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**To:** [ProvostNotes](#)  
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Good morning!

Here we are – the last week of classes and just 10 days until Commencement! Here are a few updates:

### **Commencement Reminders**

Speaking of Commencement, a couple of reminders:

- Please **attend the ceremony that corresponds with your primary program** ([click here](#) for the schedule). This helps the Commencement Committee plan accordingly for faculty seating. If you're unsure which ceremony you should attend, your dean or academic administrator can assist.
- Because of the shift to two ceremonies, light refreshments will be served in between them **beginning at 4 p.m.** in the racquetball court area of Great Southern Bank Arena.

### **Adjunct Educator Conference**

Registration is now open for the Adjunct Educator Conference, happening **Saturday, August 9**. All are encouraged to attend this day that is specifically designed to celebrate and support our adjunct, part-time, and high school dual credit faculty. [Visit this link](#) to register.

### **Administrative Withdrawal Follow Up**

A few weeks ago, I shared that we would be focusing on better educating faculty about the administrative withdrawal policy and improving overall information and support. A work group has since been formed and will hold its first meeting later this month. I anticipate that work on this initiative will continue throughout the summer, but I hope to make substantial progress toward a plan before I retire on June 30.

### **Faculty Salary Study**

Thank you to everyone who attended last Thursday's meeting with Lockton, where they presented the results of their full-time faculty salary study. I also shared the college's planned next steps: approximately 90 full-time faculty members will receive salary increases beyond the 3% across-the-board raise being recommended to the Board of Trustees. Additionally, the faculty salary chart has been updated with increased salary levels and a streamlined structure, combining all master's and master's + attainment levels into one category. If you are among those receiving a salary increase above 3%, you will be notified within the next two weeks.

### **Oh, the Places They'll Go**

As we approach graduation season, I want to share an email that Greg French, department chair of Social Sciences, recently received. Greg is coordinating this summer's Study Abroad trip to Greece (thank you, Greg!), and one of the student travelers – a culinary student – was awarded a scholarship through the travel group. As part of the scholarship, she will be blogging and posting on social media about her first international travel experience. She wrote:

“...this whole experience has really motivated me to think bigger. I've been searching for an internship for my culinary degree, and I just applied to my first two international ones – one in Athens and one in Florence! Just a year ago, I wasn't even enrolled in school, let alone knew where my future or career was headed. I'm really proud of how everything is coming together in my life, both personally and professionally. It feels like the beginning of something exciting and full of possibilities.”

Our work is about so much more than educational attainment. It's about helping students fully grow into themselves and see possibilities they never even imagined. I can't think of anything more rewarding.

Have a great week!

### **Tracy M. McGrady, Ed.D**

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[Adjunct Educator Conference - OTC Human Resources](#)