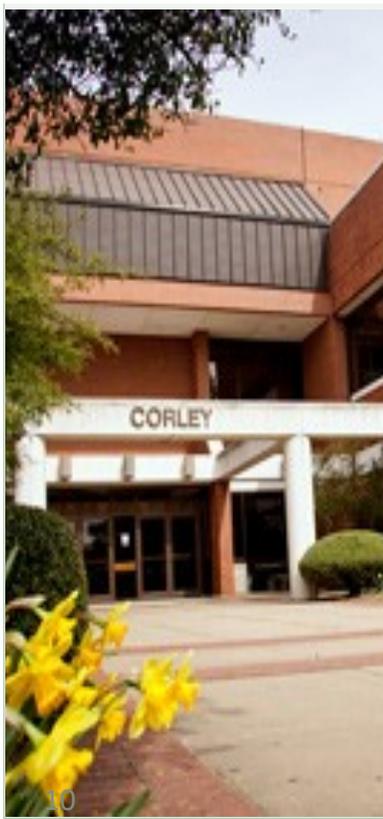
Bohdana Sardak from Emergency Management and Homeland Security was named the Graduate Student of the Month for **March**.

Anita Butler from Psychology was named the Graduate Student of the Month for April.

### Graduate Scholarships

Entering graduate students are now eligible for the [Emerging Graduate Scholarship](#), which was made possible through the generosity of financial gifts made during the annual Advancement fundraiser held each spring semester.

*“When one teaches,  
two learn.”  
-Robert Heinlein*



## eTECH

### Faculty Accomplishments

Jeremy Schwehm and Tennille Lasker-Scott published a research article, “[A Comparison of Learning Outcomes for Adult Students in On-Site and Online Service-Learning](#),” in the *Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration*.

Lasker-Scott also spoke along side her mentor, Dr. Johnson-Bailey, on the importance of finding and keeping a mentor in academia at the Critical Examination of Race, Ethnicity, Class and Gender in Education special interest group’s Graduate Breakfast at the annual American Educational Research Association Conference in San Antonio, Texas, on April 27–30.

Jeff Aulgur and Chris Housenick, (Political Science) presented “Charitable Solicitation and the First Amendment: Fundraising Overhead and Organizational Impact in the Third Sector” at the 75th Annual Midwest Political Science Association International Conference in Chicago, Illinois, on April 5–9. Aulgur also served as a panelist for “Teaching: The On-line Classroom” and as Chair and Discussant for Session 66-2: “Organizational Maintenance for Nonprofits” at the conference.

### eTech Hosts Pope County Education Fair

On Wednesday, April 26, the ATU College of eTech hosted a Pope County Education Fair from 1:00 PM–7:00 PM at the Russellville Area Chamber of Commerce. Community members seeking more information about online education opportunities available through Arkansas Tech had an opportunity to meet with admissions and financial aid personnel, as well as faculty and staff from Professional Studies and the Graduate College. Students had the opportunity to apply for admission and financial on site. Admission to the event was free and open to the public.

## GRADUATE COLLEGE

### ATU TESOL M.A. One of Four Most Affordable in the U.S.

AffordableColleges.com recently found the Arkansas Tech University Master of Arts degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) to be among the four most affordable programs of its kind in the United States for 2017. Arkansas Tech received a value score of 8.57, tying with Sam Houston State University for the third-highest value score in the study. Value scores were calculated based on published data related to tuition rate, net price, loan default rate, enrollment rate, full-time retention rate, graduation rate, student-to-faculty ratio, admission rate, number of programs offered online, and percentage of students taking at least one class online.

## NATURAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

### ATU Students Win First Place in Poster Presentation

Lindsey Harper, Bailey Gifford, and Shaine Frank, level 4 ATU nursing students, took first place in the poster presentation at the Kappa Rho at Large Research Day 2017, which was held on the campus of the University of Central Arkansas on Friday, April 7. The winning poster was entitled “The effects of Medicinal Cannabis on Cancer Patients.” Alli Coke, Jordan Sanders, and Jillian Swain, level 3 ATU nursing students, won third place with their poster, entitled “Family Presence During Resuscitation.”





*“Graduation is not the terminus of your experience; it is the terminal of your success.”*  
 - Christian J. Dolores

### *Doc Bryan Library Tutoring*

The [Office of Student Success](#) welcomes all to the Ross Pendergraft Library for new tutoring hours hosted on the second floor.

Thursday’s Subjects: Physical Science, Physics, Math, Chemistry, and Biology

Sunday’s Subjects: Math and Chemistry

### *B2E Mentors*

Interested in becoming a B2E mentor? Volunteer [here!](#)

Already a B2E mentor? Check out the [Resource Guide](#).

### *Career Link*

If any of your students are seeking employment, please make them aware of [ATU Career Link](#).

## STUDENT SUPPORT

### STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES (SSS)

Four SSS students were recently selected to serve in the role of Go Bold new student orientation leaders at the beginning of the fall 2017 semester. Cristina Suaste (middle), Jessica Lyons (right), Morgan Davis (left), and Natalie Mayernick (not pictured) were among the 133 students selected to assist new students during the Go Bold orientation series of programs.



SSS students Kaitlyn Bradke, Esther White, Ariyana Woodson, and Maranda Coffey were among 43 students selected to serve on the Arkansas Tech University Presidential Leadership Cabinet during the 2017-18 academic year. PLC members will work with the ATU administration to promote the university to prospective and current students, alumni, and friends.

In addition, four SSS students were selected for inclusion in the ATU Who’s Who: Joli Dupy, Aysia Jackson, Camille Jordan, and Sydney Skaggs.



SSS also had some fun professional development and cultural enrichment opportunities this month. SSS students attended a critical thinking and team building workshop at Hourglass Escape Rooms for a challenging and fun experience on Friday, April 7, and a trip to the Russian Ballet’s performance of *Sleeping Beauty* on April 18.

## Road to Russellville

### ATU RUSSELLVILLE FACULTY MEMBERS TRAVEL TO OZARK CAMPUS

Arkansas Tech University Russellville hosted three informational sessions in March on the Ozark campus. ATU Russellville instructors Jeff Aulgur, Jamie Earls, and Rebecca Burris spoke to ATU Ozark students about how to make the transition from Ozark to the Russellville campus. All presentations included a short question and answer session.



## WHO’S WHO

### THIRTY-TWO ATU STUDENTS NAMED WHO’S WHO

Thirty-two representatives from Arkansas Tech University have been selected for inclusion in the 2017 edition of “Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.” Selection is based upon academic achievement, service to the community while enrolled at Tech, leadership and involvement in co-curricular activities and the potential for continued success.



Arkansas Tech students must have met specific criteria in order to be eligible for the 2017 edition of “Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges,” including full-time status, hours completed, and grade point average. A full list of the 2017 ATU Who’s Who students can be found [here](#).



# Announcements

## TRUSTEES AUTHORIZE SALE OF THREE FACILITIES

Three properties owned by Arkansas Tech University in the city of Russellville will be put up for sale following action by the ATU Board of Trustees during its regularly scheduled meeting in May. Two facilities that have been utilized by the university to house students — East Gate Apartments and South Hall — as well as an office and storage complex on Fourth Street are included in the properties authorized for sale.

## 2017-18 STANDING COMMITTEES

The election results for the 2017-18 Standing Committees can be found [here](#) under the Committees heading.

## 2016 ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The 2016 Academic Accomplishments booklet is now available online at:

<https://issuu.com/arkansastechuniversity/docs/academic-accomplishments-2016-fi>

This year, the booklet is electronic only; no hard copies will be printed. Thank you to all faculty and staff who submitted contributions for the booklet, and congratulations on your accomplishments.

## FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Three members of the Arkansas Tech University faculty have been recognized for their contributions to the campus community with a 2017 Faculty Award of Excellence.

Tracy Cole, Associate Professor of Legal Studies, is the 2017 Arkansas Tech Faculty Award of Excellence winner in the teaching category.

Joshua Lockyer, Associate Professor of Anthropology, is the 2017 Arkansas Tech Faculty Award of Excellence winner in the scholarship and creative activity category.

Johnette Moody, Associate Professor of Computer and Information Science, is the 2017 Arkansas Tech Faculty Award of Excellence winner in the service category.

