From: MCGRADY, TRACY M.

To: ProvostNotes

Subject: Provost"s Notes: 3/4/2024

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Attachments: Pet Therapy Vertical (1).png

Good morning!

Hard to believe that it's already MARCH and Spring Break is only one short week away, but here we are. A few items to share, including several big wins, a viral TikTok video, and a couple of campus events:

PTK Heartland Convention Wins: OTC's PTK students returned home from the PTK Heartland (Kansas/Nebraska/Missouri) Convention yesterday with several awards. A few in particular I'd like to brag on:

- Todd Yerby and Cassidy Bright cinching 1st place Advisor Team out of about 70 PTK chapters. Todd and Cassidy do a **terrific** job with our PTK chapter, and I'm glad to see them recognized at the regional level.
- Todd also earned 2nd place for the Advisor Excellence Award.
- The Table Rock campus was awarded for their efforts at making PTK accessible to more students with Dr. Robert Griffith receiving the President's Excellence Award and Anita Dixon winning 3rd place in the Advisors Excellence Award category.
- Our students walked away with several other awards, too numerous to mention here. A
 few of them were: 2nd place for Honors in Action, 4th Place for Top Chapter, Honorable
 Mention for College Project, and 2nd place for Distinguished Officer Team.

Congrats to the Alpha Psi Tau chapter!

Graphic Design Technology Wins: And if that wasn't enough winning, our GDT students came in hot and cleaned up at the American Advertising Federation-Heartland Addy awards this weekend. OTC came away with 5 golds, 16 silvers, two Judges Awards, and drumroll please... Best in Show! Congratulations to these students and the GDT faculty: full-timers Hope Brooks-Lovan, Craig Schutt, and Cheryl Feller, as well as their phenomenal adjunct faculty.

OTC Respiratory Therapy Goes Viral: If you aren't following the OTC Respiratory Therapy account on TikTok, you're missing out. A recent video went viral with over 1.2 million views and over 232,000 likes. Several of the account's other videos have gotten a lot of attention as well. Kudos to the full-time Respiratory Therapy crew: Brandon Burk, Sara Hough, Tristen Goldammer, Rachel Jenkins, and Nathan Pounds, who are the brains and creativity behind the content.

Therapy Dogs Are Back: Therapy dogs are back in the library for midterms! The sweet pups from Pet Therapy in the Ozarks will be joining us today (Monday March 4) from 11am-12:30pm in the Hamra Library. See attached flyer. Everyone is welcome; you don't have to be

a student to pet these good dogs, you just have to have made it through February – and the good news is we all fall in that category. Reach out to Sarah Mabee (<u>mabees@otc.edu</u>) with questions.

Community Resource Fair: OTC will host a Community Resource Fair on **Wednesday, March 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** in the Jared Atrium on the Springfield campus. Over **20 service organizations** from the area will be here to assist students with everything from mental healthcare to housing and everything in between. Many of our students struggle to get help with basic needs, so please help promote this event to your students.

Have a great week!

Tracy M. McGrady, Ed.D

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