



August 8, 2022

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President's Perspective

I am so very proud and appreciative of the many faculty, staff and students who came out last week to beautify the campus for our returning students. Our faculty and staff don't just talk about service and civic engagement, they model it.

I will be thrilled to see all of our new and returning students on campus, our faculty in the classroom sharing their expertise and our staff helping support the start of the fall semester. I am really looking forward to Pioneer WOW, which gives our new students a great way to meet other incoming Pioneers and become comfortable in their home away from home. It is a lot of fun, and I am grateful to everyone who is making it come together.

Before we start the semester, our faculty and staff will be able to enjoy each other's company and have fun at the Tusculum Family Reunion next Monday. Then, they will spend the next day discussing details about the start of the academic year at the Pioneer Workshop.

In the midst of all this activity, we will spend this Saturday celebrating the accomplishments of those students who are earning associate, bachelor's and master's degrees from Tusculum University. I congratulate these students and wish them the best!

As career-ready professionals who have enjoyed an active and experiential education in a caring Christian environment, these soon-to-be alumni will make their mark on the world. I take great pride knowing they will be Tusculum graduates!

Go Pioneers!

Dr. Scott Hummel
President

Word of the Week

"Joshua told the people, 'Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you.'" – Joshua 3:5 NIV

Photo of the Week



Faculty and staff members and some of our students spread across campus Tuesday, Aug. 2, to help make the grounds look even nicer as we prepare for the arrival of students. Here, Nick Porter, graduate assistant for the men's basketball team, washes a car at the Indoor Practice Facility. This photo is from the Office of Athletic Communications. To see more photos of the event from that office and the Office of Communications and Marketing, please view [this gallery](#).

COVID-19 protocols for this year

As we enter the 2022-23 academic year, the coronavirus is still present in East Tennessee and in other parts of the nation and world.

We encourage Tusculum family members to practice important measures to help protect themselves and others against the coronavirus, such as frequent hand washing and coughing into the crook of their arm. They should also not come to class in person or to the office if they have been diagnosed with the coronavirus or are experiencing symptoms that are not typical of their everyday experiences. It is particularly important that they stay home if their temperature exceeds 100.4 degrees.

Here are the essential protocols for this year:

- Face coverings are generally not required, but Tusculum family members are welcome to wear one if they choose.
- Residential students who test positive will be encouraged to return home, but if that is not possible, they will be isolated in another part of campus.
- All Tusculum family members who test positive must isolate for at least five days. On Day 6, they will be allowed to return to work or come out of isolation housing if they have been fever-free for at least 24 hours and are not experiencing other major symptoms. However, they must wear a face covering except when they are in their room or office through Day 10. Student-athletes should notify their athletic trainer for further guidance.
- Contacts who are fully vaccinated and boosted do not have to quarantine unless they experience symptoms, but they should take a coronavirus test after five days if they are not symptomatic and earlier if they are symptomatic.
- Facilities management staff will continue to spray classrooms at least once a day to kill potential viruses.
- We will hold in-person classes, but faculty members will work with students who are positive or a contact and cannot come to class.
- Community members and relatives of Tusculum faculty, staff and students should not come to campus if they are sick, feeling symptoms of the coronavirus or have been diagnosed. They should also not come to campus if they are not fully vaccinated and boosted and are a contact.

Should you develop coronavirus symptoms, be diagnosed or be identified as a contact, you must immediately inform the appropriate group at Tusculum.

- Students need to email the Office of Student Affairs at studentaffairs@tusculum.edu or call the COVID-19 hotline at 423-636-0500. They should also alert their professors.
- Employees must contact the Human Resources Department at humanresources@tusculum.edu or 423-636-7345 (extension 5345 on campus) as well as their supervisor.

On-campus health clinic opens Aug. 22

The Ballad Health Tusculum University Clinic located in Room 008 of the Meen Center will open for medical care Monday, Aug. 22.

The clinic will see patients Mondays and Wednesdays from 8-11:30 a.m. and Thursdays from 1-3:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary. Patients can self-pay or use their health insurance. Students can apply for payment aid, if necessary.

Alice Lawson, a family nurse practitioner and an assistant professor of nursing at Tusculum, delivers care in the clinic.

Students, faculty and staff, as well as the immediate family members of Tusculum employees, are eligible to receive care at the clinic. Services include:

- Treatment for colds and flu, including fever, sore throat and cough
- General dermatology care
- Care for Infections, such as those in the sinus, eye/ear and urinary tract
- Management of chronic conditions
- Preventive care/wellness exams

- Specialist referrals

The clinic also provides testing for the coronavirus, flu and strep throat.

Tusculum Family Reunion is just one week away!

Have you practiced for the softball game, prepared yourself for all of the other fun activities and submitted your food preferences for the Tusculum Family Reunion?

If not, time is of the essence! The reunion will be held from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday, Aug. 15, at Pioneer Park.

Faculty and staff members must email Nicole Rader, director of alumni and community engagement, at nrader@tusculum.edu by noon Wednesday, Aug. 10, to provide their preference for one of the following meals:

- A Chartwells boxed lunch with turkey and Boursin cheese on a baguette with cut fruit, chips and cookie
- A choice of regular jerk dinners, jerk chicken tacos, jerk chicken rice bowl or curry chicken rice bowl from Island Vibe Grill, with a vegan option available

We will have free water and popcorn at the concessions stand closest to the entrance.

As part of the email, employees should advise whether any of their family members plan to attend. Family members of employees are not eligible for the voucher but are welcome to purchase a meal from Island Vibe.

Ultimate Funnel Cakes food truck is also scheduled to be present that day but will not be part of the voucher system. Instead, that food truck will only have items for purchase.

Food is not the only part of the reunion, though! At noon, we will hold a softball game, giving faculty and staff members an opportunity to show their talent on the field! To sign up, please email Jessica Biggers, assistant director of athletic communications, at jbiggers@tusculum.edu. We will have a free-for-all water balloon fight on the field at the end of the game.

We will also have a number of other activities, including Kam Jam, sack races and hula hoop. To see the full list, please click [here](#). These will be great fun, but to make them successful, we need volunteers to help run them. If you can assist, please email Rose Peedin, executive assistant to the president, at rpeedin@tusculum.edu.

Dress is casual. Faculty and staff members will receive their food voucher, ticket for door prizes and name tag when they enter the front gate of Pioneer Park.



Imagine our faculty and staff members in a rundown! It could happen at the Tusculum Family Reunion!
Photo from leagueathletics.com

Four faculty members will showcase their expertise Tuesday!

Come and see four of our distinguished faculty members share their expertise during the final session of the Appalachian Environmental Studies program's summer lecture series Tuesday, Aug. 9, at 6 p.m. at Greene Technology Center. Need an incentive? Yummy desserts will be available!

If you cannot come in person, you can watch here: <https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/83145285352>.

Here are the presenters and their subjects:

- Dr. Angela Keaton, professor of history, "Appalachian History and the Environment"
- Dr. Shelby Ward, assistant professor of interdisciplinary studies, "Environmental Political Theory: Understanding Space and Places in Appalachia"
- Dr. Heather Henson-Ramsey, dean of the College of Science, Technology and Mathematics, "Environmental Health Issues in Appalachia"
- Dr. Troy Goodale, professor of political science and chair of the Department of Social Sciences, "The Diversity of Appalachia"

Attendance is free and open to all Tusculum family members and the community. A panel discussion and questions from the audience will follow the talks.



Dr. Henson-Ramsey appeared on ABC Tri-Cities last week to discuss the event. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Celebrating our graduates at Tusculum

All of the years of hard work will culminate for our graduates Saturday, Aug. 13, at 10 a.m. when they walk across the stage during commencement!

Tusculum will hold the ceremony in Pioneer Arena, and all Tusculum family members are invited! There are no limits on guests for our graduates, and attendees do not need tickets. Doors to the arena will open for guests at 8 a.m.

Graduates will receive specific commencement details from the Office of the Registrar.

We look forward to this momentous occasion in our graduates' lives and congratulate our upcoming newest alumni!



Dr. Hummel greets one of the May graduates. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Navigating traffic for graduation

In addition to graduation Saturday morning, Jogging for Jess, a 5K fundraiser will be taking place in the campus area, so we encourage you to exercise additional caution if you are going to be at Tusculum.

The attached map shows all of the open routes in green and closed routes in red that will be in place from 7-45-9:20 a.m. Saturday.

At the bottom of the map are directions for entering campus from various directions, a list of the roads that will be closed and directions for accessing the Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center and Meen Center parking lots. All campus parking lots will be open for commencement except for the Indoor Practice Facility, and all will be accessible via normal routes except the following:

- The Annie Hogan Byrd lot will only be accessible via the roadway behind Katherine Hall in the northbound direction.
- The Meen lot will only be accessible via the southbound lane of Shiloh turning left at the cross street heading toward the football field.

Volunteers still needed for shoe distribution event

You can still volunteer to assist Samaritan's Feet, the Tweed Family Foundation and Tusculum family members involved in a shoe and sock distribution Saturday, Aug. 13, at the Indoor Practice Facility.

Organizers and volunteers will distribute 220 pairs of shoes to children from Greene County. Volunteers are needed from 1-6 p.m., but you do not need to stay for all five hours. The provision of shoes and socks will take place from 2-5 p.m.

You can learn more details, including how to register, in this [news release](#).

Make your textbook purchases today

We encourage students to purchase their textbooks today!

Remember we have a new, online bookstore model. Students can access the online bookstore at tusculum.textbookx.com. They can log into the website with their student email account to see a personalized page of the courses for which they registered and the course materials their professors have assigned. They can select from the new, used, rental and eBook options, and they can choose textbooks from third-party marketplace merchants and students around the country at heavily discounted prices.

We still sell branded merchandise such as clothing items, flags, key chains, school supplies and snacks in the Scott M. Niswonger Commons. However, textbooks are no longer available there.

Coming soon: enhanced Wi-Fi and internet connection!

We have great news for students! To accommodate today's entertainment needs, Tusculum is doubling its available bandwidth! Starting in early September, we will launch better and faster speeds for Wi-Fi and Ethernet connections! We are pleased to strengthen the technology on campus! We are sure you will love it!

To ensure everyone can enjoy these amazing connection speeds, we ask students not to bring routers or devices with built-in routers, such as wireless printers. These devices slow the internet connection for everyone. Students might not be able to download their favorite shows, for example, if someone has a wireless router in a gaming console. If students wonder whether their device might have one of these routers, they should not hesitate to ask. We will be happy to help!

We respond to the entertainment needs and patterns of our students. After careful consideration, we have concluded provision of cable television is no longer beneficial due to a decrease in use and demand. As a result, we will discontinue cable service on campus effective Wednesday, Aug. 31.

However, we will equip the televisions in student lounges with streaming devices so students can log into their favorite streaming services in The Pioneer Perk, the Katherine Hall lobby and other student lobbies across campus.

Should you have any other ideas or questions, please email the Office of Student Affairs at studentaffairs@tusculum.edu or the Tusculum Department of Information Services at tdis@tusculum.edu. We welcome your input!



Get ready for Pioneer WOW!

The countdown is 10 days until the beginning of Pioneer WOW for our incoming students!

Featuring a variety of activities such as Battle of the Freshmen, Free Float Friday group karaoke, trail walks, Amazing Race and TikTok, incoming students will have an endless amount of fun! But Pioneer WOW, an acronym for Welcome Orientation Week, will also include information about ways to succeed as a student and opportunities for great meals, including the wonderful Taste of Tusculum. We will also hold the Freshman Day of Service.

The first part of Pioneer WOW starts with move-in at 9 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, and concludes with the Pioneer Showcase Saturday, Aug. 20, at 6:30 p.m. Then we shift into the second phase of Pioneer WOW, which runs from Sunday, Aug. 21-Saturday, Aug. 27. Fewer activities will take place because of the start

of classes, but all students will have a blast with activities, such as contra dancing, a bonfire, water games, yard games and hikes.

We are excited to get started! Be sure to visit the [Pioneer WOW web page](#), which has a link to the schedule and more details!



A new student has a great time during Battle of the Freshmen at Pioneer WOW in 2021.

Helping our summer residential students

We appreciate the generosity of those Tusculum family members who have supported students who have needed to stay in the residence halls this summer. We can continue to help them through a food drive led by the Bonner Leader Program.

To support this initiative, you can leave perishable food items in the bin by the Old Gym or at the Center for Civic Advancement in Room 401, both of which are in the Scott M. Niswonger Commons.

You can also donate money [here](#). Please select the food pantry in the drop-down menu.

Mark your calendar for the Pioneer Workshop

The Pioneer Workshop for faculty and staff to be held from 8:30 a.m.-noon Tuesday, Aug. 16, in the Marilyn duBrisk Theatre of Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center.

Administrators as well as faculty and staff members will make presentations and be available afterward to answer questions. The agenda is attached for your review.

If you have questions about the event, please email Dr. Tricia Hunsader, provost and vice president of academic affairs, at thunsader@tusculum.edu.

Time for employees to register vehicles and secure reserved parking spaces

All faculty and staff need to register any vehicles they will park on campus and request reserved parking spaces that might interest them.

Faculty and staff members will not have to pay a registration fee for the first vehicle, but the cost is \$20 for each additional vehicle. To register their vehicle, they must visit <https://www.permitsales.net/TusculumU>. Once they are registered, they can go to Campus Safety to pick up their sticker. The penalty for parking an unregistered vehicle is \$75 per citation.

Reserved spaces are available in the following lots:

- Meen Center
- Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center
- Virginia Hall
- McCormick Hall
- COG North
- Old College
- Haynes Hall south lot
- Scott M. Niswonger Commons

Anyone securing a reserved parking space will have exclusive access to it Monday-Friday from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Students are never allowed to park in yellow lined spaces regardless of the hours.

Those who reserved a space for the 2021-22 academic year can keep the same location or change it for the new academic year. They and those who are reserving a space for the first time need to sign up at <https://ws.tusculum.edu/forms/tu-reserved-parking-reservation-form/>. The cost for a reserved space is \$225. Employees can pay upfront or through payroll deduction.

We will strictly enforce the reserved parking space policy. If another vehicle is parked in a reserved space Monday-Friday from 7 a.m.-5 p.m., it will be towed. Campus Safety will issue no tickets or warnings except during the first two weeks of each semester.

New chair for the Sport Management Department

Dr. Nick Davidson, an assistant professor of sport management, has been named chair of this growing department.

A Tusculum family member for a year, Dr. Davidson teaches bachelor's and master's sport management courses. They include Sport Facilities and Design/Event Management, Communication in Sport and Legal Issues in Sport.

"We are thrilled to elevate Dr. Davidson to chair of these well-designed and well-developed programs," said Dr. Kevin Hill, interim dean of the College of Business. "He will build on their many strengths and national recognition to ensure our graduates continue to be equipped as career-ready professionals, I look forward to witnessing growth in these programs with him at the helm."

Dr. Davidson inherits undergraduate and graduate programs that received accreditation in the spring from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Program. The programs also have this designation under the university's umbrella accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. In addition, onlinemastersdegrees.org ranked Tusculum 12th in a listing of the Best Online Master's in Sports Management for 2022.

Along with his teaching responsibilities, Dr. Davidson oversaw development of the Tusculum esports team, which will compete nationally in the fall. He also led the project that produced the TU esports lab in COG complex.

Dr. Davidson has participated in several peer-reviewed journal articles and conference presentations. His research interests are organizational and consumer behavior in sport, labor economics in sport, organizational leadership in sport and globalization and production of combat sports.

Dr. Davidson holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in sport management from West Virginia University and a doctorate in that field, with a concentration in sport media and culture studies from Florida State University.



Dr. Nick Davidson

Still not registered for fall courses? Take care of it today!

The fall semester starts in two weeks, and students should be sure they are registered for classes. They can review courses available during the fall semester by visiting the portal and submit [registration forms](#) to the Registrar's Office at registrartu@tusculum.edu.

Students need to remember:

- They must meet with their advisor before they can choose their courses.
- They must not have a business office hold on their student account because they will not be able to register for courses until they resolve it.



Don't forget about housing for the fall semester!

The Office of Student Affairs is completing housing assignments, so students who want to live in a residence hall or the apartments for the fall semester need to act now.

The application is available at <https://my.tusculum.edu/forms/housing-lottery-form/>.

Keep in mind these important reminders about housing registration:

- Students will not be able to participate in the housing lottery if they have not registered for courses to be held in the fall.
- Students need to complete a housing application on their Anthology accounts.
- Students who have a business office hold can submit their housing application, but it will not be processed until they register for classes for the fall.

*Have you signed up for **FALL HOUSING?***



Get ahead!



<https://my.tusculum.edu/forms/housing-lottery-form/>

Reminders

- TaylorMade Grooming Lounge will provide free haircuts in the Quad on the Greeneville campus for students from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday, Aug. 22.
- We have modified the class schedule for Tuesday, Aug. 23, to accommodate the Opening Convocation. The convocation will be held at 10:30 a.m. in the Marilyn duBrisk Theatre of Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center. The schedule is attached.

- The deadline to recommend someone for this month's President's GEM Award is noon Wednesday, Aug. 24. Dr. Hummel will announce the recipient at the President's Coffee Friday, Aug. 26. To suggest someone, please complete this [short form](#).
- The Thomas J. Garland Library now has board games students can borrow during normal business hours and play them in the study rooms or Room 206.
- The bookstore is an excellent resource for office supplies, and some of them are now available for free. Visit the bookstore before placing an order with a vendor!
- If you are holding an event on campus, we need to be sure Tusculum family members are aware. One way is to submit a [branding request](#) to the Office of Communications and Marketing, which will post the event to the calendar on the Tusculum website. Another is for employees to work with the person designated in their office or department who has the ability to post items on the Events and Planning Calendar on Outlook. Access to items on that calendar is available to all employees.

Events and activities

All Tusculum family members

Tuesday, Aug. 9, and Thursday, Aug. 11, 7 p.m., Old Gym; **REFIT fitness class**

Wednesday, Aug. 10, 11 a.m., in front of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons; **Trucky Cheese food truck**

Saturday, Aug. 13, 10 a.m., Pioneer Arena; **graduation**

Saturday, Aug. 13, 2 p.m., Indoor Practice Facility; **shoes and socks distribution for local children**

Faculty and staff

Wednesday, Aug. 10, noon, Zoom; **The Pioneer Pathway Task Force**

Thursday, Aug. 11, 9 a.m., Zoom; **Operation Success Committee**

Community

Saturday, Saturday, Aug. 13, 9 a.m., Doak House Museum; **Greeneville Farmers Market**

FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAYS

Coming August 10: Trucky Cheese



Faculty and staff birthdays

- Wednesday, Aug. 10 – Callie Montgomery
- Wednesday, Aug. 10 – Jordan Baker
- Thursday, Aug. 11 – Victoria Sage
- Friday, Aug. 12 – Dr. Kevin Hill
- Friday, Aug. 12 – Danielle Marante

We thank you for reading The Pioneer Press! To suggest content for a future edition or submit feature photos, please email Jim Wozniak, director of communications and marketing, at jwozniak@tusculum.edu.

Go Pioneers!