

**From:** [MCGRADY, TRACY M.](#)  
**To:** [ProvostNotes](#)  
**Subject:** Provost's Notes: 4/11/2022  
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Good morning!

Dr. Higdon covered a lot of good stuff happening at the college in yesterday's *Notes*, so I'll add just a couple of items:

**Excellence in Education:** Now is your opportunity to nominate a colleague, full-time or part-time, who demonstrates excellence in their service to the college. Winners are selected by a college-wide committee and recognized at our annual College Development Day in October. They receive a plaque, a cash award from the OTC Foundation (thanks to the Turner Family Foundation for funding this award), and recognition in October's "Around the College" video. To nominate, please click on the "[2022-2023 EIE Nomination Form](#)" on the [Excellence in Education page](#). Nominations are accepted until May 13.

**OTC Cares:** I mentioned last week that the Donor Reception is one of my favorite events. This year's did not disappoint. Kudos to Amy Bacon and her team in the OTC Foundation for putting on such a fabulous event. I always tear up when listening to scholarship recipients talk about what receiving a scholarship meant to them. It isn't only about the money; it's also about pride, motivation, and hope – someone believing in them. This event reminds me what impressive students we have.

So on the heels of that event, I received an email from Dana Sherman, Physical Sciences department chair, updating me on the professional successes of one of our former students. Some of you will remember Amado Antonini, who attended OTC then transferred to MIT where he earned both a bachelor's and master's degree in Mechanical Engineering. Amado's cousin is a current OTC student and enrolled in one of Todd Vangorden's classes (Todd is one of our exceptional Physical Sciences instructors). The student noticed that Todd has to move the camera around several times so he can Zoom his whole lecture. She spoke with Amado who asked her to share this: <http://auturn.com/>. Amado was the lead designer on this project and is founder and CEO of this company, in addition to being a Perception and Autonomy engineer at Draper. This is just one of the many projects that Amado has worked on since leaving OTC. Here is a link to his website that showcases his many projects: <https://amadoantonini.com/>

Dana's email ended with this: "Interestingly enough, Todd has actually had two of Amado's brother and now a cousin in his class. It is evident that this family appreciates the quality education that they receive at OTC."

To me, there is no greater testament to the power of our work. The investment we make in our students – whether it's financial or an investment of time – pays huge dividends that can reverberate far into the future and impact families for generations to come.

Have a great week!

Tracy

Tracy M. McGrady, Ed.D  
Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
Ozarks Technical Community College  
1001 E. Chestnut Expressway | Springfield, MO | 65810  
417.447.8152