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President's Perspective

What a week of rejoicing it has been for Tusculum University!

The grand opening of The Pioneer Perk was a lot of fun and culmination of a lot of hard work. I smile every time I walk by and see students enjoying themselves in the Perk. The Lantern Festival and Honors Convocation were especially joyful as we celebrated student, faculty and staff achievements. Of course,

it was a joy for those receiving awards, but it was also joy for friends and colleagues to share in the celebrations. I left both events with a heart full of pride and joy.

The rejoicing is that much sweeter when it has been earned through hard work and diligence. At the Student Support Services and ARCHES banquet, the abundant joy was well-earned. The rejoicing continued as we acknowledged faculty and staff achievements and recognized our newest GEM Award recipient – Rachael Barnett. Even more achievements were celebrated during the Academic Symposium as our students presented their art work and research.

Sometimes the joy comes through fellowship. What a joy to spend time eating dinner with nearly every undergraduate student this past month. Just this past week, Starr and I got to eat and fellowship with the baseball team, men’s lacrosse team, Black Student Union, Student Government Association and SSS and ARCHES students. Sunday night was filled with pancakes as administrators served our students at the Midnight Breakfast. Students are our joy and reason to serve.

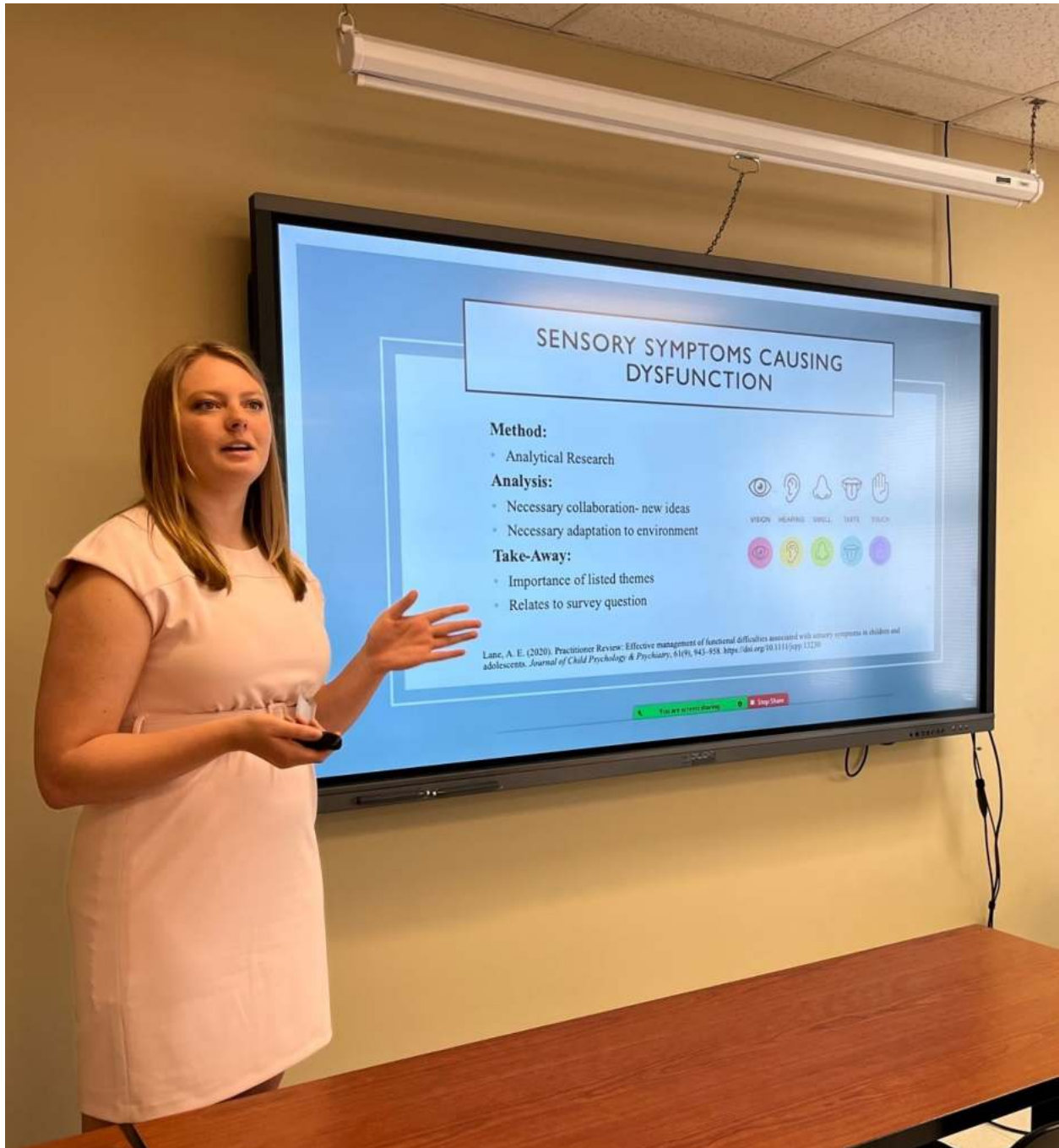
Go Pioneers!

Dr. Scott Hummel
President

Word of the Week

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.” – Philippians 4:4 (ESV)

Photo of the Week



Sydney Byrd, a senior sport science major, presented “What are the Best Utilizations of Therapy Methods in Pediatric Treatment for Different Diagnoses that are Causing Dysfunction?” during the Academic Symposium Friday. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Coronavirus update

No students and no employees are positive.

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.

Graduation is Saturday

Join us at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 7, for the spring semester graduation ceremony.

The event is scheduled for Pioneer Park, but if the forecast calls for inclement weather, we will move the ceremony to Pioneer Arena. We anticipate making a final decision a few days before commencement.

We will have no tickets for the event, and there are no limitations on how many family members and friends of graduates can attend. If you cannot attend in person or would prefer to watch remotely, you can view the livestream at <https://youtu.be/SO2 Bxel-zQ>.



We held graduation at Pioneer Park in May 2021. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Cut a ribbon and start having fun in The Pioneer Perk!

An excellent turnout from students, faculty, staff and the community showed the excitement about the opening of The Pioneer Perk in the bookstore when we held the grand opening and ribbon cutting Tuesday, April 26.

Students have gravitated since the ceremony to the Perk to play billiards, table tennis and air hockey. The Perk was funded in large part by a donation from Kelly Vogt, a 1983 Tusculum alumnus, in memory of his father, Joseph, who also graduated from the university. We express our appreciation to Vogt for his generosity. Operating hours are 8 a.m.-midnight until the end of the spring semester. They will transition 8 a.m.-5 p.m. during the summer.

Check out the photos in [this gallery](#) of the ceremony taken by the Office of Communications and Marketing that supplement the one below. You can also learn more in this [news release](#).



Tusculum student TJ Minton, right, prepares to break as fellow Pioneer Frank Bonacia watches. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Learn more about Tusculum graduate school opportunities

The College of Education is sponsoring “After the Cap and Gown” from 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, May 5, via Zoom. This event is for Tusculum students and community members who are considering graduate school to learn more about the university’s master’s degree programs.

Faculty from the Colleges of Business, Education and Nursing will provide details about the programs, and alumni from each will tell about their experiences. Representatives of the Office of Admission and the Office of Financial Aid will also be present to assist.

The Zoom link for the event is <https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/86960551755>. You can learn more about “After the Cap and Gown” by reading this [news release](#).

The graphic features a purple background with silhouettes of graduates celebrating against a sunset sky. A circular QR code with the TU logo is on the left. Text includes the Zoom link, event title, purpose, speaker information, date, time, and the university logo.

Zoom link:
<https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/86960551755>

Updated Zoom link

After the Cap and Gown

Learn about Tusculum University’s graduate programs and prepare for your future!

Alumni and faculty speakers from the Colleges of Business, Education and Nursing

Date: 5/5/2022
Time: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

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A packed house and enthusiastic atmosphere at the Honors Convocation

Particularly memorable moments at the Honors Convocation Thursday, April 28, were the explosions of applause for Nancy Leonard and greetings for Chuck Sutton when they were announced as the winners

of the Outstanding Service to Students Awards for a cafeteria worker and Tusculum staff member, respectively.

Congratulations to all of the winners! You can see the list of winners [here](#) and a [gallery of photos](#), in addition to the one below, from the event here.



Like many others in the audience, Nancy Leonard was overcome with emotion when her name was called. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing.

College of Education holds awards ceremony

The College of Education held its Honors Awards Convocation Ceremony Wednesday, April 29 via Zoom. More than 100 people attended the event, with many Zoom window screens showing family members and friends joining the honorees.

“We consider children and learners of all ages to be the future,” Dr. Stroder said in her welcoming remarks. “We’re here to celebrate your accomplishments, but when we celebrate you, we are also celebrating all of the people who are going to be impacted by you as you go through your life journey. All of you excelled academically and in leadership and in cooperative and collaborative teamwork. That is a testament to you.”

The honorees were:

- Seth Wyatt – Outstanding Undergraduate Student
- Logan Mitchell – Outstanding Undergraduate Student (residential)
- Jacob Willett – Tennessee Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (TAHPERD) James E. Ward Future Professional Award
- Zach Dixon – David Bow Award
- Kale Lawrence – Teacher Education Senior Key Award
- Jacob Willett – Physical Education Senior Key Award
- Kiley Longmire – Sport Science Senior Key Award
- Amara Sunnarborg – Outstanding Master of Arts in Teaching student
- Erin Hanas – Dr. Shirley Beck Award for the Outstanding Master of Arts in Education student
- Olivia Cox – Outstanding Master of Arts in Organizational Training and Performance Management

Keynote speakers for the event were Elizabeth Stimmell and Stacy Cody, the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies and Master of Arts in Teaching award winners from 2021, respectively. They spoke about the importance of teachers understanding their students' interests, learning strengths and learning challenges.

Lantern Festival showed deep connections within the Tusculum family

The Lantern Festival lived up to its reputation as a highly personal event in which students showed love for their fellow Pioneers and conveyed how much faculty and staff members mean to them.

For about 60 years, Tusculum has held the Lantern Festival. It is a chance for graduating students to pass a lantern to an underclassman who will carry on the Tusculum tradition and give a pin to faculty and staff members who have been particularly meaningful to them.

Photos taken by the Office of Communications and Marketing at the event, in addition to the one below, are available [here](#).



Evan Miles, left, passed a lantern to Averie Price during the event. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

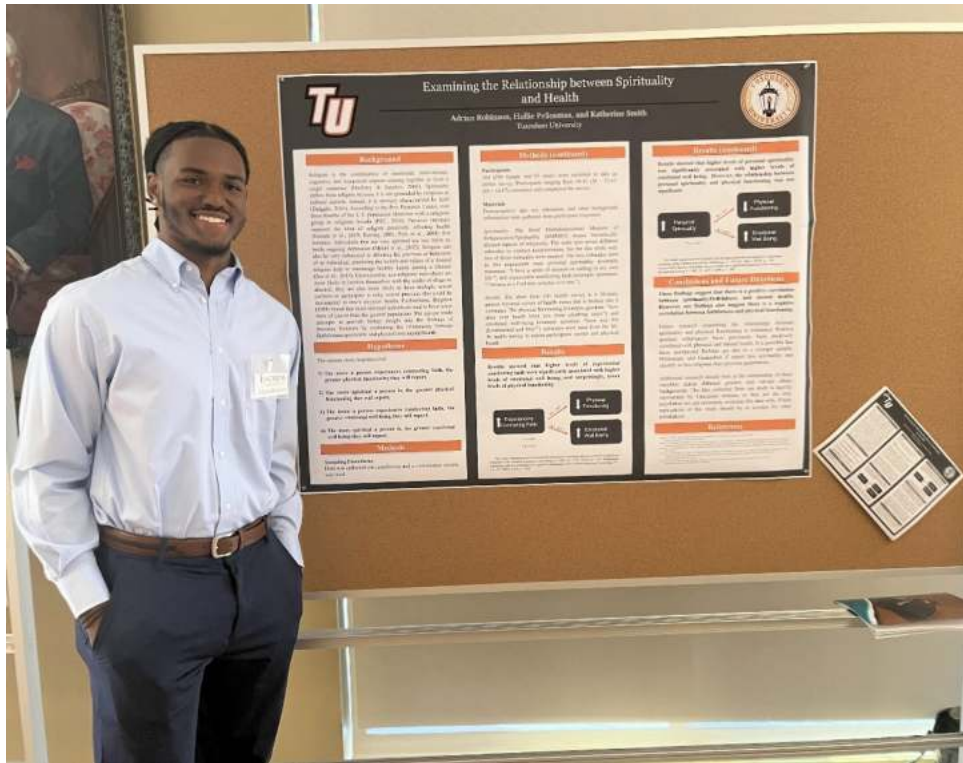
Students excelled at the Academic Symposium

More than 30 students shared their posters, showed their art and history exhibits or gave 15-minute presentations at the Academic Symposium in the Scott M. Niswonger Commons Friday, April 29.

Art exhibits included murals, photos, magazine covers and still life. The history exhibit centered on the rare books of Tusculum. Presentations delved into ticket sales and marketing strategies, therapies methods in pediatric treatment, Masonic bibles, Lowe's, the romance of the human experience and the Horse Creek community of Greene County. Posters explored subjects such as religion and mental health, emergent care within a hospital, parrot feather and chemotherapeutics.

The student's work was superb, and the ice cream at the social afterward was excellent!

Please visit [this gallery](#) of photos from the event, in addition to the photo below, taken by the Office of Communications and Marketing.



Adrian Robinson shows his poster “Examining the Relationship Between Spirituality and Health.” Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Great deal! Summer classes are half off!

Students can save \$418 per credit hour – a 53 percent savings – for undergraduate courses compared to the fall and spring semesters by taking summer courses! For just \$365 per credit hour, students can put themselves closer to earning their degree and ease their load in the spring and fall semesters. Students can utilize federal financial aid to cover their tuition costs, too!

Registration is already underway for the three summer terms.

- Full – May 16-Aug. 12
- Early – May 16-June 24
- Late – June 27-Aug. 12

The link to the portal is <https://portal.tusculum.edu/CMCportal/>. The students’ login is their Tusculum lab account. This is the same username and password that is used for Canvas.

Students should check with the Tusculum financial aid team and their advisor, who can guide them through the process. Students cannot register for the summer terms if they have a business hold or have not met with their advisor.

**SOMETIMES
LESS IS
MORE.**

**Make more time for
yourself in the spring
and fall by taking
classes in the summer.**



Take care of registration for fall courses

Students can review courses available during the fall semester by visiting the portal. They should register as soon as possible before classes fill up.

It is important for students 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.



Remember to register for housing

Students should register for housing for the 2022-23 academic year as quickly as possible.

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

We remind you of a few points 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.



Enjoy some Cajun items from this week's food truck

Gumbeaux's Cajun Food Truck & Munchie Machine will bring us delicious items to eat Wednesday, May 4. Be ready to enjoy a great meal from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in front of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons.

We look forward to seeing you.

FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAYS

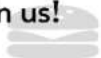
Coming May 4: Gumbeaux's Cajun
Food Truck & Munchie Machine



11 a.m. - 3 p.m.



On Wednesdays, Tusculum will host a food truck
on campus. Join us!



Everyone invited!

Quad in front of Niswonger Commons
60 Shiloh Road, Greeneville, TN 37745

Questions? Email nrader@tusculum.edu
or call 423-636-0565.

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Important library news

The Thomas J. Garland Library wants to advise you of some important news.

- Operating hours today through Wednesday are 8 a.m.-1 a.m. and Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The library will be closed Saturday and Sunday.
- Starting next week until the start of the fall semester, the hours will be 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Lemonade and coffee will be served from 9 a.m.-1 a.m. Monday through Wednesday this week.
- A rare book display created by students Samuel Bowen, Eirik Dahlgren, Joshua Grabner, Daniel Gongora and Megan Page enrolled in MUSE 308 is currently on display in the library and will later be relocated to local libraries and museums.
- Students, faculty and staff should return all checked-out materials prior to leaving for the summer or for an extended period. Please consult with library staff about any special circumstances.

Tusculum University Concert Band holds spring performance

Our Tusculum University Concert Band, completing its first year since it was restarted, held its spring performance Thursday, April 28, in the Marilyn duBrisk Theatre.

The performance consisted of band members playing a range of musical selections, many with upbeat rhythms, for the audience's enjoyment. The event featured solo and duet performances, as well as songs performed by the entire Tusculum Pep Band.

You can read more about the concert [here](#) and see additional photos [here](#) by the Office of Communications and Marketing.



Tusculum Concert Band members pose in front of the Tusculum Arch with Dr. David Gonzalez, director of bands in the back left and Robert Hicks, pianist, in the back right. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Yummy late-night breakfast available for students

Students enjoyed a tasty spread of pancakes, eggs, sausage and bacon during Sunday's late-night breakfast, which prepared and served by Dr. Hummel as well as faculty and staff members. This nourishment will help them as they finish projects and take exams during finals week.

We wish our students the best during finals week. Enjoy [these photos](#) from the breakfast in addition to the one below.



The breakfast was a big hit with students. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

On the air: Tusculum University

Students, faculty and staff had the opportunity to share the Tusculum story during a live broadcast by WRJZ, a Christian radio station from Knoxville, on our campus Thursday morning.

The Bob Bell Show aired from the living room of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons. He interviewed the following Tusculum family members:

- Dr. Scott Hummel, Tusculum's president
- Dr. Jacob Fait, vice president of enrollment management and financial aid
- Dr. Suzanne Byrd, associate professor and department chair of sport science
- Dr. Peggy Goodson-Rochelle, associate professor of education
- Dr. Dennis Ashford, assistant professor of chemistry
- Students Tristan Kirkham, Kobe Funderburk and Andrew Cantrell

In addition to the photo below, you can see a gallery [here](#).



Dr. Hummel speaks with Bob Bell. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Student Support Services leader earns GEM Award

Rachael Barnett, director of Student Support Services, was named the April recipient of the President's GEM Award. Dr. Hummel made the announcement during the President's Coffee Friday, April 29.

Here are some of the nominators' comments about Barnett:

"Rachael is a dedicated and tireless colleague who advocates for the programs and students she serves. She is humble, good-spirited, and compassionate. She meets challenges and adversity with a smile, and she is ever mindful of what it means to serve others."

“Whether it is school-related issues, or just to vent about life, Rachel is always there for the students. Rachael is always upbeat, positive, and caring, which in my opinion exemplifies Tusculum's vision and values. Rachel is a true class act!”

“Rachael exudes empathy and inclusion and is a voice for the voiceless. She genuinely cares for her students, her staff, and Tusculum University as a whole.”

She has that rare gift of being able to communicate with kindness, yet firmness, and her students know that even when she is tough, she has their best interests at heart.”

Barnett succeeds Bobbie Clarkston as the GEM Award winner. To suggest an employee for the May GEM Award, please complete this [short form](#). The deadline is noon Tuesday, May 26. The President’s Coffee will be held at 9 a.m. Thursday, May 28, to accommodate Dr. Hummel’s schedule.



Rachael Barnett

Message from our mental health professionals

What an incredible semester it has been serving you at Tusculum University!

From campuswide events, to projects, exams, papers and rushing to finish the semester strong, many of you will leave Tusculum as a new graduate of this wonderful university, and others will return this fall for additional opportunities to make lifelong memories, while getting a quality education.

From our counseling center team, it has been our pleasure and honor to work with each of you. We were able to serve 87 students for various needs, logging over 536 hours. Each hour served was a safe place created for a student. What a tremendous gift this university provides for students to ensure your personal and academic success becomes a reality. If you continue to remain on campus or are enrolled in summer courses and need to receive counseling services, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for sharing your semester with us. Best wishes to each graduate, and we look forward to serving you again next academic year. Have a great summer!



Tommy Delbridge, licensed clinical social worker



Stephanie Edwards, licensed professional counselor

Tusculum offers shuttles for students who are flying

Students who plan to fly home at the end of the spring semester are eligible to receive shuttle service from the Greeneville campus. Tusculum provides shuttle service to Tri-Cities Airport, McGee Tyson Airport in Knoxville and the Asheville, North Carolina, airport.

Student-athletes need to sign up with their coaches. All other students can sign up in the Office of Student Affairs. These shuttles will be available from Monday, May 2, through Monday, May 9.

For the fall semester, shuttle signups will begin Monday, July 25. Shuttles will be available from Monday, August 8, until Tuesday, August 18. Shuttles will run from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. We encourage students to book flights that meet these periods, as shuttles may not be available outside these windows. Students who arrive after the 7 p.m. shuttle should plan for overnight lodging and utilize the next morning's shuttle.

Nonathletes will need to email the Office of Student Affairs at studentaffairs@tusculum.edu to schedule and confirm a shuttle time.

Students will be charged \$25 if they use the shuttle service. The cost will be added to their student account. They do not need to pay the shuttle driver.

Student Support Services and ARCHES hold spring semester banquet

Student Support Services and ARCHES participants and staff celebrated the end of the academic year with a banquet Thursday, April 28.

In addition to the meal, students who have joined SSS and are graduating this week received certificates and a cord for their participation in this program. The event included remarks from Noah Lyons, who participated in SSS at East Tennessee State University and is now a biochemistry doctoral student at Virginia Tech. More Adult and Online Studies students attended the banquet this year than ever before.

SSS is for residential and commercial students on the Greeneville campus, and ARCHES is for Adult and Online Studies students. They are free programs, which serves first-generation, income-eligible students. If you are interested in joining one of these programs, please email sss@tusculum.edu or arches@tusculum.edu.

Additional photos from the banquet are available [here](#).



Left to right are Shay Riggs, Christine Fitzwater, Anima Poe, Rose Webb, Farrah Tate, and Marsha Ricker from the Adult and Online Studies program.

Reminders

- Chapel has concluded for the academic year. It will resume at the start of the fall semester.
- The Ballad Health Tusculum University Clinic is now closed until the start of the fall semester. Local health care providers and health departments can assist you during the interim.
- All Tusculum family members are invited to attend the final free opening receptions for art and design students' capstone exhibitions. Daniel Gongora and Emilie Hansen will show their work from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 5. They will be available to answer questions from guests.
- 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, May 3, 7 p.m., Pioneer Arena; **REFIT fitness class**

Wednesday, May 4, 11 a.m., in front of Scott M. Niswonger Commons; **food truck (Gumbeaux's Cajun Food Truck & Munchie Machine)**

Thursday, May 5, 6:30 p.m., Zoom; **"After the Cap and Gown"**

Thursday, May 5, 5 p.m., Shulman Center; **capstone exhibition opening reception for Daniel Gongora and Emilie Hansen**

Thursday, May 5, 7 p.m., Pioneer Arena; **REFIT fitness class**

Friday, May 6, 5:30 p.m., Pioneer Park or Pioneer Arena (in case of inclement weather); **College of Nursing pinning ceremony**

Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m., Pioneer Park or Pioneer Arena (in case of inclement weather) (livestream available at https://youtu.be/SO2_Bxel-zQ); **graduation**

Faculty and staff

Thursday, May 5, 9 a.m., Zoom; **Operations Success Committee**

Friday, May 6, 1:30 p.m., Meen Center lecture hall and Zoom; **Faculty Assembly**

Community

Monday, April 25, 5:30 p.m., Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center; **Great Literature Alive, Well, & Playing in Greeneville, Tennessee, class**

Thursday, May 5, 10 a.m., Chalmers Conference Center; **Congressional Art Contest**

Athletics



Amber Hogan prepares to throw the discus earlier this season. She will be in action this week at the South Atlantic Conference Outdoor Championship. Photo from the Office of Athletic Communication

Thursday, May 5, 10 a.m., Anderson, South Carolina; **men's and women's outdoor track and field teams at South Atlantic Conference Outdoor Championship**

Friday, May 6, 9 a.m., Anderson, South Carolina; **men's and women's outdoor track and field teams at South Atlantic Conference Outdoor Championship**



Joshua Stevens hands off to Landen Locklear as they compete in a relay in an earlier meet. They will take part this week in the South Atlantic Conference Outdoor Championship. Photo from the Office of Athletic Communications

Athletic contests can change. Be sure to check the schedule on the [athletics website](#) for revisions.

Faculty and staff birthdays

- Tuesday, May 3 – April Lane
- Wednesday, May 4 – Tyler Gass
- Thursday, May 5 – Eveline Parsons
- Friday, May 6 – Kathy Hipps
- Friday, May 6 – Allen Vital
- Friday, May 6 – Todd Hertel
- Saturday, May 7 – Leanna Covington
- Saturday, May 7 – Angel Wright

We appreciate 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!