Relocation of Diné College Chinle

On February 19, 2014, Diné College announced plans to move the College’s Chinle Center from its location at the Tseyi Shopping Center to its new location adjacent to the Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship and Financial Aid (ONNSFA). Chief Executive Officer of the Nursing Home, Wayne Claw, Diné College President, Dr. Maggie George and Diné College Dean of Academics, Abraham Bitok met to finalize the agreement.

“It’s a great location and we are always looking for better avenues to serve our students. By relocating the center, the College will greatly benefit by reducing cost and increasing the quality of our services,” said Dean Bitok.

Cathy Bahe, Diné College’s Chinle Center Director is looking forward to the relocation and expects to open the relocated Chinle Center doors to students for the 2014 Summer Session. In recent years, the Chinle Center encountered issues such as lack of classroom space and accessibility for students with disabilities. The Chinle Center presently serves 62 students and the current location does not have the space to fully accommodate students, faculty and staff.

“The new location will have four classrooms on site and our students will not have to attend their classes at the High School. Often, the classes would coincide with basketball games or other events at the Wildcat Den, at which time our students are required to park further from their classes,” said Ms. Bahe.

Ms. Bahe also stated that the new building would be much more convenient for the faculty as well, and would promote greater interaction with students on site.

Higher Learning Commission Peer Reviewers to Visit Diné College

On March 24-25, 2014, Dinè College will be hosting Peer Reviewers from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) who will be evaluating the College’s request to offer a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Business with an emphasis on Tribal Management and Economic Development. The College’s Board of Regents has carefully reviewed the BA in Business program and approved it and anticipates offering classes in the Fall 2014 subject to HLC review. Gloria Price, Chair of the College’s Business, Applied Science, Economics and Technology (BASET) Division, instructor Medhat Farooque and other members of the BASET program have successfully developed the BA in Business program and are excited to launch it.

The new BA program is designed to prepare students to take responsible positions in the management of economic growth in one of more than 500 federally recognized Native American tribes. The program will be offered on a full-time basis at the Tsaile, Campus. Admission requirements include an AA degree in Business Administration or an alternative degree with additional courses that meet Diné College’s General Education and Business Administration course requirements.

The HLC Peer Reviewers will have the opportunity to evaluate presentations from the BASET Division Chair and members of the advisory council. Other departments of the College presenting to the Peer Reviewers are Registrar and Admissions, Financial Aid, Library, Student Success and Human Resources.
On February 28-March 2, 2014, the Warrior Archery team competed at the 2014 US Collegiate National Indoors in Salt Lake City, Utah. The Warriors have continued to improve their marksmanship in the sport by ranking individuals among the top in the Nation and delivering highly competitive performances. Student Athletes at Diné College include Philicia Muzzie who is now ranked #12 in the Nation in the female recurve competition. Other outstanding Student Athletes include Sheryse Burns and Kristy Yazzie who are currently ranked #15 and #28 respectively in the female compound competition.

“I’m very pleased with their performance; they are improving and increasing their competitive drive. They are a great team and are focused on competing at the next level on the field and in the classroom,” said Archery Head Coach Fray Gray.

The men also competed at the event placing Leander Altsisi and Dominic Becenti in the top 42 in the nation for the male compound competition. The team is actively sharpening their skills for upcoming competitions. On April 12-13, the Warriors will host the Diné College Outdoor Tournament. They will finalize the season on May 14-19, 2014 at the United States Inter-Collegiate Archery Championships (USIAC) in Long Beach, California.

Cross Country Team Competes at 2014 Canyonlands Half Marathon & 5 Mile

On March 15, 2014, the Diné College Cross Country Team traveled to Moab, Utah to compete in the 2014 Canyonlands Half-Marathon & 5 Mile events. The Warriors competed in the five mile race and showed no signs of slowing down. The men’s team were led by Darren Yazzie who toured the course with a time of 29:01 for a 5th place overall finish. Close behind and rounding out the top ten were Justin Yazzie in sixth place, Darnell Ben in eighth place, and Mika Clark who crossed the finish line in ninth place.

The women competed at the event as well including Tizana Henry who led the Lady Warriors through the five mile course with a time of 35: 27 and a 25th overall finish. Annette Brown was not far behind crossing the finish line with a time of 36:58 and a 35th place finish.

The Warriors are looking to make their appearance at the Shiprock Marathon which is scheduled for May 3, 2014. Head Coach Shaun Martin is confident that the runners will perform well and continues to show support for his team by competing alongside them at the local events.