

ATU-OZARK TECH TALK!

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



TYLER TOBER, ATCC CAREER COACH

CAREER COACHING

Dr. Sheila Jacobs is providing leadership and facilitation of ATU's newly implemented career coaching program. Currently, we have **six career coaches serving students at ATCC, Ozark, Russellville, Mulberry, and Johnson County Westside School Districts**. Funding for the career coaches is being provided in part through the Ready for Life grant and through Arkansas Career and Technical Education. Career coaches provide sustained career education, assistance, and resources to help students find and navigate their education and career pathways. Goals of the program include increased work-based learning experiences for students, increased awareness of education and career opportunities, as well as awareness of financial aid and scholarship opportunities. If you are interested in learning more about the career coaching program, please reach out to Dr. Jacobs or anyone in Academic Affairs.

The newest addition to the career coaching team is **Mr. Tyler Tober**, who will be serving our ATCC students. Tyler is from Beebe, Arkansas, and is a two-time graduate of Arkansas Tech University. He has a bachelor's degree in Broadcast Journalism and a master's degree in Student Affairs Administration. Before coming back to Arkansas Tech, Tyler served as a Resident Director and Greek Life Coordinator at Lyon College in Batesville, Arkansas. Tyler says that, while he enjoyed building relationships with students and colleagues, he knew he wanted to come back home to Russellville. Welcome to the team, Tyler!

CAREER COACHING, CONT.

The career coaches have been busy!



Ozark Career Coach, Melanie Dean, recently spoke to Rotary about the career coaching program's service to students and community.



Mulberry/Johnson County Westside Career Coach, Hannah Hays, shared recent work based learning opportunities at the 360 Educator and Industry Partnership held at Ozark High School.



Career Coaches Melanie Dean, Jennifer Fuller, Hannah Edgell, Erin Aylor, and Hannah Hays participated at a recent training in Little Rock with Dr. Jacobs.



Russellville career coaches Jennifer Fuller, Hannah Edgell, and Erin Aylor, along with counselor, Stephanie Barker, recently toured several industries during Manufacturing Week. Students in Ozark and the River Valley were provided with opportunities to tour and learn about career opportunities.



ATU and ATU-Ozark were well represented at a recent College and Career Fair held at the Center for the Arts in Russellville. Ozark School District will be hosting their fair on October 24th.



GETTING SOME AIR

Both the Physical Therapy Assistant and Paramedic/EMT programs have been taking advantage of the good weather by moving some of their **lessons outdoors**. Getting outside when possible is a great way to switch up routine and make the classroom setting an adventure!



**Paramedic/EMT Students
with Practice Dummy**



**Dr. Mandy Overbey with
PTA Students**

PARDON OUR PROGRESS

There have been two **recent staff departures** within the Academic Affairs department. Both the Student Success Coordinator and the Health Sciences and Wellness Administrative Assistant positions are currently vacant. In the interim, Shirley Bonner and Erin Brickley are assisting in covering the Student Success Coordinator duties (including ADA accommodations), as well as the Student Success Lab tutoring and workshop schedule. Brianna Ingram will be handling the duties of the HSW Administrative Assistant. Emails were previously sent out to faculty regarding these changes, along with updated contact information for the two positions. Please be sure that all syllabi reflect the updated information for ADA accommodations. Updates will be sent out as soon as new employees have been hired. Academic Affairs appreciates the patience and assistance that all program chairs and instructors have offered as this situation is being navigated. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, concerns, or requests that arise.



Contact Info Refresher

For Student Success/ADA Assistance:

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or
Erin Brickley- ebrickley@atu.edu

For Health Sciences & Wellness Assistance:

Brianna Ingram- bingram3@atu.edu



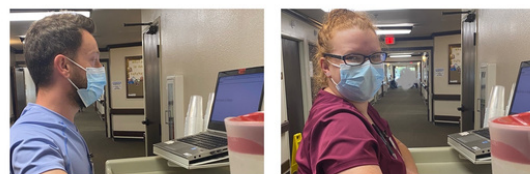
MA-C PROGRAM

Earlier this year, Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus was granted approval by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing to offer non-credit programming in **medication assistant-certified (MA-C)**. MA-C is a program that provides certified nursing assistants (CNAs) with additional training to improve long-term care staffing practices supporting better patient care. The 100-clock hour training enables the nursing assistant, under the supervision of a registered nurse, to develop the skills and knowledge necessary to provide prescription medications to patients.

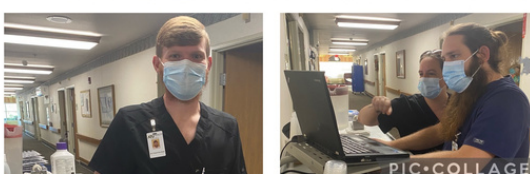
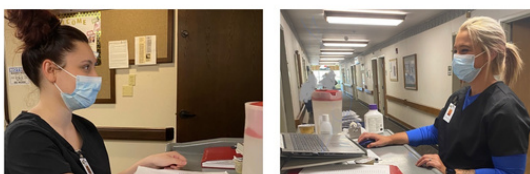
A certified nursing assistant listed in good standing on the state's certified nurse aide registry may gain admission to the program if the CNA has maintained registration on the state's certified nurse aide registry continuously for a minimum of one year, has completed at least one continuous year of full-time experience as a certified nurse aide in Arkansas, is currently employed at a designated facility, has a high school diploma or the equivalent, and has successfully completed a literacy and reading comprehension screening process (ACT, Accuplacer, COMPASS). If none is on file, students will be given an Accuplacer exam here at ATU-Ozark prior to entry.

Lisa Pittman, registered nursing program chair for ATU-Ozark, is directing the MA-C program as well as teaching the classes. The first MA-C cohort started in May of this year, and the program is currently launching the beginning of its 4th cohort. A total of 10 long term care facilities have already been served across the River Valley, including Methodist Village, Ozark Nursing Home, Chapel Ridge, Greenhurst Nursing Center, Johnson County Health and Rehab, Covington Court, Alma Health and Rehab, Ashton Place, Legacy Heights, and Russellville Nursing and Rehab. The program is taught here on the ATU-Ozark campus, with an approved satellite location in Fort Smith at Methodist Village. Additionally, Methodist Village and Greenhurst Nursing Center in Charleston have served as MA-C clinical sites.

Facilities seeking more information regarding the MA-C program may e-mail inquiries to Mr. Justin Smith at jsmith30@atu.edu.



There have been 35 students in the program so far, with an average first-time pass rate of 82.14%, and an average overall pass rate of 100% on the certification test!



I'M A BEWEAVER!

The **HLC monitor report** has been submitted with examples of our annual program assessment. The Ozark Campus has been represented by the following programs:

1. Automation Technology AAS
2. Human Services AAS
3. Logistics Management AAS
4. Paramedic/Emergency Medical Services AAS

Program evaluation is a valuable tool for program chairs who are seeking to strengthen the quality of their programs and improve outcomes for the students and community they serve. Program evaluation answers important questions about a program's effectiveness, and evaluation data can be used to improve program services. Thank you to all of our program chairs for updating your assessments in Weave with your 2021 data. As a reminder, your **2022 assessment data must be uploaded into Weave before December break.** If you have any questions, please contact Shirley Bonner.

TECH IT OUT! (PREVIEW DAY)

November 15th is the fall session of *Tech It Out!* (formally known as Preview Day). The campus will be busy with high school students throughout most of the day. The Tech It Out event will be conducted in the same way it was last fall: each program will set up a booth in the concourse for the Majors Fair portion of the event that will run from 9-9:45am. After the Majors Fair, faculty may return to their classrooms while Student Services and the high school students will continue on to the informational session in the Conference Center. During this session, three programs will have an opportunity to highlight their major during the Program Spotlight from 10:15-10:35am. Beginning at 11:15am, students will break up into groups based on the program/sector they are interested in. Those groups will then tour their chosen program areas in order to get a better idea of the classroom locations, as well as an opportunity to speak more in-depth with the program instructors and current students. Student Services will be reaching out soon regarding which programs would like to be promoted during the spotlight session. Additionally, Academic Affairs will be sending faculty email reminders and updates leading up to the event.



TECH TID BITS

Being in higher education means that, like other industries, specific terminology and jargon are often used that would make no sense to those that are outside the organization. However, even those that have been in higher education for any length of time may also find themselves unsure of certain lingo being used. For this reason, listed below are explanations for some common terms and labels that can occasionally cause confusion for faculty and staff, both new and experienced alike.

- **Class section differences:**

- Begins with "**A**", i.e., BIOL 2404 **A01**
 - This means the class is a general education class being taught on the Ozark campus. This includes math, science, history, and English classes.
- Begins with "**TC**", i.e., BST 1303 **TC1**
 - This means the class is a fully online course
- Begins with "**M**", i.e., EMTP 1007 **M01**
 - This means the class is Mixed Technology. Mixed Technology courses have an in-person component and an online component. Most commonly, a Mixed Technology class will meet one day a week on campus and do all other work online, as opposed to a traditional MW or TR class.
- Begins with "**P**", i.e., WLD 1302 **P01**
 - Sections that begin with P are concurrent (for high school students) sections only. They are created separately to mirror an existing section of a traditional class. This is done to separate high school students from college students in order to properly bill the high schools that send concurrent students to campus. The concurrent student(s) will attend class at the same time and place listed for the traditional section of the class.
- Begins with a **number**, i.e., HIT 1103 **001**
 - This is a traditional section of a class that is not a general education class and is also not online, mixed technology, or for concurrent students.

- **Terminology:**

- **Mixed Technology/Hybrid-** As mentioned above, Mixed Technology courses are partially in-person and partially online. An example would be a 3 credit hour class that meets in the classroom for an hour and a half on a Monday, but the other half of the classwork for the week would be done online via Blackboard.
- **Asynchronous vs. Synchronous-** Asynchronous and synchronous classes are both types of courses that are completed fully online. However, the difference is that a synchronous class would require a student to be online and interacting with the instructor and other students on specific dates and times, while students in asynchronous classes can complete work online at their convenience, so long as that work is turned in by an aforementioned deadline.
- **Parent/Child-** Faculty that are teaching a traditional or online course that has a mirrored concurrent section (high school students taking the class alongside college students) can contact the Help Desk to request they "parent/child" the Blackboard sections. This means, if LE 1003 001 has a matching LE 1003 P01 section, the two Blackboard shells can be combined to reduce confusion and duplicated work for the instructor.



DON'T LET TERMINOLOGY SCARE YOU!



BRAG ABOUT IT!

There are so many good things going on at ATU-Ozark, it's hard not to "brag about it"! View some of the good news below!

- The **Business Technology** AAS and TC have officially been added to the list of qualifying degree programs for the AR Future Grant! View the list of eligible degrees [HERE!](#)
- The **Automation** program has been awarded a \$1 million regional workforce grant that will be used to renovate the program building, which was constructed in 1976. Read more details regarding the renovation [HERE!](#)
- The **Collision Repair Technology** program has successfully completed their required compliance review! The compliance review is required of our ASE accredited programs at the 2 ½ year anniversary of the programs' accreditation. It attests to the fact that our program continues to comply with program standards and continues its efforts of continuous program improvement. To find out more about ASE accreditation, click [HERE!](#)
- **English instructor Katy Dodd** has been recognized as one of ATU's "19 of the Last 9" Exceptional Recent Graduates for 2022. Read more about Katy and the other award recipients [HERE!](#)

REMINDER

For those who have not heard, Barnes & Noble will no longer serve as the bookstore representative for Arkansas Tech University. As of October 1st, **Textbook Brokers** has taken over as the bookstore provider for the Russellville and Ozark campuses. Program chairs should have received an email from no-reply@facultyportal.com regarding the set up of your login information. This email and any future emails from the faculty portal email address are not spam! Please be on the lookout for these important emails! If you are unable to find the email, please check your junk and/or quarantine folder. Additionally, program chairs should have received an email from Brianna Ingram with more information on the new book adoption process. If you have any questions or need any help with book adoptions, please contact Academic Affairs.

The AR Future Grant is available through the Arkansas Department of Higher Education. The grant covers all tuition and fees for qualifying 2-year degree programs for eligible students. Help spread the word to ATU-Ozark students!

Click [HERE](#) for more details.



**DON'T
FORGET!**

STUDENT EVENTS

The fall semester is always time for plenty of fun student events. Faculty are invited and encouraged to participate! These events help ATU-Ozark students and employees to build relationships and feel like part of a community. Mark your calendars for the events below!

Spooky Week

Presented by the Student Government Association



Oct 24:

- Halloween Trivia- 11am in SSCC 117A
- Scary Scavenger Hunt - All Day Event in SSCC 117A

Oct 25:

- Witching Hour- Coke Floats served from 10:30am-12pm on HSW porch

Oct 26:

- Chili Cookoff- 11:30am in SSCC
- Decorate your Dwelling Judging- 3pm

Oct 27:

- Hocus Pocus Party- *Hocus Pocus* showing with snacks and drinks from 11:30am-1:30pm in SSCC

Oct 31:

- Halloween Costume Contest and Winner Announcement- 11am in SSCC

Techsgiving

Presented by the Automotive and Cosmetology Instructors

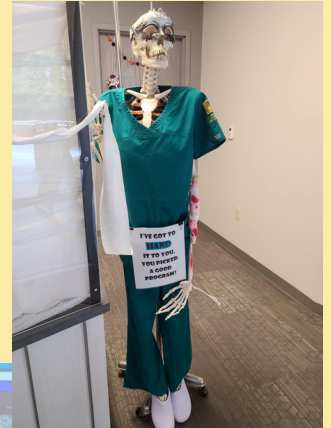
Nov 21: Techsgiving is back again! A tradition for the ATU-Ozark campus, Techsgiving was started back in 2010 as a way for the AST program to celebrate with each other. In 2012, Cosmetology joined in and the event went campus-wide. Bring a side-dish and join everyone in the shop again this year for food, fun, and friends! Big shout-out to Butterball for turkey donations!



**A sign-up sheet will be sent around closer to the day of the event.



YOU'RE INVITED!



IMPORTANT DATES

Mark your calendars for these important dates!

- Oct 13: Health Fair with Mercy, 9am-12pm in SSCC
- Oct 15: Book adoptions due
- Oct 17: Registration begins for spring 2023 semester
- Oct 20: Leaders in Industry: Trades and Manufacturing
- Oct 24-27: SGA Spooky Week
- Oct 25: Deadline for students to apply to walk at Graduation
- Oct 28: Closed TEAS Test 10am-2pm
- Oct 31: SGA Halloween Costume Contest
- Nov 3: Leaders in Industry: Business, LGM, CIT, Banking, Cosmo
- Nov 4: Closed TEAS Test 12-4pm
- Nov 10: Veteran's Day Celebration
- Nov 11: Closed TEAS Test 10am-2pm
- Nov 15: Tech It Out! (Preview Day)
- Nov 16: Last day to drop with a "W" or change to audit
- Nov 21: Techsgiving Luncheon
- Nov 23-25: Thanksgiving holidays (no classes)
- Nov 28: Students follow regular Monday class schedule
- Nov 29: Students follow regular Wednesday class schedule
- Nov 30-Dec 6: Finals
- Dec 1: Faculty & Staff Christmas Luncheon
- Dec 6: Fall term ends
- Dec 7: Final grades due by 12:00pm (noon)
- Dec 8: PN Pinning Ceremony
- Dec 10: Commencement



The times and locations of some events will be determined closer to the day of the event. In these situations, email reminders will be sent out to faculty ahead of time with further information.

UPCOMING STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER EVENTS

The Student Success Lab wants to HELP students by hosting academic success workshops! They are **FREE** and open to ALL students.

OUT TO LUNCH: STUDENT SUCCESS SERIES

- October 10th:
 - SMARTer Goals- students will receive via email
- October 19th:
 - Student Success Strategies: Test Anxiety, Noon-1:00pm in the SSCC
- November 9th:
 - Teamwork and Leadership Strategies, Noon-1:00pm in the SSCC

...UNTIL NEXT TIME!