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To: [ProvostNotes](#)
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Good morning!

The end of the semester always marks a transition, so I want to make you aware of some organizational changes coming to Academic Affairs:

With Dr. Megan Weaver's departure next month to assume her new role as Vice President of Instruction at Moberly Area Community College, we've taken the opportunity to explore a variety of options for her position. We've determined instead of filling that vacancy, we will take this opportunity to make some organizational changes that advance the strategic plan. Here are the changes, all effective July 1, with a bit of explanation:

- **Dr. Gavin O'Connor** will become Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Gavin will assume direct oversight responsibilities for the Center for Academic Innovation, Accreditation & Assessment, Tutoring and Learning (at all locations), Disability Support Services, and the Library. Workforce & Short-Term Training will move to Robert Randolph. Other than Workforce and Short-Term Training, Gavin retains his current areas of oversight, so if you were hoping for fewer emails from him, sorry to disappoint! Gavin will also take over responsibilities for the syllabus template.
- **Dr. Julie Coltharp** will become the inaugural Executive Director of the OTC Professional Development Institute (PDI), the formation of which is a priority in the [Dream. Plan. Build strategic plan](#). As you all are very aware, Julie has a track record of building this type of supportive structure from the ground up. She's done a phenomenal job building, branding, and growing the Center for Academic Excellence (CAI), and those efforts have not gone unnoticed. I'm very proud of her work. The goal of the PDI is to continue facilitating professional development for faculty, but also to go further by providing the same high-quality opportunities to OTC staff. The PDI will be housed within Human Resources. **Erin Dooley** will also transition into the PDI to provide support. She has been an excellent addition to the faculty development team. I'm excited for the entire college community to benefit from this duo's expertise.
- **Philip Arnold** will oversee the Center for Academic Excellence and assume oversight of Testing Services. CAI will still exist, but its focus will shift away from professional development for faculty at the macro level and focus instead on continuing the great work they do assisting faculty with course design and providing technical support. Although part of CAI's programming (Adjunct Educators' Conference, Faculty Development Days, etc.) will shift to the PDI, these two units will work very closely together. CAI will also retain management of the Instructional Media Studio and Philip remains Canvas administrator for the college. Philip will also coordinate with IT on

Proctorio management.

- **Tutoring and Learning** – With Dr. David Ball’s retirement, the Writing Center and Speech Center will be merged into the Tutoring & Learning Center structure under **Jake Lewellen’s** oversight. An assistant director is being hired to support the expanded scope. Students will benefit from the alignment of these services into one unit.

I’m very excited about these changes and how they help move the college forward. Please join me in congratulating these colleagues!

Faculty/Classroom Support Conversations: I sent an email late last week regarding some opportunities for us to engage in conversation about current teaching challenges. While today’s session is full, you may still [sign up](#) for tomorrow’s session (facilitated by Dr. Robyn Gordon) or attend Faculty Senate’s regular meeting on Thursday where this will be a topic (Dr. Drew Aberle will facilitate that session). If you are unable to attend any of these sessions, please consider providing feedback via the form that will be sent later this week.

Fond Farewells: As much as I love this time of year, it’s also bittersweet as we say goodbye to those retiring. I attended retirement celebrations last week for two legendary Davids: David Fotopulos, Communication Instructor, and Dr. David Ball, Director of the Carol Jones Writing Center and English instructor. In addition to these two fine gentlemen, I’d like to recognize all upcoming Academic Affairs retirees:

Gary Lumley – Instructor, Electrical Programs
Kathy Shade – Instructor, Geology
Mike Adamek – Instructor, Humanities
Cheryl Feller – Instructor, Graphic Design
Danelle Maxwell – Department Chair, Manufacturing
Kelly Anthony – Instructor, English
Ginger Smith – Admin. Assistant, Adult Education and Literacy

These fantastic humans have all left their mark on OTC and countless former students. Please join me in congratulating them on a job well done and wishing them a happy retirement.

And speaking of fantastic, retiring humans, I can’t miss out on wishing one of my favorites a very happy retirement. **Dr. Joan Barrett**, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, will retire at the end of June. Yesterday, the Springfield News-Leader [published a wonderful profile](#) of her nearly 30 years at OTC. Joan has meant a great deal to OTC, but her friendship has meant the world to me. I’m proud of her for so many reasons, but I’m most proud to call her my friend. Happy retirement, Joanie. I will miss you.

Have a great week!

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