

SPECIAL EDITION

COVID-19 NEWS

NAU NORTHERN ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY

Wednesday, April 8



President Cheng addresses campus community (VIDEO)

From Zoom classes and meetings to telehealth appointments and virtual tutoring, President Cheng highlights a variety of ways NAU faculty, staff and students have adapted to continue providing a high-quality education and supportive community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Watch the full video online.](#)



Navajo Nation gives NAU special permission to install WiFi devices in public areas

The Navajo Nation granted NAU's Information Technology Services special permission to access the Nation and set up WiFi devices at the Navajo Nation Library and Museum property in Window Rock and the Good Shepherd Mission in Fort Defiance, the location of the NAU American Indian Nursing Program. This will allow students to safely access the internet from the parking lot and complete their coursework online, enabling them to stay on track for graduation. In late March, the Navajo Nation instituted a stay-at-home order and curfew as well as closing its borders to visitors in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The digital divide on the Navajo Nation is wide, with many communities unable to access adequate WiFi at home," said Chad Hamill, vice president of the Office of Native American Initiatives at NAU. "The COVID-19 outbreak on the Nation is significant, and there is a lot of fear and anxiety. By giving students some additional options to connect and take courses, we hope to bring some measure of relief and let them know that our institutional commitment to Native Americans means none of them are left behind."

NAU also is working to open up parking lots for WiFi access at the University of Arizona agriculture extension sites in Kyokotsmovi (Hopi Nation) and Tuba City (Navajo Nation).



NAU collects personal protective equipment to donate to health care workers, first responders throughout community

With PPE in short supply for health care workers and first responders in the Flagstaff community, the Office of the Vice President of Research organized a campuswide effort to collect PPE (masks, gowns, goggles, etc) from laboratories and other users. These donated items were sent to NAUPD, where volunteers sorted the items before taking them to the Health and Learning Center for storage. NAU has already filled several requests from the community for this vital equipment, which will become even more difficult to obtain as the state and county work to fill priority needs for hospitals and first-responder agencies.



[Axe of Kindness: On April 23, NAU's Giving Day, share how you give back](#)

NAU is shifting this year's Giving Day to a day of kindness. On April 23, the Lumberjack family will join together to support those in our community who need it most. Giving Day is your opportunity to share the ways you demonstrate care and support for your community. Volunteer in your community, donate blood, send messages of encouragement to the NAU community, support a local business or donate to a COVID-19 student emergency fund at NAU.

Share your Axe of Kindness and join us for the virtual 24-hour Lumberjack commitment to kindness. To learn more about being a Jack who gives back, visit the **[NAU Giving Day website](#)**.

[Hendrix Johnson tells NAU-TV how he's preparing for next season amid outbreak](#)

[Campus Rec offering a variety of virtual fitness classes throughout the week](#)

