From:	MCGRADY, TRACY M.
To:	ProvostNotes
Subject:	Provost"s Notes: 3/31/2025
Date:	Monday, March 31, 2025 7:49:18 AM

Good morning!

Spring is in the air, and somehow, here we are – April already! As the semester moves quickly toward its final stretch, let's take a moment for some updates and celebrations of the great work happening at the college:

Faculty Communication Toolbox

Last summer, we spent a great deal of time exploring ways to better support faculty. One outcome of those discussions was the development of a **Faculty Communication Toolbox**—a set of email templates designed to assist faculty in common student interactions, such as missed proctored events, students approaching administrative withdrawal, and minor behavioral concerns. These templates also provide guidance on when and how to involve a student's navigator.

The Faculty Communication Toolbox is now available on the Academic Affairs website under "Faculty Resources." While use of these templates is not mandatory, they serve as a resource for faculty who may be uncertain about appropriate messaging in these situations.

A huge thank you to the faculty group who helped create this resource: Jennifer Dunkel, Erin Martin, Adi Bosch, Ross Lowrance, Tom Moffitt, Tessa Coltrin, and Lana Stephens.

Go Anywhere Wins Awards

The 2024 edition of *Go Anywhere: Perspective*, Ozarks Tech's literary magazine, has received three awards in the Community College Humanities Association contest:

- **Best Magazine—Central Division**
  - 3rd Place
- **Best Script—Central Division**
  - *What if She Were* by Eve Manary
- **Best Song—Central Division**
  - *Someday (I'll Have it All)* by Rachel Robinson

Congratulations to our talented students, and a special thank you to English instructor Jane Cowden for her dedication in overseeing this project.

Ozarks Tech's Impact

Last week, I received an email from a faculty member who shared about a recent health emergency, and I'd like to share part of her story with you:

> *"I was in pain and scared but one of the nurses taking care of me there was one of my past Middle College students and she took such good care of me. They transported me to the ICU at Cox South and the young lady who rode in the back of the ambulance was another one of my past students. Again, she took amazing care of me and tried to keep me calm. Upon my arrival at Cox South, again I was greeted with yet more past students. In ICU one of my nurses was another past Middle College student and one of them was a past ASL student. There were so many nurses who took care of me who went to school at OTC and I just wanted to let you know they were the most amazing nurses. They all helped to keep me calm and it was nice hearing their success stories. I just wanted to let you know the amazing job OTC does with our students."*

Thanks to these talented healthcare professionals, the writer is home recovering. And while her experience highlights Ozarks Tech's profound impact on healthcare in our region, our influence extends far beyond that field. I regularly meet people whose lives have been shaped here—teachers, attorneys, HVAC technicians, organization and industry leaders, electricians, drafters, auto mechanics, and so many more. I'm sure you do, too.

In the midst of your daily responsibilities when work gets tough, students or coworkers are frustrating, or tasks become downright boring, I hope you'll pause to reflect on how many people your work has impacted. **You make life better** for the people of our region. **This work matters**.

Have a great week!

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