Dear Academically Excellent Student,

Do you ever want more out of your education? Are you tired of the same classes taught the same way? The same experiences as everyone else? The same results: a great GPA and not a lot more to show for it? Anthropologist Roger Lewin once said that, “Too often students are given answers to remember, rather than problems to solve.” If you want more out of your education, more out of your life, more out of your college experience, then you should join the Ozarks Technical Community College Honors Program.

**The OTC Honors Program**

The OTC Honors Program is designed for high achieving students who want more out of the college experience. Through the program, students are encouraged to embrace a lifestyle of learning and investigation, expand their experiences and opportunities, and seek out excellence and success both inside and outside of the classroom. The OTC Honors Program is more than just taking great honors courses; it is about connection with other honors students and faculty, opportunities to explore and create, and elevating your appetite for learning and personal growth.

**Honors Courses**

The OTC Honors Program requires a variety of honors coursework within dedicated honors courses intended to promote academic excellence as well as personal and professional development. These courses are taught by faculty members who understand the honors environment and honors students and whom excel both in their fields and in teaching. Honors courses have smaller class sizes, unique reading, research and writing opportunities and often incorporate a different environment and learning method than traditional courses. Noted physicist Albert Einstein once said that, "I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide conditions in which they can learn." These words are a framework for the design and implementation of honors courses.

**Honors Student Council**

In addition to honors courses, students are also a part of the Honors Student Council. This group allows students the opportunity to interact with other honors students and utilize the organization to better themselves, those around them and the college and community at large. The Honors Student Council meets monthly and organizes community involvement initiatives such as donating time at Ozarks Food Harvest, participating in Relay for Life, and fundraising to give high school dropouts the chance to take their GED Exam. They also volunteer at campus activities such as blood drives, student picnics and work with college programs such as Adult Education Literacy. The Honors Student Council, which is student lead and offers leadership opportunities, also organizes social activities and engages in honors program initiatives and events.

**The Honors Lifestyle**

The Honors Program offers students unique academic opportunities outside of the classroom. Students are encouraged to attend off campus events that will enhance their academic experience. Everything from Honors Regional and National Conferences, world renowned speakers such as Dr. Temple Grandin and the Dalai Lama and area events related to art, theatre, history and more. Students are asked to complete 'learning hours' in the program related to academic exploration, service learning and community involvement.

The OTC Honors Program can only be described as one thing: it is an experience. One that will change your life. College should be your classes, your instructors, your peers, your education, why not make the most of it. If you want more, if you want to be a part of something great, if you want to *be* great - the OTC Honors Program is right for you.

For more information on the OTC Honors Program please visit www.otc.edu/honors or contact the Director of the OTC Honors Program at Honors@otc.edu.

Sincerely,

Todd Yerby

Director, OTC Honors Program

Ozarks Technical Community College

1001 E. Chestnut Expressway

Springfield, MO 65801

(417) 827-7572

[yerbyj@otc.edu](mailto:yerbyj@otc.edu)

[honors@otc.edu](mailto:honors@otc.edu)