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To: [ProvostNotes](#)
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Good morning!

We've arrived at Picnic Week, so grab a hotdog and have some fun as we enter into the last four weeks of the Spring 2024 semester! It's stunning how quickly this semester has flown.

In addition to picnics this week, here are a few other items of interest:

OTC Juried Exhibition: As we know, college students who are artists don't take only Art classes. Please let your students know about a wonderful opportunity to display their work at the OTC Juried Exhibition, May 11-June 8, at Obelisk Home Gallery in Springfield. The submission deadline is **April 24**. For further details, interested students can email Art instructor, Meganne Rosen (rosenm@otc.edu).

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) at OTC: Ever since ChatGPT entered the chat about 18 months ago, there has been increasing interest in the intersection of GenAI and education. The OTC AI Advisory Group, led by Dr. Julie Coltharp and Eric Kyle, has created a survey to better understand OTC employees' and students' current and future preferred use of GenAI both individually and in their work. This week, you and your students will receive a request to complete this survey. Please take a few moments to participate and encourage your students to do the same. Your feedback and insights will help shape OTC's approach to GenAI.

Additionally, I invite you to attend the Center for Academic Innovation's [GenAI and Curriculum session on Wednesday, April 17 at 3:00 p.m. in PMC-216D or on Teams](#). With discussion led by instructors Barrie Talbott and Jackson Lewis-Hite, this gathering will be a platform for sharing your experiences with GenAI in the classroom. If you're like me and have noticed an increase in student work seemingly created by GenAI, this is a perfect opportunity to engage in discussion and share insights and approaches with colleagues.

Year-Round Registration: In his *Notes*, Dr. Higdon mentioned that I have been bragging about all the hard work our staff and faculty have done to make year-round registration possible. I had the opportunity brag some more at the MCCA Chief Academic Officers meeting last week. My counterparts from around the state are keenly interested in what we're doing. They had lots of questions and were intrigued by the possibility of allowing students to register for summer, fall, and spring semesters at the same time. I wouldn't be one bit surprised to see other colleges shift their practices to embrace this model in the coming months.

OTC Student Commencement Speaker: Late last week, [Robert-Thomas Gumersell was announced as the student speaker for Commencement this year](#). I became acquainted with R.T. initially through his involvement in Phi Theta Kappa, and now this semester, he is a

student in my COM 200 class. Last week, at the PTK 2024 All-Missouri Academic Team Awards luncheon in Columbia, I got to meet R.T.'s mother, who became an OTC student herself with R.T.'s encouragement. At the ceremony, keynote speaker Dr. Lynn Tincher-Ladner, President and CEO of Phi Theta Kappa, gave the students this advice: "It's not what you know or who you know, but *how* people know *you*." R.T. is a great example of someone who is not only well-known around OTC, but also someone people know *well*. His story is just one example of how there's a place for everyone at OTC's table, and I look forward to hearing him share it at Commencement.

Have a great week!

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