

### TBD: To Be Discovered

A Newsletter for the Department of Communication and Media Studies

### Tech TV Celebrates 50 Years on Air

By Allie Davis



Alumni visit the Tech TV studio control room.

On Oct. 13, 2024, Tech TV celebrated its 50th anniversary of being on air. To mark the occasion, alumni of the program were welcomed to campus to tour the Energy Center and broadcast studios. Among the alumni in attendance was from the class of 1974 and an original Tech TV cast member, Thomas Slater.

Attendees enjoyed catering in the Energy Center lobby as they mingled and talked about the changes within the journalism program. Afterward, they were invited to the broadcast station where cameras and prompters were turned on for them to do run-throughs at the different filming spots and tinker with controls.

#### October 2024

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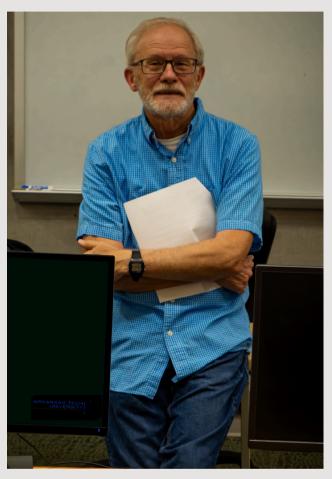
### Faculty Spotlight: Tommy Mumert

By Allie Davis

Professor Tommy Mumert began his time at Arkansas Tech University in mid-October of 1989. This year he celebrates his 35th anniversary as a member of Tech's Faculty. He recalls that when he got here the university looked much different, watching the university go from running on autopilot to a university that is for the students.

When asked how it feels to celebrate his 35th anniversary, Mumert said "Sometimes it's kinda hard for me to wrap my head around the fact that I've been here for 35 years... when I started at Tech I don't know that I had an idea in my head of how long I'd be here."

Mumert also serves as the faculty advisor of The Arka-Tech, Tech's student-run newspaper. His approach prioritizes being as hands off as possible allowing for students to gain experience and make the paper their own.



Mr. Tommy Mummert

During his time here, Mumert has made a positive impact on many students. Former student and current Arkansas Tech Director of University Relations Sam Strasner said, "From the moment he recruited me to Arkansas Tech University in 1997 until today, Tommy Mumert has been a trusted mentor and friend to me. Kindness, authenticity and humility are among the many admirable characteristics that Tommy brings to the classroom on a daily basis. He is an expert in the realm of journalism, and his influence has helped produce a significant number of professionals who have gone on to rewarding careers in mass communication. Tommy embodies the best qualities of Arkansas Tech, and I am grateful that he has chosen to invest himself in the betterment of our students and our university for the past 35 years."

# SPJ's Holds Homecoming Activities

By Margarita Lopez

During the week of Oct. 7, the Society of Professional Journalists held a spirit week for students in the Department of Communication and Media Studies to participate in honor of homecoming week. Students showed school spirit by dressing up according to the theme of the day: Green and Gold Day, Rhyme Without Reason, "Wednesday Wear Pink," country vs. country club, and character day.



Group photo: (back row, left to right) AJ Chauffe, Dayton Ross, Ivy Guzman, Emily Tyler, Terry Tyler, Margarita Lopez; (front row, left to right) Destini Nguyen, Kelsey Morris, Carsyn Hobson, Makailynn Byrd and Allie Davis



From left to right: Destini Nguyen and Allie Davis



From left to right: Professor Christie Kellar and Emily Tyler



Group photo: (left to right) Ivy Guzman, Elli White, Kiya Lawson, Destini Nguyen and A.J. Chauffe.

# Department Represents on Homecoming Court

By Margarita Lopez

On Oct. 7, candidates for the ATU 2024 Homecoming Court were announced. Five students who are involved in our department were nominated for homecoming queen and king. The nominees included A.J. Chauffe, Ivy Guzman, Kiya Lawson, Destini Nguyen and Elli White.

Nominees Ivy Guzman and Elli White were selected to be a part of the 2024 Homecoming Court.

## PRSSA Hosts Resume & Letter Workshop

On Tuesday, Oct. 15, PRSSA hosted a resume and cover letter workshop in collaboration with the Office of Career Services. Students were presented with two examples of resumes and cover letters and were encouraged to share what they liked or disliked about them.

Kristen Beck, assistant dean for career services, led the discussion about cover letters while journalism professor Dr. Norton led the discussion about resumes. For tips about resumes and cover letters, go to this link.

#### What's Next?

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#### DEPARTMENT THANKSGIVING POTLUCK

The Department of Communications and Media Studies will be hosting a Thanksgiving potluck in the Energy Center at 11:30 am. Students and Faculty can sign up to bring dishes at the department office. For more information, contact Janet Carnahan-Lee at jcarnahanlee@atu.edu



#### **DEBATE TOURNAMENT**

ATU Speech and Debate team will have their last tournament schedule at Arkansas Tech University. For additional information, contact Dr. Gabriel L. Adkins at gadkins@atu.edu.

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#### THANKSGIVING BREAK

Thanksgiving Break 2024 will begin Nov. 27 at 7 a.m. and carry through Dec. 2 at 7 a.m..