From:	MCGRADY, TRACY M.
To:	ProvostNotes
Subject:	Provost"s Notes: 11/4/2024
Date:	Monday, November 4, 2024 7:11:24 AM
Attachments:	Academic Excellence LMS Standardization Report .pdf

---

Good morning, and welcome to November!

Just a few updates to share:

Canvas Standardization Pilot

The Academic Excellence Taskforce, committed to advancing our *Dream. Plan. Build.* strategic plan, has released recommendations for a standardized Canvas course layout. The aim is to enhance students' learning experience through a more consistent and user-friendly course structure. Over the past year, the taskforce gathered valuable input from both students and faculty to shape these recommendations, and their full report is attached. So what happens next and how can you help? This spring, the taskforce is inviting faculty volunteers to **pilot the new Canvas layout and provide feedback**. Your insights will be instrumental in evaluating the impact on both student and faculty experiences. If you're interested in participating, please contact Dr. Andrew Aberle (aberlea@otc.edu) or Dr. Trish White (whitet@otc.edu) by **Monday, December 2**. Your input will support the progression of these recommendations through our college governance councils. I have volunteered to participate, and I hope you'll consider doing so as well.

Campus/Center Visits

Last week, I enjoyed connecting with faculty and staff at the Table Rock and Richwood Valley campuses. Although we are one big system, each location has its unique vibe and contributes something special. Thank you to the faculty and staff who took time out of their day to visit. Later this week, I'm looking forward to visiting the Waynesville and Lebanon Education Centers.

Academic Council

Our last Academic Council meeting of 2024 will be on Thursday. We have a slew of policy changes on the agenda, as well as the 2026-2027 academic calendar up for approval.

Finally, with Election Day tomorrow, I recognize the weight this moment may carry for our students and colleagues. In times of uncertainty, empathy and calm can help ease fears and lower the heat of strong emotions. No matter what's happening in the world around us, Ozarks Tech can remain a place where diverse people and thoughts are welcome, and where civility rules the day. Please, let's continue to support each other and our students through the days and weeks ahead.

Tracy M. McGrady, Ed.D
Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Ozarks Technical Community College
1001 E. Chestnut Expressway
Springfield, MO 65802
417.447.8152