



Office of Equity and Inclusion Newsletter

November 1, 2024



A Message from Dr. Keith Johnson, Vice President for Equity and Inclusion

“Veterans Day - More Than Just A Holiday”

Dear Friends.

Veterans Day, observed annually on November 11, is a day dedicated to honoring military veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces. Originally established as Armistice Day in 1919 to commemorate the end of World War I, the day has since evolved to recognize all U.S. veterans. This month’s newsletter explores the significance of Veterans Day, the various ways in which we can celebrate and honor veterans, and the broader impact of these observances on society.

The roots of Veterans Day can be traced back to the end of World War I when the armistice was signed on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918. In 1954, after World War II and the Korean War, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation to change the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day, thereby expanding the focus to honor all.

~ continued on page 2 ~



*“As we express our gratitude,
we must never forget that the highest
appreciation is not to utter words,
but to live by them.”*

~John Fitzgerald Kennedy~

Inside this issue

- Message from Dr. Johnson.....1-4
- Veterans Day.....4-5
- Native American Heritage Month...6-8
- Upcoming Events.....9-13

Continued ~ Message from Dr. Keith Johnson

Many cities and towns host ceremonies and parades featuring veterans, active-duty service members, and local community members. These events often include speeches from veterans, patriotic music, and the laying of wreaths at memorials. Such gatherings foster a sense of community and provide a platform for veterans to share their stories.

Schools and educational institutions can play a vital role in celebrating Veterans Day by incorporating lessons on military history, the significance of service, and the contributions of veterans. Projects that invite veterans to speak about their experiences can create meaningful interactions between students and those who have served. East Tennessee State University is no different. There are several activities planned on campus that faculty, staff, and students can take part in to celebrate our veterans. The Office of Equity and Inclusion has partnered with Sodexo to provide a meal on campus for active service men and women and veterans. The meal will be in the Dining Hall on the 3rd floor of the D.P. Culp Center on November 15, 2024 between 5 pm and 7pm. For tickets, please stop by the Office of Equity and Inclusion, Veterans Affairs Office, or ROTC.

In today's message, I will highlight Lieutenant Colonel Jared Powell, who serves as a professor



of military science at ETSU. Lieutenant Colonel Powell calls Newport News, Virginia his home, but as a military child, he has had the opportunity to live worldwide. He is blessed with a beautiful family and is honored to serve his country as an Army Officer.

He was commissioned through the Army ROTC program with a degree in Business Administration. Upon commissioning as an active-duty 2nd Lieutenant in the Field Artillery branch, Jared completed Fire Support and Gunnery training at Ft. Sill, OK. He was assigned as a Platoon Leader in the 6th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment. Jared deployed to Iraq as a Platoon Leader in 2005-2006 supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. Upon his return from Iraq, Jared was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment. As a Captain, he was a Battery Commander in the 1st Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment. Jared next served as a Targeting Officer and Fires Trainer at United States Army Europe, V Corps, and the United States European Command. During his tenure, he deployed to Afghanistan in 2010-2011 supporting Operation Enduring Freedom as a Targeting Officer and Aide-de-Camp to the International Security Assistance Forces, Deputy Commander of Operations.

Continued ~ Message from Dr. Keith Johnson

As we take time to acknowledge and celebrate veterans and active-duty men and women in uniform who made significant contributions throughout the history of America, let us not forget the university's values which include:

- PEOPLE come first, are treated with dignity and respect, and are encouraged to achieve their full potential;
- RELATIONSHIPS are built on honesty, integrity, and trust;
- DIVERSITY of people and thought is respected;
- EXCELLENCE is achieved through teamwork, leadership, creativity, and a strong work ethic;
- EFFICIENCY is achieved through wise use of human and financial resources; and
- COMMITMENT to intellectual achievement is embraced.

Sincerely,

Dr. Keith V. Johnson

Annual Veterans Day Ceremony/Meal

East Tennessee State University will honor the nation's military veterans, including ETSU's own student, staff and faculty veterans, during the annual Veterans Day ceremony.

The program, schedule for November 15th, will begin at 3:45 p.m. and will feature remarks from COL. Matt Skaggs. ETSU ROTC Cadets will participate in a Roll Call conducted for the ETSU alumni that were killed in action. The Color Guard will place a wreath on the Veterans Memorial and Taps will be played.

After the program, all veteran and military service members, including ETSU students, faculty, staff and community members, are invited to enjoy a **free dinner between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.** at the ETSU Dining Hall, located on the third floor of the D.P. Culp Student Center. Veterans may pick up a free meal ticket at any of the following locations: Military and Veteran

Services, 125 Yoakley Hall; ETSU Army ROTC, 206 Brooks Gym; or the Office of Equity and Inclusion, 109 Burgin Dossett Hall.


ETSU faculty, staff, students and community members are invited to attend as the university pays tribute to the sacrifices made and courage displayed by the nation's veterans, and those within our ETSU community.

For disability accommodations, contact the ETSU Office of Disability Services at 423-439-8346.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in Brooks Gym.



Veterans Day




On this Veterans Day, we want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for your service and sacrifice. Your dedication and courage have safeguarded the freedoms and values we hold dear.

At the Office of Equity and Inclusion, we recognize the strength and diversity of experiences you bring to our community. Your service exemplifies the very essence of unity, resilience, and commitment to justice that we strive to uphold.

Thank you for your bravery, for standing strong in the face of challenges, and for contributing to a better future for all. We honor and celebrate you today and every day.

With respect and appreciation,

*Thank you
for your service!*

 EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Office of
Equity & Inclusion

Native American Heritage Month/Indigenous People Heritage Celebration Month

Native American Heritage Month, also known as National American Indian Heritage Month, is celebrated every November in the United States to honor the culture, traditions, history, and contributions of Native American peoples. The idea of dedicating a month to celebrate the heritage of Indigenous peoples in the U.S. has evolved over time and is rooted in early 20th-century efforts to recognize Native American history and culture. [Read more.](#)

Donate to ETSU's

INDIGENOUS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This tuition scholarship supports students who are members of the Native American Student Organization at either ETSU or their high school.

Choose "Student Life & Enrollment" and write in "Indigenous scholarship"

Equity & Inclusion CONFERENCE

Land Acknowledgement

ETSU is a community of educators and learners residing on the ancestral homeland of the Cherokee, also known as the Tsalagi people. The Cherokee constituted one of the largest politically integrated tribes at the time of European colonization of the Americas.

At the time of their forced removal, the Cherokee numbered some 50,000 individuals who controlled 40,000 square miles of the Appalachian Mountains, in parts of present-day Georgia, east Tennessee, western North and South Carolina, and northeast Alabama.

Over the years, the tribe lost many of its people to wars and to diseases brought by the settlers. Many of the Cherokee people walked the Trail of Tears to Oklahoma. And those who stayed here, now reside in western North Carolina, and are known as the Eastern Band of Cherokee.

Our hope is that this acknowledgment serves as a reminder to all of us to **recognize** how we came to be here today, and to **honor** those who were here before us.

And it is a call to **action** for us to care for the land on which our campus resides.

Understanding the historical and current experiences of people who are Indigenous to this land, which many call Turtle Island, will help inform the work we do.

Upcoming Events

THE MARY V. JORDAN MULTICULTURAL CENTER & NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION
PRESENT

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

**SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES,
STORIES, AND SONGS**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH, 2024
10:00AM - 3:00PM
D.P. CULP CAVE**


EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY
Mary V. Jordan Multicultural Center



FOR MORE INFO EMAIL: ETSUMC@ETSU.EDU / CALL: (423) 439-4844

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

Featuring Insights from Our Community

Guest Lectures

Debi Thibeault

Terry Shinn

**SOWK 1030 - Cultural Diversity and
Speaking Series (Psychology)**

9:00 - 10:30 AM

**COUN 5110 - Soc/Cult Foundation and
Speaker Series (Psychology)**

11:05 AM - 12:15 PM

**NOV
5th**

**D. P CULP
ROOM 219**


EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY
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ANYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!!!

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL: ETSUMC@ETSU.EDU / CALL: (423) 439-4844

Upcoming Events

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE HERITAGE CELEBRATION

Featuring Insights from Our Community



Storytelling Sessions

With Terry Shinn

NOV 5TH
6:30 - 7:30 pm

NOV 6TH
10:30 - 11:30 am

NOV 6TH
1:30 - 2:30 pm


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INDIGENOUS PEOPLE HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

Featuring Insights from Our Community

Celebrate Native Heritage Month!
Join us for inspiring stories from
Native Elders as they share their
experiences and cultural insights.

Nov 12



Tune In! 

 **WETS 89.5**
#WETS5andBeyond 

RADIO INTERVIEW SERIES
COORDINATED BY DEBI.


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Upcoming Events


| November 2024 | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|--|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Tuesday | Nov. 5th | Election Day Celebration & Shuttle Service | Borchuck Plaza | All Day |
| Tuesday | Nov. 5th | Election Results Watch Party | Culp 272 | 7:00pm |
| Wednesday | Nov. 6th | Taste of Cultures | Culp Cave | 10:00-2:30pm |
| Wednesday | Nov. 13th | Intersect & Connect: A Feminist Forum Topic: Women's Reproductive Justice and Autonomy | Culp 215 | 4:00-5:00pm |
| Tuesday | Nov. 19th | Women's Discussion Group: Navigating Tough Conversations | Culp 215 | 12:00-1:00pm |
| Monday | Nov. 11th | Veterans Day (University Closed) | | |
| Tuesday | Nov. 12th |  Safe Zone 1 Training | Sherrod Library Room 433 | 9:00am-12:30pm |
| Friday | Nov. 15th | ETSU Veterans Day Ceremony | Outside in front of Brooks Gym | 3:45pm |
| Wednesday | Nov. 13th | Sherrod Library Diverse Characters Book Club Register here | Sherrod Library Room 309 | 5:00-6:00pm |
| Wed-Friday | Nov.27-29th | Thanksgiving Holiday (University Closed) | | |
| December 2024 | | | | |
| Friday | Dec. 6th |  Safe Zone 1 Training | Sherrod Library Room 433 | 9:00am-12:30pm |
| Thursday | Dec.12th | Lavender Celebration | Culp 272 | 6:00pm |

THE MARY V. JORDAN MULTICULTURAL CENTER & NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION
PRESENT

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

COFFEE HOUR (IN-PERSON)
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH, 2024
12:00 – 1:00 PM
MULTICULTURAL CENTER

COFFEE HOUR (ON ZOOM)
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH, 2024
12:00 – 1:00 PM


EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY
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FOR MORE INFO EMAIL: ETSUMC@ETSU.EDU / CALL: (423) 439-4844

Upcoming Event

INTERSECT & CONNECT: A FEMINIST FORUM

AT THE
WOMEN AND GENDER RESOURCE CENTER

WEDNESDAY - 11/13

TOPIC:

Reproductive Justice

Whether you're experienced in feminist discussion, or
just curious to learn more, all are welcome in this
judgment-free space!



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Women and Gender
Resource Center

4-5PM
CULP CENTER
ROOM 215

Upcoming Event

Women's Discussion Group

11/19

NAVIGATING TOUGH
CONVERSATIONS

12PM, CULP 215

Join us for a women's discussion group to share strategies,
seek guidance, and build community!

EMAIL WRCETSU@ETSU.EDU FOR MORE INFO

Upcoming Events

Feeling the stress???



 **SAVE THE DATE**

Monday, November 4
Tuesday November 5

 **8:00 AM – 4:30 PM**

Drop by the Counseling Center for some chill vibes, music, coloring, and low-key de-stressing activities. No need to sign up, just come as you are

 **Culp Center #326**
(Counseling Center)

For more information:
 counselingcenter@etsu.edu

SOUTH ASIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS

DIWALI

SATURDAY November 23 6-9 PM

CULP BALLROOM

SEMI-FORMAL AND ETHNIC CLOTHING ENCOURAGED
Sponsored by SGA

Upcoming Events



FACULTY BOOKPLATE RECEPTION

Thursday, November 21, 2024
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Sherrod Library, Room 311/313



Celebrate faculty achievements with a personal selection of impactful titles.

For more information contact Tiffany Watson at watsonth@etsu.edu

Happiness, Hope, & Despair: The Role of Education after the Election

Presenter: Dr. Jean Swindle

Organized by Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies

Date: Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Time 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Place: D.P. Culp Student Center -
East Tennessee Room 272

This presentation will be a guided discussion focusing on the "Now what?" Grounded in a conceptualization of despair as not an aberrant state but rather one that, if allowed, permits us all to develop the human capacity for reflective thought, this discussion will embrace happiness but also recognize despair. How can we venture to comprehend those in despair, so we anchor our hope on key elements of helping all to land on happiness?

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Webpage: <https://www.etsu.edu/equity/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/etsuequity/>

Instagram and Twitter - [etsu_equity](#)

**We would like to
hear from you.**

If you have an announcement, event, accomplishment, etc. you would like to have published in the newsletter send them to Kim Maturo at maturo@etsu.edu.

To add a name to our mailing list, please email Kim Maturo at maturo@etsu.edu.