

Overcoming Challenges and Related Workforce Needs

Dr. Peter Romine

promine@navajotech.edu

Navajo Technical University

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Pioneering Excellence: NTU's Master of Science in Electrical Engineering and the Vision for Future Generations



- In the vast expanse of the Navajo Nation, spanning over 25,000 square miles, the Navajo Technical University (NTU) is playing a crucial role in empowering the Diné people.
- As the Head of Electrical Engineering at NTU, my vision is one of a groundbreaking engineering graduate program that will not only train Navajo engineers but also serve as a catalyst for inspiring the next generation.
- The recently accredited Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, the first of its kind at any Tribal College or University, marks a significant milestone, with the inaugural cohort commencing in Spring 2024, and plans for a Ph.D. program underway.

Empowering Futures: NTU's Decolonized Education Mission and the Call for Indigenous Role Models

- NTU, driven by the Diné philosophy of education, seeks to decolonize the learning experience, incorporating cultural values and language into its teachings.
- The lack of Navajo faculty, particularly in engineering, underscores the need for a graduate program to nurture indigenous role models, ensuring continuity within the community and fostering self-determination.
- This endeavor aligns with NTU's broader mission to address challenges faced by the Navajo Nation, promote economic development, and transition to clean energy, ultimately placing the future in the hands of the Navajo people.

