



September 19, 2022

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President's Perspective

As I drove around campus and the community Friday during Nettie Day, I was inspired by the impressive work performed by our students.

Our mission emphasizes the value of civic engagement, and Nettie Day is one of the greatest examples of putting that principle into action. Tusculum can be proud of this annual event! I know our alumni have fond memories of it. I thank the Center for Civic Advancement for planning another outstanding Nettie Day and will be excited to see our students, faculty and staff at work again next year.

Another component of our mission is active and experiential learning, and I was thrilled to see four of our band members putting that on display last week. They participated in the filming of a holiday show for the Food Network. Yes, our students are headed for an appearance on national television! Kudos to the students and Dr. David Gonzalez, our director of bands, for this remarkable feat!

We have yet another busy week ahead on our campus, and that makes me feel good. Be sure to attend one of the performances of "Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons" in the Behan Arena Theatre.

Faculty and staff have a fun opportunity to taste a bunch of desserts at Sweet Tooth Tuesday, and I suspect they will gladly participate. And tonight, I encourage you to support the CCA's showing of "Hamilton" in the Apartment Quad.

Go Pioneers!

Dr. Scott Hummel
President

Word of the Week

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." – 1 Peter 4:10 ESV

Photo of the Week



Bryce Jackson, left, and Lexus Singleton wash a wall at Doak Elementary School during Nettie Fowler McCormick Service Day Friday, Sept. 16. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

COVID-19 procedures

We have modified a few coronavirus procedures in light of recent guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. You can read all of the protocols [here](#).

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.

Our band members become TV stars!

Four students in our Tusculum band program achieved notoriety last week when they appeared in a taping of the Food Network show "Holiday Baking Championship: Gingerbread Showdown" in Knoxville!

Participants from Tusculum were Hughston Burnheimer, Haley Gibson, Derek Hatcher and Jyclyn West. They marched as part of the announcement of the competition and played Christmas music! The instruments they played were:

- Mellophone, Burnheimer
- Bass drum, Gibson
- Sousaphone, Hatcher
- Clarinet, West

Our marching uniforms have been ordered but not yet arrived. In the interim, Morristown East High School lent us uniforms, and Erin Schultz, Tusculum's costume designer, added a Tusculum touch to them. Chuckey-Doak High School provided us with shakos and plumes.

This was a tremendous example of active and experiential learning for these students, and we are honored the Food Network asked us. We are fortunate Dr. David Gonzalez, our director of bands, knows one of the producers, who approached him about our participation. We do not have an air date yet but will alert you when we receive that information.

Congratulations to these band members! We look forward to the next accomplishments for this program!



Left to right are Haley Gibson, Jyclyn West, Hughston Burnheimer and Derek Hatcher. Photo from Dr. David Gonzalez

Constitution Day celebration to feature showing of “Hamilton”

The Center for Civic Advancement is celebrating Constitution Day today with a showing of the movie “Hamilton.”

The event will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Apartment Quad. Should there be rain, the event will be moved to Meen Center Room 117. The CCA encourages attendees to bring a blanket.

Constitution Day is an annual observance the CCA holds in the fall. Anyone with questions can email cca@tusculum.edu. Don't miss this great movie!



Funny and insightful play starts Friday in the Behan Arena Theatre

Tusculum family members can enjoy a free play starting Friday in the Behan Arena Theatre on the lower floor of Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center. "Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons," a funny and insightful comedy, will be held Sept. 23, Sept. 24, Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Sept. 25 and Oct. 2 at 2 p.m.

All students, faculty and staff are eligible for one free ticket. To reserve a free seat, please click [here](#). Select the show you want to attend and look for the link that says, "Have a passcode." Click that and enter your Tusculum ID number.

The play by Sam Steiner revolves around the theme that a person can speak only 140 words a day. "Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons" considers a world in which people must say less. It

contemplates what people say and how they say it. This production also touches on activism, eye contact and what people can hear in silence. You can learn more in this [news release](#).

Additional tickets cost \$15 for anyone 12-59 years old, \$12 for anyone 60 or older and \$5 for children younger than 12. Tusculum Arts Outreach recommends that attendees be at least 17 years old due to adult language and themes.

The cast features two Tusculum staff members – Steve Schultz, director of admission operations, and Erin Hensley Schultz, costume director. Steve Schultz plays Oliver, a laid-back musician, and Erin Schultz plays Bernadette, an ambitious attorney. Wayne Thomas, executive director of Tusculum Arts Outreach and dean of the College of Civic and Liberal Arts, directs the play. Frank Mengel leads set design, and three students – Todd Wallin, Josie Norton and Gracie Weems – run the show backstage.

“Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons” is a wonderful play, full of energy. You will be glad you attended.



Wayne Thomas, left, watches a scene rehearsal performed by Steve Schultz and Erin Hensley Schultz.
Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Yum! Sweet Tooth Tuesday arrives tomorrow

Faculty and staff will showcase and feed their tummies plenty of sugar Tuesday, Sept. 20, when they participate in our first-ever Sweet Tooth Tuesday competition!

Sweet Tooth Tuesday will be held from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. around the living room of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons. The event will have the same mechanics as the Chili Cook-Off, but it will focus on desserts instead! Teams have formed to create their best treats, with voters determining who earns the different honors.

Sweet Tooth Tuesday is for faculty and staff members. Employees should put the last touches on their recipes and themes if work still remains on their delicious creations! We are salivating already over the tasty treats they will produce!

Faculty and staff members with questions should email Nicole Rader, director of alumni and community engagement, at nrader@tusculum.edu.



JOIN US FOR A DAY OF TUSCULUM'S FINEST TREATS!

Tuesday, September 20
11 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Niswonger Commons main entrance

**THIS EVENT IS FOR FACULTY AND STAFF PARTICIPATION ONLY.
TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM, PLEASE EMAIL NRADER@TUSCULUM.EDU.**

God's concern about our suffering the topic of chapel today

Dr. Chris Shumate, our campus minister, will address the question "Does God care about our suffering?" during chapel today at 3:30 p.m. in The Pioneer Perk. Abel Carrico, a local pastor, who helps with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes on campus, will potentially also be present to provide music.

If you are unable to attend chapel in person, you can participate virtually at <https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/89872872826?pwd=SzU1OThWLOtuZThCOEFCVHpLcVRIUT09>.

Chapel sessions are 3:30-4 p.m. every Monday during the fall semester when classes are in session. Every week, we will address common questions about Christianity. All Tusculum family members are invited to attend.

For more information, please email Dr. Shumate at cshumate@tusculum.edu.

Important reminders about parking regulations

We have important information to share about on-campus parking.

- All students, faculty, and staff are required to register their vehicles with the Office of Campus Safety.
- All students, faculty, and staff are required to park vehicles in their designated areas.
 - Residential freshmen have designated parking in the Indoor Practice Facility and Practice Field lots.
 - All other students, including commuters, have designated parking in red or white-lined spaces.
 - Faculty and staff have designated parking in spaces with white or yellow lines.
- No parking is permitted anytime:
 - In any visitor space (outside visitors only)
 - In any designated fire lane (yellow curb or hash marks)
 - In front of (or alongside) a fire hydrant
 - In or adjacent to construction/work area or entrance
 - On any campus roadway
 - On the side of any campus roadway
 - In any driveway/loading area
 - In handicap areas without a state-issued permit
 - In a way that creates an open and obvious hazard
 - In Facilities Management's lot
 - On any grass or unpaved area
 - On any sidewalk, path or crosswalk

- Spaces reserved (from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday)
- Spaces temporarily reserved (applicable 24 hours)
- In any cul-de-sac (only used for 15-minute load/unload)
- Reserved parking will be in effect year-round, Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Outside of reserved hours, reserved spaces (except the president's spaces) are open to visitors and other employees during events but must be vacated by 7 a.m. Monday-Friday.

Campus Safety will continue to issue tickets to unregistered vehicles, as well as vehicles parked outside their designated areas. Vehicles parked in someone else's reserved spot between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. will be towed at the owner's expense.

If you have questions, please call Campus Safety at 423-470-2710 or visit the Campus Safety office in Room 222 of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons.

Multiple faculty members published

We congratulate many of our faculty members, who were recently published. Their scholarship is setting a great example for our students and reinforcing the value of a Tusculum education. We are grateful to have them in the Tusculum family.

- Dr. Faisal Al-Khateeb, associate professor of computer science, published "Developing Effective Change into Management Strategies for Enterprise Resource Planning Implementations" in the International Journal of Business and Public Administration.
- Dr. Kerri Boggs, assistant professor of biology, published an article, "Human Metapneumovirus Phosphoprotein Independently Drives Phase Separation and Recruit Nucleoprotein to Liquid-Like Bodies," in mBio Journal.
- Mikaela Cooney, associate professor and program coordinator of criminal justice, published with colleagues from Austin Peay University "Exploring Further Determinants of Citizen Satisfaction with the Police: The Role of Strain" in the Journal of Criminal Justice.
- Dr. Robert Gall, professor of psychology and chair of the Psychology Department, published "Psychoeducational Intervention for DUI Level II Education" in the Practitioner Scholar.
- Dr. Kellen Myers, associate professor of mathematics, published, "The Impact of COVID-19" in the Journal of Epidemiology, 2022 and "Seasonality in Multi-Host Disease Systems" in the Journal of Ecological Modeling.
- Dr. Conor Keitzer, associate professor of natural sciences, published an article about woodland salamanders in the Tennessee Journal of Herpetology, and a second article about the Impact of climate warming on fish aggression in Scientific Reports.
- Dr. Chuck Pearson, professor of natural sciences and chair of the Natural Sciences Department, published "Opening the Online Homework System: Toward Cooperation and Collaboration" in the OTESSA Conference Proceedings.

In addition, Dr. Travis Williams, professor of religion, will be published in February by Bloomsbury T&T Clark for "1 Peter: A Critical and Exegetical Commentary."

Nominations sought for this month's President's GEM Award

Nominations for the President's GEM Award in September are being accepted until noon Wednesday, Sept. 28. Dr. Hummel will announce the recipient at the President's Coffee Friday, Sept. 30.

To suggest someone, please complete this [short form](#).

GEM is an acronym for Going the Extra Mile. Attributes to consider in a nominee are integrity, a positive attitude, a spirit of excellence and a dedication to Tusculum and its students. A faculty or staff member who goes beyond the call of duty, makes the Tusculum family stronger and contributes to the university's caring Christian environment is an ideal candidate. The nominee should exemplify the university's mission, vision and values.

This month's winner will succeed Matilda Green, operations clerk in the Office of Admission, who was selected for August.

Special discounts this week at the Tusculum University Campus Store

This week, Tusculum is having a grand reopening of the merchandise area of the former bookstore in the Scott M. Niswonger Commons with special deals that can save you money!

Now called the Tusculum University Campus Store, this space offers many new items as well as some longtime favorites. New items that have been purchased include hoodies, hats, jewelry, cups/drinkware, shorts and socks. In addition, we have an expanded school supplies section.

This builds on other items we continue to offer: hats; sports facility needs such as blankets, seat cushions, pompoms, decals, basic electronic needs, a pet section, lanyards and keychains, and license plates and frames.

The store is open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, and this week, customers are automatically entered into a drawing for one lucky person to win a Tusculum tailgate chair with any \$10 purchase!

In addition, we will have the following promotions this week:

- Monday: Buy any hoodie and get any T-shirt for 25% off.
- Tuesday: With any purchase of \$40 or more, receive a free Tritan Tusculum Pioneers water bottle.
- Wednesday: Buy two items at full price and get the third for half off (cheaper of the 3 items).
- Thursday (Team Spirit Thursday): Purchase TU Tailgate Chairs for \$43 and TU seat cushion and stadium blanket for \$30 and TU Beaded Game Day Necklace for \$7.
- Friday (Fishbowl Friday): Draw from the fish bowl for additional percentages off your purchase or for free prizes.

Snacks and soft drinks do not qualify for discounts.

For more information about the campus store, please call 423-636-7307.



Theresa Green-White, a work-study in the campus store, holds a couple of the new items available.
Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Work-study job fair to be held Sept. 28

Tusculum will hold a federal work-study job fair for students from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28, in the Pioneer Arena lobby. Several supervisors at Tusculum will be available to discuss potential work-study opportunities.

The Office of Financial Aid requests that interested students bring their driver's license/social security card with them to the fair. Other acceptable documents financial aid can accept are listed in the attachment

Students can contact financial aid in person, by emailing financialaid@tusculum.edu or by calling 423-636-7377 in advance to determine whether they are eligible for federal work-study. Otherwise, financial aid will make that determination at the check-in table at the fair.

Another great Nettie Day made a difference in the community

Students, faculty and staff continued a proud yearly event by participating in Nettie Fowler McCormick Service Day Friday, Sept. 16.

Organized by the Center for Civic Advancement, Nettie Day produced work by students, faculty and staff at multiple locations in the community as well as on campus. Among the places we assisted were Rural Resources, Tusculum Baptist church, Habitat for Humanity, the City of Tusculum and Morning Pointe of Greeneville.

When Rebecca Leifert, one of our alumni, saw photos of Nettie Day activity on our Facebook page, she was pleased and recalled participating in Nettie Day when she was a student. This year's Nettie Day was another example of Tusculum putting civic engagement into action!

Nettie Day is sponsored by AmeriCorps and is a part of that organization's 9/11 Day of Service.



Students spend time with a resident of Morning Pointe of Greeneville as she plays cornhole in this photo from Stacey McGill. To see other photos from her, the Office of Communications and Marketing and the Office of Institutional Advancement, please click [here](#) or visit Tusculum's [Facebook page](#).

Employees can assist the university with their financial contributions

We encourage our employees to complete a [Faculty and Staff Contribution Form](#). Employees can also find it on the Faculty and Staff Portal of the Pioneer Portal. Funds donated through this form support the university's mission and operations.

Faculty and staff giving to the university for this fiscal year continues! We now have six offices, departments and groups that have reached 100 percent giving! They are:

- Executive Cabinet
- Human Resources Department
- Offices of Admission/Financial Aid/Communications and Marketing
- President's Office
- Office of Institutional Advancement
- Thomas J. Garland Library

We are grateful to everyone who makes a gift! No amount is too small!

If you have questions, please call the Office of Institutional Advancement at 423-636-7303.

Special ways for Tusculum students to participate in Homecoming

As we celebrate Homecoming in October, students can play an integral part in building spirit on campus.

Each day, the Office of Institutional Advancement has identified how students can add to the ambience of Homecoming through their attire. It will include opportunities to dress like your favorite professor, participate in a costume contest and wear pajamas.

Look at the graphic below for the list of activities specifically geared toward students.

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE *Homecoming*

SPIRIT WEEK

Monday: Oz the Great and Powerful

October 17, 2022

Wear your black TU attire

Tuesday: Twister Tuesday

October 18, 2022

Dress Wacky

Wednesday: Which Witch is Which?

October 19, 2022

Dress like your favorite professor

Wednesday: Talent Show Contest

October 19, 2022

Which Witch is Which? costume contest

Behan Arena Theatre

7-9 p.m.

Thursday: There's No Place Like HOMEcoming

October 20, 2022

Wear your pj's

Friday: Pioneer Twister Tailgate

October 21, 2022

Apartment Quad

7:30 p.m.

Friday: There's a STORMCOMING!

October 21, 2022

Wear your Tusculum gear

Saturday: TU Orange Day

October 22, 2022

Wear your orange TU attire

Sunday: TU Day

October 23rd

First Presbyterian Church, Greenville
11:00 a.m.

Hear the latest news from Congresswoman Diana Harshbarger

U.S. Rep. Diana Harshbarger, a Republican who represents Northeast Tennessee, will hold “Coffee with Your Congresswoman” at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, in Chalmers Conference Center. All Tusculum family members are invited to attend.

During the event, Harshbarger will provide updates from Washington, inform attendees how her office can help constituents with federal agency-related matters and answer questions.

Harshbarger has served in Congress since 2021.



Congresswoman Diana Harshbarger

Reminders

- The Ballad Health Tusculum University Clinic located in Room 008 of the Meen Center is open for medical care. The clinic sees 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.
- The Office of Financial Aid urges students to be careful about potential scammers who might contact them about student loan forgiveness. To learn more, please click [here](#).
- An excellent civic engagement opportunity for faculty and staff members and students who are at least 21 years old is to serve as a mentor for tnAchieves in support of the Tennessee Promise class of 2023. The deadline to apply to serve as a mentor is Friday, Oct. 21. To apply or learn more, please visit <https://tnAchieves.org/mentors>.

- 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

Monday, Sept. 19, 3:30 p.m., The Pioneer Perk and Zoom

(<https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/89872872826?pwd=SzU1OThWL0tuZThCOEFCVHpLcVRIUT09>); **chapel**

Monday, Sept. 19, 6:30 p.m., Meen Center Room 300; **Breaking Bread ministry**

Monday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m., Apartment Quad; **the movie “Hamilton”**

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m., Old Gym; **REFIT exercise class**

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 11 a.m., in front of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons; **Pastor’s Pig Barbecue food truck**

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 6:30 p.m., Chalmers Conference Center; **yoga**

Thursday, Sept. 22, 7 p.m., Old Gym; **REFIT exercise class**

Thursday, Sept. 22, 8 p.m., Old Gym; **yoga**

Friday, Sept. 23, and Saturday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m., Behan Arena Theatre; **“Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons”**

Saturday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m., Chalmers Conference Center; **contra dancing**

Sunday, Sept. 25, 2 p.m., Behan Arena Theatre; **“Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons”**

Faculty and staff events

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 11 a.m., around the living room of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons; **Sweet Tooth Tuesday**

Wednesday, Sept. 21, noon, Zoom; **The Pioneer Pathway Task Force**

Thursday, Sept. 22, 9 a.m., Zoom; **Operation Success Committee**

Community

Monday, Sept. 19, 4 p.m., Marilyn duBrisk Theatre; **Great Literature Alive Well Playing in Greeneville, Tennessee**

Saturday, Sept. 24, 9 a.m., Doak House Museum; **Greeneville Farmers Market**

Athletics

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 5 p.m., Mars Hill University; **women’s soccer team vs. Mars Hill University**

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m., Mars Hill University; **men’s soccer team vs. Mars Hill University**

Friday, Sept. 23; Saturday, Sept. 24; and Sunday, Sept. 25, time TBA, Sumter, S.C.; **men's and women's tennis teams at the ITA Southeast Regional**

Friday, Sept. 23, 7 p.m., Coker University; **women's indoor volleyball team vs. Coker University**

Saturday, Sept. 24, 2 p.m., Wingate University; **women's indoor volleyball team vs. Wingate University**

Saturday, Sept. 24, 4 p.m., Catawba College; **football team vs. Catawba College**

Saturday, Sept. 24, 5 p.m., Pioneer Field; **women's soccer team vs. Catawba College**

Saturday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m., Pioneer Field; **men's soccer team vs. Catawba College**

Please visit the schedule on the [athletics website](#) for potential changes with games.



Our cheerleading team always brings another measure of enthusiasm to the game. Photo from the Office of Athletic Communications

Faculty and staff birthdays

- Monday, Sept. 19 – Julie Huebner
- Monday, Sept. 19 – Alex Nelson
- Tuesday, Sept. 20 – Maria Mueller
- Thursday, Sept. 22 – Bill Bledsoe
- Thursday, Sept. 22 – Dr. Ian Ostrander
- Saturday, Sept. 24 – Dr. Bruce Ewing

- Saturday, Sept. 24 – Trinity Velasco
- Sunday, Sept. 25 – Meagan Price

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!