

From: [MCGRADY, TRACY M.](#)
To: [ProvostNotes](#)
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Good morning!

No announcements to share today, but I would like to wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving and a restful few days off. I hope you'll take some time to reflect upon your blessings. As hard as the last 18 months have been, we have a lot to be thankful for – first and foremost, each other. I'd like to share with you a few things from "Tracy's Gratitude List, OTC Edition":

- I'm grateful that we do not simply pay lip service to our mission and values; we embrace them and operationalize them as part of culture.
- I'm grateful for Eagle Breakfast and how it is serving those who need it most and improving student retention and success.
- I'm grateful for the often unsung heroes of OTC: Our Maintenance and Grounds staff. They keep OTC locations looking their best and provide clean, comfortable, and beautiful spaces for students and employees.
- I'm grateful for our academic leadership: Dr. Dusty Childress, Dr. Cliff Davis, Dr. Rob Griffith, Dr. Gavin O'Connor, Dr. Matt Hudson, Dr. Robyn Gordon, Dr. Lance Renner, Dr. Julie Coltharp, Dr. Megan Weaver, Dr. Drew Aberle, and Dr. Aaron Light. These folks have extremely difficult jobs working alongside their teams and managing the day-to-day work of each of our locations and divisions. Their work is often quiet and behind-the-scenes, but they do an exceptional job, and I am so proud of them.
- I'm grateful for Dr. Higdon's thoughtful approach to leadership during the pandemic that has left OTC better off than many other Missouri colleges and universities.
- I'm grateful for our students who place their trust in us to provide them a pathway to a happy and fulfilled life.
- Last but not least, I am grateful for *each and every one of you* and the impactful work you do to improve the lives of others. You are creating our future.

With thanks.

Tracy

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