



1/23/2023

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President's Perspective

As we begin this spring semester, I am reminded of how I felt when I got my syllabi for my classes at the beginning of each semester. When I looked at all of the assignments, papers and numbers of pages I would have to read, I could feel overwhelmed and even fearful that I would not be able to do all that was required.

I worried I was not smart enough nor disciplined enough to be successful. As a first-generation student, I sometimes was concerned I didn't belong in college. However, I did not face college alone, for I had professors and staff who not only challenged me, they supported and encouraged me. What looked impossible at the beginning of the semester because the workload was huge became manageable by being disciplined to complete the daily and weekly assignments.

Metaphorically, you eat the elephant one bite at a time. Students, you might be feeling overwhelmed and a little fearful, too, but be assured you have a lot of support to help you complete your coursework successfully.

Go Pioneers!

Dr. Scott Hummel
President

Word of the Week

“Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.” – Josh. 1:5, 7 ESV

Photo of the Week



We were thrilled to have our students back on campus last week. Their presence energizes the campus. We are excited to watch them continue to progress in their lives. Featured here are, left to right, Joaquin Graham, Theresa Green-White, Sofia Richmond and Hannah Marsh. In addition to this photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing, you can view [this gallery](#) for others or visit Tusculum's [Facebook page](#).

Great Valentine's Day events coming to Annie Hogan Byrd!

As you begin to think about your Valentine's Day plans, we have a great suggestion. Avoid long lines at the restaurants and join us for Couples Painting Night at the Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center!

Tusculum's Center for the Arts will present this event at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14, during which Bill Bledsoe, assistant professor of art and design, will guide participants as they depict a Paris scene. The ambience will include heavy hors d'oeuvres, live music, live dancers and a live auction.

Couples and individuals are invited. The cost is \$40 for individuals and \$60 for couples. Tickets can be purchased at <https://tusculum.hometownticketing.com/embed/all?depts=2>.

Before this event, the Center for the Arts will host an open house for the Clem Allison Art Gallery, which has relocated to the main floor of Annie Hogan Byrd. You are welcome to come at your leisure between 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to explore the new setting. We will have a ceremony at 6 p.m.

You can learn more details in this [news release](#).

Tusculum University Center for the Arts
presents the new

Painting with the Masters Series
Couples Painting Night

Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center
7 p.m. February 14

Led by Bill Bledsoe,
assistant professor of art & design

\$40 for individuals
\$60 for couples

live music, live dancers, art auction,
guided painting and heavy hors d'oeuvres

TUSCULUM
UNIVERSITY
— CENTER FOR THE ARTS —

Free haircuts for students today

We remind students that TaylorMade Grooming Lounge will provide free haircuts from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. today in its mobile vehicle in front of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons.

Students who are unable to have their hair cut today can come to the vehicle during those four hours and pick up a voucher for \$5 off.

We are thankful to TaylorMade and owner Micah Taylor for continuing to support our students and the university.



A student receives a haircut from Micah Taylor during the free event in August. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Chapel returns today with Chuck Sutton speaking

Chuck Sutton, dean of students, will share his personal story of faith as the guest speaker during chapel today at 3:30 p.m.

Chapel is held every Monday in The Pioneer Perk during the fall and spring semesters when classes are in session. Faculty, staff and students can also attend via Zoom, using the

URL <https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/89872872826?pwd=SzU1OThWL0tuZThCOEFCVHpLcVRIUT09>.

We invite and encourage faculty, staff and students to take time for spiritual development by attending chapel.

This semester, chapel sessions will revolve around personal stories of faith.

We will be happy to see you!



Chuck Sutton

GEM nominations deadline is Wednesday

Faculty and staff need to submit their nominations of a fellow employee for the President's GEM Award by Wednesday at noon. Dr. Hummel will announce the honoree Friday at the President's Coffee.

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

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.

The person selected for January will succeed Amanda Delbridge, assistant director of the Center for Civic Advancement and administrative assistant for the College of Business and College of Education.

The President's Coffee will be held at 9 a.m. in Chalmers Conference Center and via Zoom at <https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/87468247868?pwd=MG9HY3JJeWgrQnE1eHVKR292WjYvQT09>.

Enjoy a ballet this weekend on campus

Central Ballet of Greeneville will hold "Genesis: The Promise Begins" this weekend in the Marilyn duBrisk Theatre of Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center.

The ballet covers creation, Noah's ark, Babel, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and Joseph. The finale contains a summary of the ballet's six promises – the coming of man's savior, Jesus Christ; a new generation of mankind; God's intervention; the blessing of all families through Abraham; a nation, Israel; and life. The production includes mostly neoclassical ballet with contemporary ballet along with an array of modest, colorful costumes, many of which are made by local seamstresses. Narration explains the story as it is danced.

The ballet's theme verse is Genesis 50:20 – "As for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save the lives of many people."

Performances are Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Faculty, staff and students are eligible for free tickets. For anyone else who is interested, tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and anyone 60 and older. Please call 423-588-1215 or visit General Morgan Inn, Catalyst Coffee Company and The GreenHouse in Greeneville to buy tickets. You can also purchase tickets at the door.

CENTRAL BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS

GENESIS

THE PROMISE BEGINS

Marilyn duBrisk Theatre, Tusculum University

January 27th at 7:00 pm
January 28th at 2:00 & 7:00 pm
January 29th at 2:00 pm

General Admission \$10 Students/Seniors \$5

Tickets will be available at The General Morgan Inn,
Catalyst Coffee Company, The Greenhouse, at the door,
or by calling 423-588-1215



This project is funded in part by the Mary G. K. Fox Foundation and the Niswonger Foundation.
Central Ballet Theatre is part of the Tusculum University Acts, Arts and Academia.

Theologian-In-Residence starts next week

Tusculum family members will have an additional opportunity to learn about the Bible and grow in their spiritual development through this year's Theologian-In-Residence series.

Theologian-In-Residence will take place every Friday at 10 a.m. in February – Feb. 3, Feb. 10, Feb. 17 and Feb. 24 – in Chalmers Conference Center of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons and via the Zoom virtual platform.

This year's presenter will be Dr. Ryan Stokes, director of graduate theological studies and associate professor of biblical studies at Carson-Newman University. The theme for the four-part series is "The Satan and the forces of evil."

To register for Theologian-In-Residence, please call the Office of Institutional Advancement at 423-636-7303 or email kkidwell@tusculum.edu. Those who prefer to attend sessions via Zoom will receive the link when they register. Anyone who attends in person is eligible to receive a voucher for a free lunch that day in the Tusculum cafeteria.

You can read more about Theologian-In-Residence in this [news release](#).

Spiritual Nourishment at Theologian-In-Residence

"The Satan and the forces of evil"

Feb. 3, Feb. 10, Feb. 17
and Feb. 24 at 10 a.m.

Scott M. Niswonger Commons
Chalmers Conference Center

Free!

Reserve a space at
423-636-7303
or kkidwell@tusculum.edu

TUSCULUM
UNIVERSITY
ESTABLISHED 1794



Make your plans to visit Israel

Dr. Hummel is leading another trip to Israel from June 22-July 2, and all Tusculum family members are welcome to attend. Those who go on the trip have the opportunity to earn three credit hours if they would like to satisfy general education or religion course requirements.

In addition, students and staff can also participate from July 2-20 in excavation work at Tel-Lachish, where the ruins of the ancient Canaanite and Judean cities of Lachish are located. Students can earn three credit hours from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, which will be transferable to Tusculum.

Highlights of the tour of Israel include Caesarea, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee, Caesarea-Philippi, the Jordan River, Megiddo (Armageddon), the Cliffs of Arbel, Jericho, Qumran, Masada, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, Hezekiah's Tunnel, Lachish and the Valley of Elah, where David fought Goliath. Participants will hike cliffs, visit ancient ruins, ride a boat across the Sea of Galilee, walk across the Mediterranean beach and walk along the Via Dolorosa. The group that visited in 2022 also ate fish from the Sea of Galilee.

Dr. Hummel describes the tour as the trip of a lifetime.

The cost for the Israel tour is \$5,399 for those who stay in a double-occupancy room and \$5,299 for those who utilize a triple-occupancy room. The price includes round trip airfare from Charlotte, N.C., hotel, breakfast and dinner, motorcoaches, guided sightseeing and entrance fees. Students who take the trip will receive a scholarship of at least \$1,000.

The costs for the excavation are \$1,650 for room and board and \$480 for the three hours of credit. Those who go only for the excavation will also have to pay for airfare on top of that.

Participants need to register by Wednesday, March 15. You can learn more and register for the Israel trip [here](#). If you have questions about the Israel tour or the excavation, please email Dr. Hummel at president@tusculum.edu. Bobbie Clarkston, athletic academic advisor, took the trip in 2022 and can provide additional perspective.



Dr. Hummel stands by the Sea of Galilee. Photo from Dr. Hummel

Help the women's basketball team raise funds to fight cancer!

Join the women's basketball team in the fight against cancer by pledging money for every free throw the Pioneers make during February!

The Pioneers will compete against teams across the country in the Play4Kay Free Throw Challenge, which supports the Kay Yow Cancer Fund. Yow was the women's basketball coach at North Carolina State University. She died in 2009 after a 22-year battle with breast cancer.

The fund's mission is to raise money for scientific research for development of life-enhancing drugs and clinical studies, serve the underserved and unify people for a common cause – the fight against all cancers that affect women.

You can make your pledge at <https://pledgeit.org/tusculum-play4kay-2023>.

The women's basketball team will host its annual Play4Kay Game Saturday, Feb. 11, and all fans are encouraged to wear pink. The team will partner with and honor cancer survivors during that game.



Come together the like the women's basketball team to help fight cancer in women. Photo from the Office of Athletic Communications

Free Float Friendsday coming soon!

Be sure to mark your calendar Free Float Friendsday, which will be held from 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, at the main entrance doors to the Scott M. Niswonger Commons.

All students, faculty and staff are invited to come for a float and enjoy fellowship with other Tusculum family members.

The Office of Student Affairs will host the event. The word on the street is the floats are delicious, so be sure to join us!



Watch out for scams; TDIS can help

Students and employees need to be cautious when they receive emails encouraging them to take action that could expose their Tusculum and personal accounts to being compromised.

A few quick tips: Tusculum will never ask for your account information via email, and we will not ask you to buy gift cards. This site, <https://www.techtarget.com/searchsecurity/tip/2019s-top-email-security-best-practices-for-employees>, can provide helpful guidance.

The best solution when an email does not look legitimate or you want to be sure is to forward it to the Tusculum Department of Information Systems at tdis@tusculum.edu and ask for guidance. The department will alert Tusculum family members about bogus emails. Do not feel ill at ease about relying on TDIS to assist you because employees there are happy to help.

Summer job opportunities for Upward Bound camp

The Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math and Science programs are accepting applications for residential advisors and residential directors to serve from May 22-July 9 in the annual summer camp at Tusculum. The job would entail one week of training; five weeks as a residential advisor, mentor and classroom aid; and one week of supervising students on a trip to New York.

Tusculum students who are selected will earn \$2,000 and receive summer housing and meals.

You can learn more in the flyer below.

TU | UPWARD BOUND

TU | UPWARD BOUND
MATH & SCIENCE

Summer job opportunity

RA & RD
positions
available

Tusculum University Upward Bound is an intensive college preparatory program funded by the U.S. Department of Education, designed to encourage college entry and completion for area high school students that are income eligible based on the federal guidelines and/or will be the first in their families to obtain a four-year college degree.

Residential Advisors and Directors will be required to live in the dorms at Tusculum University while supervising and mentoring high school students.

\$2,000 pay
+ summer
housing +
meals

This summer employment opportunity will include 1 week of training, 5 weeks working as a residential advisor, mentor, and classroom aid, and 1 week supervising students on a trip to New York.

May 22-July 9

<https://web.tusculum.edu/trio/ub/summer/residential-staff-guide/summer-staff-interest-application/>

scan QR code
for more details and application



Stacey McGill at smcgill@tusculum.edu if you have any questions

Applications accepted for instructors at summer camp

Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math and Science seek instructors for their summer camp at Tusculum.

Subjects are English, foreign language, social studies, math, science and technology. Classes begin May 30 and end June 29. Instructors earn \$30 per hour and pay for three hours of planning per course.

Those who are interested can learn more and apply at <https://web.tusculum.edu/trio/ub/instructor-information-guide/instructor-summer-application/>. Additional details are also available in the flyer below.



SEEKING INNOVATIVE INSTRUCTORS Summer 2023

POSITION DETAILS

-Working with high school students

-Subjects: English, Foreign Language, Social Studies, Math, Science, and Technology

-Class Schedule: one class per week (M-F), option to teach 1-5 weeks

-Class Time:
9:00AM-12:00PM

Class Location: TU campus

Tusculum University's Upward Bound (UB) and Upward Bound Math & Science (UBMS) programs are federal TRIO Programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education. UB and UBMS are retention and graduation programs designed to ensure high school completion and promote postsecondary enrollment. To achieve program objectives, UB and UBMS offer a unique summer enrichment program whereby students complete six weeks of rigorous courses to extend learning through dynamic instruction. By learning in a collegiate setting, students bond with faculty and gain confidence in their ability to succeed in a college setting.

TU | UPWARD BOUND

TU | UPWARD BOUND
MATH & SCIENCE

For more information, please contact Erin Frizzell at 865.603.5779 or efrizzell@tusculum.edu, scan the QR code or go to the following link.

<https://web.tusculum.edu/trio/ub/instructor-information-guide/instructor-summer-application/>



Have students and community volunteers prepare your tax return for free!

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program returns to Tusculum for another season, and all students, faculty and staff can have their returns prepared for free! Tusculum students and community volunteers will be available to assist you between Feb. 6 and April 13.

You can schedule an appointment at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/tuvita2023>. Appointments are available from 5:30-8:30 p.m. in the Meen Center on Thursdays. You can also schedule an appointment for a Monday from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2343 Knob Creek Road, Johnson City, and for a Saturday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Washington County Library, 200 E. Sabine Drive, Jonesborough.

This service is available to community members who meet the eligibility requirements.

You can read more in this [news release](#), which appeared Saturday on the front pages of The Greeneville Sun and Johnson City Press.



Student Dakota Hammonds, left, works on a tax return with a client in 2022.

New phone directories to review

Attached to this email is a Word document prepared by the Office of the President that lists the various colleges, departments and offices with the employees who work there and their phone numbers.

In addition, that office has prepared an Excel spreadsheet with an alphabetized list of employees, their office extensions, their office location and their P.O. Box number. That is also attached.

Please review them and provide any needed changes to Kim Kidwell at kkidwell@tusculum.edu.

Updated directories will be provided after these changes have been submitted.

Blood drive set for Feb. 14 on campus

Medic Regional Blood Center, will conduct a blood drive Tuesday, Feb. 14, from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. in the Pioneer Arena lobby in the Scott M. Niswonger Commons.

You can visit www.tndonor.org to sign up for an appointment, but you can also come to the arena lobby without one. This event is a great way on Valentine's Day to show your love for fellow humans and demonstrate our commitment to civic engagement.

Thank you for potentially saving someone's life through your blood donation!

Faculty and staff donations strengthen Tusculum

Employees have a terrific opportunity to support students and the university by completing a [faculty and staff contribution form](#).

We thank the nine offices, departments and groups that have reached 100 percent giving! They are:

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

If you and your office have not had an opportunity to donate, it is not too late Remember, no amount is too small!

Employees can also find the contribution form on the faculty and staff portal of the Pioneer Portal. The Office of Institutional Advancement is available at 423-636-7303 to answer questions.

COVID-19 procedures

You can read all of our coronavirus 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.

Reminders

- The Ballad Health Tusculum University Clinic is located in Room 008 of the Meen Center. The hours of operation are Mondays and Wednesdays, 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.
- Students who would be the first person in their family to earn a bachelor's degree or come from a low-income background are invited to participate in Student Support Services and ARCHES

(Adults Reaching Career Heights and Educational Success). These programs are free and offer workshops, leadership opportunities, tutoring, scholarships, personal coaching, advising and trips! You can visit <https://site.tusculum.edu/.../academic.../first-gen/arches/> or <https://site.tusculum.edu/.../academic.../first-gen/sss/> [to learn more and apply.](#)

The Pioneer Exchange is a combination of the food pantry and clothing closet. Students can obtain groceries, residence hall supplies, textbooks, school supplies, hygiene products and clothes at no cost. The Px is located in Room 403 of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons and is open Mondays-Fridays from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Events and activities

All Tusculum family members

Monday, Jan. 23, 3:30 p.m., The Pioneer Perk and Zoom
(<https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/89872872826?pwd=SzU1OThWL0tuZThCOEFCVHpLcVRIUT09>); **chapel**

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 7 p.m., Old Gym; **REFIT exercise class**

Thursday, Jan. 26, 6 p.m., Meen Center Room 300; **Breaking Bread**

Thursday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m., Old Gym; **REFIT exercise class**

Friday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m., Marilyn duBrisk Theatre; **Genesis: The Promise Begins**

Saturday, Jan. 28, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Marilyn duBrisk Theatre; **Genesis: The Promise Begins**

Sunday, Jan. 29, 2 p.m., Marilyn duBrisk Theatre; **Genesis: The Promise Begins**

Faculty and staff

Thursday, Jan. 26, 9 a.m., Zoom; **Operation Success Committee**

Friday, Jan. 27, 9 a.m., Chalmers Conference Center and Zoom
(<https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/87468247868?pwd=MG9HY3JJeWgrQnE1eHVKR292WjYvQT09>); **President's Coffee**

Students

Monday, Jan. 23, 10 a.m., in front of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons; **free haircuts**

Athletics



The men's track and field team achieved more school records at the Vanderbilt Invitational during the weekend. For example, Adrian Gumm, featured in the photo, set a new Tusculum record in the men's shot put by nearly 2 ½ feet. The men's team set three school records and posted a national qualifying mark Saturday. You can read more [here](#). The team also snagged another school record Friday, and you can read about it [here](#). On the women's side, Emily Coddington ran the third-fastest time in program history with a 2:24.03 in the 800 meters, and Amber Hogan tied the sixth best mark in program history with a weight throw of 12.06 meters. Photo by Reily Rogers

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 7 p.m., Pioneer Arena; **men's volleyball team vs. King University**

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 5:30 p.m., Pioneer Arena; **women's basketball team vs. Lincoln Memorial University**

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 7:30 p.m., Pioneer Arena; **men's basketball team vs. Lincoln Memorial University**

Friday, Jan. 27, 1 p.m., Lexington, Virginia; **indoor track and field teams at the VMI Winter Classic**

Friday, Jan. 27; Saturday, Jan. 28; and Sunday, Jan. 29, all day, Valley Park, Missouri; **women's bowling team at Columbia 300 Saints Invite**

Friday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m., Alderson Broaddus University; **men's volleyball team vs. Alderson Broaddus University**

Saturday, Jan. 28, 7 p.m. University of Charleston; **men's volleyball team vs. University of Charleston**

Saturday, Jan. 28, 10 a.m., Lexington, Virginia; **indoor track and field teams at the VMI Winter Classic**

Saturday, Jan. 28, 2 p.m., Pioneer Arena; **women's basketball team vs. Limestone University**

Saturday, Jan. 28, 4 p.m., Pioneer Arena; **men's basketball team vs. Limestone University**



Congratulations to graduate student Mya Belton for notching her 1,000th point in Saturday's 63-61 win against Coker University. She is also the nation's leader in blocked shots. Meanwhile, the Pioneers continue their impressive season, improving their record to 16-3 overall and 7-2 in the South Atlantic Conference. Photo from the Office of Athletic Communications

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

Faculty and staff birthdays

Monday, Jan. 23 – Aaron Barnett

Friday, Jan. 27 – Bill Fitzpatrick

Saturday, Jan. 28 – Lillian Burchnell

Saturday, Jan. 28 – Carrie Maggert

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!