

From: [MCGRADY, TRACY M.](#)
To: [adjunctfaculty](#); [fulltimefaculty](#)
Subject: Provost's Notes: Week 6
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Good morning, Faculty –

We made it through the bitter cold, snow, and rolling blackouts of last week, and as I write this, I can see the sun already showing off its melting prowess outside my office window. Let's hope that the warmer weather in the forecast for Week 6 of the semester is a harbinger of spring.

I'm feeling particularly grateful this morning as I think back to last week. I'm thankful to all of you who turned on a dime to shift instruction remotely last week so our students could continue learning. I am also thankful to our operations teams (grounds, maintenance, custodial, security) at our campuses and centers. I was on campus much of last week, and they were working very hard under some really brutal conditions—and I never heard one complaint. As Dr. Higdon mentioned, please tell them thank you when you see them.

There is nothing new to report regarding COVID-19 vaccines. We still do not know when (or if) we will have any to distribute. If you haven't already, please sign up to receive the vaccine wherever you can. I'm thankful that some of our faculty and staff have been able to receive it from other sources. We remain hopeful that there will be a ramping up of production and distribution soon.

I mentioned previously that our Higher Learning Commission accreditation visit is scheduled for March 29-30. We still have limited details regarding faculty involvement, but you will certainly be invited to participate in open forums with our site visitors. This is your opportunity to talk about what we do well in terms of meeting program accreditation standards, working with advisory committees, our shared governance structure, and what each department/program is doing with regard to assessment of student learning.

If you have any questions, please reach out. Have a great week!

Tracy M. McGrady, Ed.D
Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Ozarks Technical Community College
1001 East Chestnut Expressway
Springfield, MO 65802
417.447.8152