

TBD: To Be Discovered

*A Newsletter for the
Department of Communication
and Media Studies*



Ivy Guzman talking to high school students about SPJ.



From left to right, Ivy Guzman, Maggie Duvall, and Doug Davis.

SPJ and PRSSA Take on TOFT

by Allie Davis and A.J. Chauffe

On Thursday, Feb. 22, the Society of Professional Journalists, SPJ, and the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) tabled alongside other registered student organizations before Time Out For Tech's opening ceremony. Both organizations had the opportunity to meet and greet more than 900 high school seniors at Tech's largest preview day of the year.

"I had so much fun getting to meet the new generation of future ATU journalists," said Ivy Guzman, a senior majoring in broadcast journalism and vice president of recruitment for SPJ. "They're coming in with new ideas and a fresh set of eyes that are going to help keep our department as great as it is now. I can't wait to be working with them in the fall."

Events and Announcements

PRSSA Resume Workshop - Feb. 28
"Conversation with a Newbie" - March 6
Department Sweatshirts are still available

Media Students Attend ANO Press Conference Drill

by Elli White

On Feb. 13, five ATU students attended an emergency preparedness drill for Arkansas Nuclear One.

The drill took place in Morrilton, Arkansas where students learned what steps would be taken if the facility declares an emergency.

After learning about the procedures, the students assisted by portraying civilians to test security protocols.

Last, a mock press conference was held where the students acted as reporters from the community and formulated questions about the hypothetical disaster.



Bottom left to right, A.J. Chauffe, Doug Davis, Elly Stone.

Top left to right, Elli White, Jaci Palmer



A.J. Chauffe asking a question at the press conference

SPJ Sells Candy

by A.J. Chauffe



Emily Tyler (left) and Kelsey Morris selling Candygrams at the Hindsman Bell Tower

On Feb. 12, SPJ hosted a candygram fundraiser at the Hindsman Bell Tower. The fundraiser featured two types of candy grams.

The first contained five Hershey's kisses and a hug barrel to emulate sending "hugs and kisses." The second contained a can of orange Crush soda and emulated the saying "I have a crush on you."

"Our Candy Gram event went very well," SPJ president Doug Davis said. "We raised about \$120 total. These funds will be helpful in making sure we provide ATU students and members of the community with experiences to teach them media literacy."

Debate Team Competes at UCA

by Jaci M. Palmer

Arkansas Tech University's Debate and Forensics team competed in its first tournament of the year from Feb. 2-4 at the University of Central Arkansas.

Led by Dr. Gabriel Adkins and co-coach Jaina Perry, the students competed against schools from all over the nation.

The team is currently preparing for one of the many virtual tournaments they'll be competing in and are excited to travel to future tournaments during the semester.

Reach out to Dr. Adkins (gadkins@atu.edu) or Jaci M Palmer (jpalmer21@atu.edu) for information on how to join the team as a debater or judge.

High School Media Winners Announced

by Braden Jones

The Arkansas Tech Department of Communication and Media Studies rewarded five high school students from Arkansas awards for the fall 2023 media competition.

The first-place winners were awarded \$75, and second-place participants received \$50. The entries were judged by ATU professors Christie Kellar, Tommy Mumert, Dr. Hanna Norton, Frances Roberson and Megan Toland. The winners of the competition are as follows:

Photography

First Place - Ty Smith of Piggott, "Distant Shed"

Short Film

First Place - Ryland Kramarenko of Fountain Lake, "Active Shooter PSA"

Second Place - Wyatt Edgin of Bryant, "Disturbing Desires"

Television Package

First Place - Chelsea Jensen of Bryant, "Doggy Day Out"

Yearbook Spread

First Place - Julia Owen of Lavaca, "Lavaca Baseball Clashing Through the Season"