

**OTC
Honors
Program**



The Pinnacle: Destination Known



**Spring
2017**

Nam et ipsa scientia potestas est.

Volume 13



The Honors Program provides academically exceptional students an opportunity to develop their full potential through the enhanced learning environment of a designated community of scholars.



Inside this issue:

STEM Promotion.....2
Honors Contact Info.....2
Arts by Honors.....3
Big Questions.....4-5
Newman Fellow Named5
Office Staff6
Honors Events.....7
Student Resources.....7
Mental Break.....BC

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Looking to stand out in a science field?



Stackable Certificate for A.S. Degrees!

The program incorporates the essential course work necessary to prepare students for entry level positions within a science lab.

For additional information please contact:

Mary Marquez

(417)447-2621

chemlabtech@otc.edu

OTC Campus Springtime Flowers by Kat Sheldahl



Contact us:

If you are an Honors Program student interested in having your work published in the newsletter, or if you are interested in applying to the Honors Program, you may email honors@otc.edu for more information or search 'honors program' on the OTC website. **Office Phone: 417-447-8229**

Arts by Honors



Drawing by Tabitha Mumford



Sketch by Sarah Powell

Together Forever

By Kelsi Holcomb

I enjoy our laughs together
Picnics in perfect weather.
Television shows
Blowing our child's nose,
Together forever.
I enjoy our talks together
Walking in perfect weather.
Buying clothes
However it goes,
Together forever.
I enjoy spraying each other
With water in perfect weather.
With a hose
Hearing crows,
Together forever.
I enjoy gardening together
In the garden in perfect weather.
Planting roses
Even when it snows,
Together forever.
I enjoy living together
All of this in perfect weather.
We arose
Went to my bro's,
Together forever.



Valentine Postage Stamp, Counted Cross-Stitch by Kat Sheldahl

Big Questions

Written by Kendra Crauso

Do you ever look up at the night sky and wonder if we are alone?

From believers to skeptics, shams to hard science, this is a question that is as old as humanity. Dr. Frank Drake is among the masses that have asked this big question. In 1961, he came up with a rather simple mathematical equation to try to answer this question. It is called the Drake Equation.



(Image via Futurism)

Though you may be mathed out for the day, hang in there, you are gaining an amazing measuring tool for an age-old question. Here is a very basic, plain English summary of what the Drake Equation calculates:

N = Number of alien civilizations in the Milky Way Galaxy, that we could possibly contact.

To find this, we look at these factors:

R* = Rate - How many stars are born in the Milky Way, each year?

f_p = Planets – How many of those stars have planets?

n_e = Ecosystems - How many of those planets have ecosystems?

f_l = Life - How many of these ecosystems will produce life?

f_i = Intelligence - How much of that life would be intelligent?

f_c = Communication - How much of that intelligent life will create technology able to communicate into space?

continued on page 5

Big Questions, con't

L = Length - How long will these technological civilizations survive?

This last factor to be another BIG question; how long do technological civilizations survive?

Though we may not be alone in the universe, humans are the only example we have to examine currently. We have seen in our own past that while technology benefits humanity greatly, it can also be enormously destructive. Do civilizations that are able to develop technology like radio signals, nuclear weapons, and satellites burn out quickly? Or are the destructive follies of technology simply a juvenile stage of civilization longevity, that we can soon outgrow?

We do not know the answers to all of these questions yet, but the Drake Equation serves as both a stepping-stone to finding out if we have company in the galaxy, and as a mirror to reflect upon our own humanity. A few big questions to think about next time you are stargazing.



OTC's Sarah Buxton named 2017 Newman Civic Fellow

By Laura French, OTC Public Relations



SPRINGFIELD, MO — Sarah Buxton, a second-year student at Ozarks Technical Community College, was chosen as a 2017 Newman Civic Fellow. The Newman Civic Fellowship recognizes and supports community-committed students who have demonstrated an investment in finding solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country.

Newman Civic Fellows are nominated by college and university presidents and chancellors to acknowledge motivation and potential in public leadership. Buxton is the first OTC student to earn recognition as a Newman Civic Fellow.

“I would like to congratulate Sarah on this honor,” said Dr. Hal Higdon, OTC chancellor. “She has proven herself an effective leader and activist through her community-minded efforts on and off campus.”

Buxton, a member of the OTC Honors program and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, represents the college as a student ambassador. She originated and chaired a politically affiliated campus organization and volunteers regularly at a local community nonprofit. Upon graduation, Buxton will transfer to a four-year university where she will earn a bachelor's degree in public relations. She plans to pursue a career in the nonprofit sector.

The Newman Civic Fellowship program is administered by Campus Compact, a national nonprofit coalition of more than 1,000 colleges and universities, dedicated to campus-based civic engagement. The program provides training and resources that nurture students' assets and passions to help them develop strategies to achieve social change.

The Honors Office Staff and HSC Officers



Todd "Yerbinator" Yerby
Director of Honors



Kat Sheldahl
Recruitment Specialist

John Cook – President

I am half a century old, married 24 years to Leticia. We have 2 daughters, Ashley who is 23 and lives in Springfield and Zoe who is 14 and in 8th grade. We currently live in Republic. I am seeking my AA degree in Education with an emphasis in History. I am looking at transferring to Drury but have recently been thinking about MSSU as an option.

Kendra Caruso – Secretary

I am a part-time student, working on earning my Associate of Science Degree in Biology. After four years of dating, I married Mr. William Robinson Caruso. We have two amazing kiddos; Kira is nine years old and loves to create and invent, Kitt is almost six years old, and reads everything in sight. We share our home with a small zoo that I have adopted; from cats and a dog, to turtles and a hedgehog, there's never a dull moment.

Abigail Cool -- VP of Activities

I have raised five children in the homeschool realm, they are all grown now. I have taken on my first official Associates in Behavioral Science Degree with neuroscience/psychology as my interest base for the future. I'm a newbie to the Springfield, Missouri area making my home in Nixa, Missouri having lived most of my life near the Kansas City, Missouri area.

Courtney Quin -- VP of Fundraising

Hey there! I'm a full time student here at OTC, I'm working towards transferring to Missouri State University in the fall. I will be majoring in Exercise and Movement Science there, with intent to get my graduate degree in Physical Therapy. I've lived in Springfield my whole life, and look forward to continuing my education here. As the Vice President of Fundraising; I organize and work at the Honors Program bakes sales around campus!

Melanie Johnston -- VP Community Outreach

I am full time student, working toward an eventual degree from MSU in Natural Resources Management. I currently am working part time as a tutor in the Carol Jones Writing Center, and I also work as a waitress in a truck stop. My world revolves around my two kids. My son, Dale, has his own house now, but I spend a lot of time with him. My daughter, Rachel, is an excellent student in her Sophomore year at Stafford High School.

Rob Wood -- Treasurer

I am 44 years old, been married for 24 years, have two children, and I'm a retired Greene County Sheriff, seeking my CPA (Certified Public Accountant). I'm also getting a transfer degree in Accounting here at OTC to go to Drury University.

Andrea Savage -- VP of Public Relations

I am a sophomore at OTC and I graduate at the end of the semester. I send out all the Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat notifications. I have a fish named Gilbert and 14 varieties of indoor plants and succulents. I work at Great Southern Bank and would be happy to answer any questions you have about banking. In my free time I enjoy watching movies, playing piano, and taking things apart and putting them back together. Follow us at @OTCHonors

Honors Events



Claire Lewis: winner of the 'Social Media Swag Giveaway' in January.



Cally Chisholm and Jared Thomas at Spring Orientation



Valentine's Day Bake Sale; Jared Thomas, Trystan Burris, & Alyssa Everett



Honors Director and officers: John Cook, Abigail Cool, Andrea Savage, Rob Wood, Kendra Caruso, Courtney Quin, & Mr. Yerby



Spring Orientation attendees



Lunch-time at the Conference

Student Resources

Study Help:

Android Apps:

- Mathway
- CmScanner
- Flashcards+
- MindJet

Apple Apps:

- Edmodo
- HMH Fuse Algebra I
- Springpad

Student to Student Assistance and Tutoring:

- Jon Donigan - Physics
- Kat Sheldahl - Scholarships and
- Proofing Essays

Online Resources:

- www.quizlet.com – flashcards & games
- www.wolfram.com – mathematics assistance
- www.studystack.com – flashcards & games

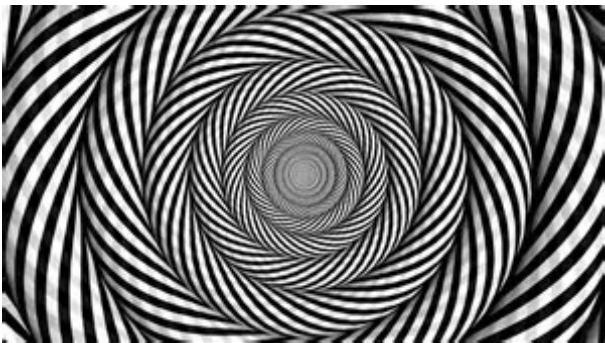
MENTAL BREAK

Intelligensia

Supercilious:

adjective. behaving or looking as though one thinks one is superior to others. *Eg:* The supercilious look on his face made her grit her teeth in frustration.

Optical Illusion



Spring

BUDS	G F S Q O I I S L S U R	RAINBOW
DAFFODILS	E D U R Y G N D M B K V	SEEDS
FLOWERS	B T A P T I Q E K D I F	SPRING
GRASS	S K N F A G H E H P B C	TULIPS
RAIN	P T D R F B W S Q P R J	UMBRELLA
	I S R E W O L F D T L S	
	L F H Z F G D S A N U M	
	U X U U F R R I D J T Z	
	T H C U Z A J A L U T V	
	U M B R E L L A S S B M	
	B N S M G N I R P S M K	
	R A I N B O W D J A C P	

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Solution to puzzle from Volume 12

Cryptoquote:

Personal Preferences

I believe that it is better to tell the truth than a lie. I believe it is better to be free than to be a slave. And I believe it is better to know than be ignorant.

~ H.L. Mencken