TBD: To Be Discovered

A Newsletter for the Department of Communication and Media Studies



Debate Team Makes Nationals

by Jaci M Palmer

From March 22-24, ATU's Speech and Debate team competed in the annual Eddy Shell Invitational located at Bossier Parish Community College in Bossier City, Louisiana.

Led by Dr. Gabriel Adkins, along with Carson Davis and Jaina Perry, students participated in team and individual debates throughout the three-day tournament. Debating topics such as the 2024 MLB pitching rules, classic Disney vs. modern Pixar, and artificial intelligence, students on the ATU debate team banded together to prepare and present their cases in a timely manner.

Jaina Perry, the co-coach and pro-level debater, walked away with a trophy after qualifying for the octo-finals in the tournament. The team is busy preparing for the 2024 National Tournament, which will be hosted by Mississippi State University from April 12 to 15.

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



Jaina Perry holds the trophy she won for qualifying.



Jaina Perry presents her team's argument.

Arka-Tech Wins Award at SEJC

by A.J. Chauffe

From Feb. 23-25, The Arka-Tech staffers attended the annual Southeast Journalism Conference at Troy University in Alabama. The conference was attended by students from colleges in Kentucky, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia and Florida.

During the conference, on-site competitions were held in a multitude of journalistic categories. In the radio news reporting category, A.J. Chauffe, the radio manager for The Arka-Tech, won third place.



The Arka-Tech Staff at the Southeast Journalism Conference

PRSSA Co-Hosts Resume Workshop

by Dayton Ross



Students ask Career Services Director, Kristen Beck, questions about cover letters.

On Wednesday, Feb. 28, the Public Relations Student Society of America hosted a resume and cover letter workshop in collaboration with Career Services.

The goal of this interactive session was for students to learn about the best practices and essential steps for crafting a professional resume and cover letter. Knowing these skills is a crucial part of preparing for a successful future in a professional career.

PRSSA Hosts Conversations With A Newbie

by Elli White

On March 6, PRSSA held a virtual Q&A with Jacquelynn LaBeff, an ATU alumni and account services coordinator for The Communications Group in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Students had the opportunity to ask questions and receive advice from someone who has freshly entered the industry. LaBeff highlighted the importance of adaptability, communication and the need for strong interviewing skills.

Upcoming Departmental Events

CommGroup Field Trip - April 3

PRSSA Guest Speaker - April 12

SPJ Journalism Banquet - April 23

One Act Plays - April 27



Jacquelynn LaBeff

Theatre Class Creates One-Act Plays

by Allie Davis

Students taking Directing Theory and Techniques will host a collection of one-act plays and a film on April 27 at 7 p.m. The viewing of these plays will be free to students and the general public and will take place in the Techionary Theater.

"I think we're all just really looking forward to some of us having our own work performed and then others just getting the chance to hands-on direct a production," Esmund Anderson, a student in the class, said.