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To: [ProvostNotes](#)
Subject: Provost's Notes: 10/25/21
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Good morning!

I have just a few announcements for your Monday:

Spring 2022 Registration: Registration for the spring semester started this morning. As Dr. Higdon mentioned in *Notes* this weekend, the college has moved the opening day of registration up a few weeks to allow students more time to solidify their plans for upcoming semesters. Student success data indicate that students who register earlier tend to do better in their classes.

COVID-Relief Funds to Students: Many thanks to our Financial Aid and Student Account Services teams who worked last week to disburse over \$8 million of federal pass-through COVID-relief money to OTC students. Over 8,500 OTC students received a payment of anywhere from \$820 (non-Pell-eligible students) to \$1,040 (Pell-eligible students).

Voices from Vietnam Documentary Premiere: OTC is honored to host the premiere of a documentary featuring one of our long-time adjunct faculty, Larry Rottmann. Larry is a Vietnam veteran who has written numerous books, films and stage plays chronicling his experiences during and since the war. The documentary *Voices from Vietnam* is the culmination of over 30 years' worth of those creative efforts. The film has screened at several festivals recently, winning Best Pro Documentary at the Real to Reel International Film Festival. The premiere will be held on **Friday, November 12 at 7 p.m. in LCN 211**. The event is free and open to the public. The film runs just under an hour and will be followed by a short Q&A with the filmmakers.

OTC Cares: As a part of the OTC Cares mindset, I mentioned a couple of weeks ago the importance of remembering to care for each other. Along with that, remember to care for yourselves as well. We are educators, and it is sometimes hard to allow ourselves downtime when we know our students need us. I've heard lately of faculty especially having a difficult time making the decision to "turn off" when their students are asking for help. I struggle with that, too. Case in point: Just as I had settled in and was starting to relax last night, I looked at my phone and saw an email from one of my advisees seeking help building their spring semester schedule. Knowing that registration started today, I felt that old familiar tug of guilt and debated about whether or not to get up and hop on my laptop so I could review their degree audit. But I didn't. Was that student-first thinking? Probably not...but remember that when we travel on an airplane, we are told to put on our own oxygen mask first before we help others with theirs.

We've all been through a lot over the last 18 months – and it's not over yet. *I encourage you to put your own mask on first*. Only you can be the judge of your own limits, but when you determine that you've hit one, know that you have permission to turn off. I'm confident there will be many times in the future that I will respond to a student late on a Sunday night, but after a hectic day yesterday, last night was not one of them. My advisee got a response early this morning instead. And that is okay.

Wishing you a good week!

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