

From: [MCGRADY, TRACY M.](#)
To: [ProvostNotes](#)
Subject: Provost's Notes: 10/10/2022
Date: Monday, October 10, 2022 8:19:58 AM

Good morning!

What a gorgeous weekend in the Ozarks! I had the chance to enjoy the beautiful weather on Saturday evening at the Fall Festival & Fun Run at the Richwood Valley campus. There was a big crowd, great live music, and the firepits were put to good use by folks making s'mores. If you haven't had the chance to attend, I encourage you to do so next year.

And there's more good stuff happening around the college! A few announcements:

Award-Winning Filmmaker at OTC:

The Student Engagement Council will host documentary filmmaker Liz Smith on the Springfield campus this week. Liz is the director of *I Am Gen Z*, which was shown at OTC last spring, and other award-winning documentaries. Liz [will speak on Thursday, October 13 at 6:30 p.m.](#) in LCN 211 on the topic, *Social Media and Political and Cultural Division*.

Innovation Celebration Open Lab:

Got an idea for an Innovation grant? Maybe just a kernel of one? Get help refining your ideas at an Innovation Lab event. The first one will be tomorrow, October 11, at 2 p.m. in PMC 103A. There is also an option to attend virtually. Click [here](#) for more info.

Ongoing Professional Development:

Just a reminder that the college offers several professional development opportunities on topics ranging from conflict management to stress reduction, and everything in between. Daniel Ogunyemi, College Director for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, has developed several DEI Lunch & Learn sessions with OTC colleagues. Check out the [College Development calendar](#) to see the range of offerings.

OTC Cares:

If you haven't yet had a chance to listen to [the latest episode of Oh That's Cool!](#) I encourage you to make haste and do so. In this installment, hosts Andrew Crocker and Jared Durden (both OTC faculty) interview Jennifer Dunkel, English instructor and member of the Student Learning Experience Task Force steering committee. If you are a teacher in any capacity, you will enjoy this deep, inspirational, and though-provoking conversation. Jen's love and respect for teaching – and for her students – is evident. As I listened to the three of them talk, it made me appreciate – yet again – our faculty at OTC. I deeply respect our area university partners and the important work they do, but my money is, and forever will be, on our faculty. You are second to none and the embodiment of a culture of caring. This week, I will present to OTC's Board of Trustees at their fall retreat, and one thing I plan to share with them is data showing the high level of satisfaction our students report with their classroom experience – and I can't wait. It will be so much fun to brag on your outstanding work.

Wishing you all a great week!

Tracy M. McGrady, Ed.D

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Ozarks Technical Community College
1001 E Chestnut Expressway
Springfield, MO 65802
417.447.8152