

Ozarka College

THE CONNECTION

Student Activities



On February **2**, the Ozarka Café opened! The Café, located in the new Student Services Center, is open to the public so invite your friends! Breakfast is served from 7:30 AM to 10:00 AM and lunch is from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Dine in or carry out, plus email ahead ordering is available. Check out daily specials on the Ozarka Café Facebook page.

Mammoth Spring SGA members, Julia Chance and Jessie Ortiz, volunteered at the St. Jude Radiothon, hosted by K-Kountry 95 in Thayer, Missouri on the **11th**.

Snow Days took over the lives of our students and their families the week of **16-20**. That is if you aren't taking online classes, in which, business was as usual.



Summer Planning

Are you ready for green grass and warm sunshine? Get signed up for Summer classes today! You may even qualify to use financial aid, such as the Pell grant, for the first summer term. For more information, call 1.800.821.4335 or stop by Student Services at one of our four campus locations.



President's Perspective

We have had a pretty challenging winter so far, but thankfully spring is almost here! It's wonderful to see students, Ozarka employees and our community acclimating to our new Student Services Center. It's apparent that everyone quickly found their way to the new café. We are all enjoying what our talented culinary team are providing. The café is an excellent addition to our main campus.

I want to encourage our students to keep their pace up as we deal with the weather closures. This has been a challenge that we simply must deal with the best we all can. Safety of our students and all employees will always be our greatest priority at Ozarka College. Faculty are to be commended for their flexibility and efforts to ensure we serve our students' learning needs in an exceptional way. They are the best of the best!

Best of Success!

Dr. Richard Dawe



Low Student Loan Default Rates

The Financial Aid office at Ozarka College has received more good news about their student loan default rates. By developing a Default Management Taskforce, a Default Management Plan, enhancing face-to-face counseling each year, working with a third party servicer, and heavily monitoring the default rates, they continue to see a decrease in student loan defaults.

The 2012 three year cohort default rate is currently at 20.46%, 2013 is at 11.15% and 2014 is at 4.42%. These rates are more than 50% lower than the previous three-year cohort default rates.

Ozarka College's efforts in successfully lowering loan default rates and having fewer students need loans is just one way they work towards helping their students. Students are provided with information on scholarships, payment plans, Pell grants, and work-study opportunities, which will help them with obtaining their educational goals with fewer loans. Having students earn degrees with less debt affords the students more opportunities for a brighter, more successful future.

Registration for Summer semester courses is now open and Fall registration will begin on April 13, 2015. For more information about financial aid opportunities, please call 870.368.2009 or email: finaid@ozarka.edu

Transfer Fair

Monday, March 9

9 AM - 12 PM

Student Services Center

Melbourne Campus



Transfer Reps Include:

University of Arkansas
 University of Arkansas-Fort Smith
 South Arkansas University
 Arkansas State University
 Arkansas Technical University
 University of Central Arkansas
 Williams Baptist College
 ASU Degree Center at Mountain Home
 Lyon College

For more info:
 Call 870.368.2039 or email:
bjeffery@ozarka.edu

Chemistry Two will be offered Online this Summer



Ozarka College will offer Chemistry Two online during the second summer semester. This course is required for Bachelor of Science Nursing students, as well as most science majors.

Not a current Ozarka College student? No problem! Simply complete an application for admissions, submit official transcripts showing that you have successfully completed the equivalent of Chemistry One, and any other required admissions documents.

The summer two term begins on **July 1, 2015** and registration is currently open. For more information or to register, please contact any Ozarka College campus location or Admissions by calling 1.800.821.4335. Interested students can also visit us on the web: ozarka.edu/admissions.cfm

Financial Aid Assistance Available

The Arkansas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (AASFAA) will award at least two \$500 scholarships to Arkansas students planning to attend member institutions, Ozarka College being one. These scholarships are non-renewable awards.

Scholarship winners must be enrolled at least half time during the 2015-2016 academic year in a program that leads to a college degree or certificate at Ozarka College or another AASFAA member institution.

All applications must be postmarked by **April 1, 2015**. Any application postmarked after that date will not be considered. Limit one entry per person. Winners will be selected at a random drawing during the 2015 Spring AASFAA Conference.

The application has been posted on AASFAA's website, www.AASFAA.net/StudentsandParents/ScholarshipGiveaway.aspx and a hard copy can be picked up at Ozarka College in the Financial Aid department, located on the first floor of the new Student Services Center in Melbourne, Arkansas. For more information, please call the Ozarka College Financial Aid Department at 870.368.2009 or email: finaid@ozarka.edu

New or current students now have the opportunity to apply for the Ozarka College Foundation Board scholarships to use during the Fall semester of 2015 and Spring semester of 2016.

To apply for those scholarships, students must meet the following requirements:

- Student must be full time (at least 12 credit hours)
- Maintain a 2.0 semester or cumulative grade point average
- Complete scholarship application and submit written essay through myOzarka

Attention Graduating Students...Commencement Details Below



The 2015 Ozarka College Commencement will take place on **May 9, 2015** at 10:00 AM in the John E. Miller Auditorium.

Any student who graduated in December 2014, or who plans to graduate with a degree or certificate this May 2015, must complete the online 'Intent to Graduate' form by **March 20**. This deadline must be met in order for their name to appear both in the program and as they would like for it to on their diploma, and so that we will have a cap and gown in their size. Students may find the online form under the Courses tab in myOzarka, then by clicking on the Intent to Graduate link on the right hand side of the screen. The form will ask for the primary program the student will be graduating from, so have that information ready.

Students who intend to graduate from more than one program this semester are asked to email the Registrar at zwilkerson@ozarka.edu with the second program they plan to graduate from. Students who are registered in coursework to complete their degree this summer may walk in the Commencement ceremony; however, diplomas will not be issued until all graduation requirements have been met. Cum Laude and Magna Cum Laude honors are only awarded for Associate degrees.

Commencement practice will be held in the John E. Miller Auditorium from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM on Thursday, **May 7, 2015**. Graduates will meet in the Lecture Hall at 9:00 AM on the morning of commencement. Caps and gowns have been ordered and will be provided free of charge to those who plan to walk and may be picked up at the Ozarka College Bookstore, or graduates may contact the bookstore to have theirs couriered to another Ozarka campus. Honor cords will be distributed in the lecture hall before the ceremony graduation morning. Veterans are given a red, white, and blue cord to wear during the ceremony and are noted as a veteran in the commencement program. If you are a veteran and would like to be recognized in this way, please email zwilkerson@ozarka.edu, so that we may have a cord available for you and are aware of your veteran status. Students who participate in Phi Theta Kappa may purchase PTK regalia at their own expense at www.ptk.org.

A photographer will be available in the Conference Room of the John E. Miller Education Complex prior to commencement from 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM, as well as after the ceremony.

The morning of the ceremony, students will be issued their diploma cover. Once all final official grades are in and honor status is determined on those eligible, diplomas will be printed and may be picked up on the Melbourne campus, **May 12 -15**, or students may request to have them sent to our Ash Flat, Mammoth Spring, or Mountain View campus locations to be picked up there. All diplomas not picked up on the Melbourne campus by **May 15**, or sent to another campus location, will be mailed on Tuesday, **May 19**. Graduates are asked to check their mailing address information in myOzarka to ensure a current address is on file.

For further information regarding the Ozarka College 2015 Commencement ceremony, please contact the Registrar at 870.368.2028.

Spring 2015 Scholarship Recipients

The Ozarka College Foundation is pleased to announce the Spring 2015 Scholarship Recipients. Be sure to apply for these and other scholarships by **April 1** to be considered for the Fall 2015 semester.

Student	Scholarship
Marcos Alzati	Harold Crawford - 2 nd Chance Scholarship
Kristle Banditt	Stone County Community Resource Council
Jennifer Bladridge	JoKay Smith
Lana Bunting	Tri-County Hospice
Sarah Carey	Garry and Carol Ann Lawrence
Nathan Cobb	Kenneth and Jancie Sutton
Paige Dewart	Stone County Community Resource Council
Rodney Duncan	James Fenton Memorial
Alyssa Fountain	Libby Cone Memorial
Kerion Green	Kenneth and Janice Sutton Nursing Scholarship
Rebecca Guthrie	Paul and Treva Miller
Deborah Jordon	Kenneth and Janice Sutton
Marina Kincaid	Lesa Bull Memorial
Randy Layman	Stone County Community Resource Council
Sandra McFarren	Wally Pittman Memorial
Lindsay McGowan	Stone County Community Resource Council
Melissa Reny	Garry and Carol Ann Lawrence
Erin Risner	Garry and Carol Ann Lawrence
Zachary Thomas	Stone County Community Resource Council
Stephony Trantham	Crawford and Maxine Wyatt
Tommy Watts	Ozarka Family Scholarship
April Weaver	Nursing Achievement Scholarship
Jordon Williams	Charles Cheatham Memorial
Kandis Williams	Lesa Bull Memorial

To apply for scholarships, login to myOzarka, complete fillable application packet and submit written essay by **April 1, 2015**. For more information, please email Ozarka College Financial Aid: finaid@ozarka.edu or the Ozarka College Foundation: sdavidson@ozarka.edu

Townsend named to SSS Hall of Fame



Casey Townsend has been selected as the 2015 TRiO SSS Hall of Fame recipient. Casey was an active participant in TRiO SSS at Ozarka and also served as a TRiO tutor. She graduated with an AAS in Registered Nursing and since has taken classes toward a BSN degree.

The Ozarka TRiO SSS staff was proud to nominate Casey to the 2015 TRiO Hall of Fame. Ronda McLelland said, “Casey was one of the most dedicated and caring tutors that has ever worked for TRiO. She went above and beyond to help those students who were struggling in courses. It was my pleasure and honor to nominate Casey to the 2015 TRiO Hall of Fame.”

Casey started attending Ozarka College in 2008 and has since graduated with both, her LPN and RN diplomas. She now works at Baxter Regional Medical Center in Mountain Home on the Med/Surg floor. Casey said, “I am confident, well trained, and willing. I have Ozarka College to thank for a lot of my accomplishments. Without Ozarka College, I would never be where I am today. Ozarka had many great attributes in it and provided me many great opportunities.”

Casey also shared the following:

“My personal favorite attribute Ozarka provided for me, was TRiO. TRiO is a wonderful program. I remember my first Ozarka College orientation, I remember the very enthusiastic TRiO speaker explaining the program and all its advantages. I remember being so excited about it. When I was accepted into the program, I was so happy.

TRiO staff had a reputation of being an outstanding program and it did not disappoint. TRiO provided me the technology I needed, tutors, and the chance to tutor people myself. TRiO provided its students transportation for school trips and transfer days, which was always so much fun. I got to see things I thought I would never have the chance to see. All of TRiO was great, but my favorite part was the staff.

The staff was above and beyond my expectations. They worked with me, they were patient with me, and they always supported me. I knew I could go to them about anything and they would find a way to help me. I am so thankful for this program and all the opportunities it provided me.”

The Ozarka College TRiO Staff would like to congratulate Casey on her achievements.

Ladies Luncheon and Fashion Show coming to Mountain View

The Ozarka College Foundation will host their third annual Ladies' Luncheon and Fashion Show on Saturday, **March 7, 2015** at Ozarka College in Mountain View. The event will take place in the Ozark Heritage Bank Student Commons Area beginning at 11:00 AM.

This year's event will feature food, fashion, and fun. The Ozark Folk Center Skillet Restaurant will provide a catered lunch for the ladies in attendance. Local vendors will be showcased during the fashion show featuring their latest styles. The event will also feature a silent auction, including decadent cheesecakes prepared by the Ozarka College Culinary Arts Department. The event is sure to be a fun filled day for family and friends to take part in!

Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at Ozarka College – Mountain View or from any Ozarka College Foundation board member. All proceeds from the event will benefit the Ozarka College Foundation for entryway signage to the Mountain View campus.

For more information, please contact Lindsay Galloway, Director of Ozarka College - Mountain View, at 870.269.5600 or email: lhgalloway@ozarka.edu.



National Virtual Aviation Safety Stand Down

For the first time ever, there will be a National Virtual Aviation Safety Stand Down and Ozarka College Aviation will serve as a hosting location for this event. A safety stand down is an event at which pilots gather to learn new information, refresh already learned information, and to engage in discussion with safety experts and fellow pilots.

The stand down will take place on Saturday, **March 21, 2015** at the Ozarka College Aviation department, housed in the Melbourne Municipal Airport (42A). The event will begin at 10:30 AM and be in a live webinar format featuring several speakers, all experts in their field. Each presentation will be followed by a panel discussion and attendees will have the opportunity to participate live, ask questions and make comments. Attendance at the stand down will be valid for all three WINGs Knowledge Credits at the Basic Level.

For more information, or to reserve your seat, please contact Nick Lenczycki, Ozarka College Director of Aviation, by calling 870.368.7926 or email: nick.lenczycki@ozarka.edu



The Nursing High School Opportunity

Ozarka College recently partnered with four area High Schools to offer graduating high school students the opportunity to attend a Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) Program. This pilot program began at the beginning of the Spring 2015 semester and is designated for concurrent enrollment students; students who are taking high school and college courses simultaneously.

“What we wanted to accomplish was to get high school seniors, primarily from IZARD County, to take coursework through Ozarka their last semester of high school,” said Susan Thielemier, Ozarka College LPN and Nursing Instructor. “By taking designated prerequisite courses during the spring and summer terms, these students will be eligible for a LPN program starting August 2015.”

Thielemier and Valerie West, another Ozarka College LPN Instructor who is also working on this project, have both been pleased with the number of students and counselors interested in this venture. Schools currently participating in the Nursing High School Opportunity include Calico Rock, IZARD County Consolidated, Melbourne, and Highland.

The same approach is also being offered to the general public. Individuals wanting to begin the LPN program during the Fall semester of 2015 are encouraged to contact the Ozarka College Nursing department and ask about enrolling in specific Summer one and two courses.

For more information about any of the Nursing or Allied Health programs offered through Ozarka College, please contact Susan Thielemier at 870.368.2074 or email: sthielemier@ozarka.edu

Upcoming Events

March

- 6: End of 1st 8-week classes
- 7: Ladies Luncheon and Fashion Show (Mtn. View)
- 6: Intro. to Computers (Mtn. View)
- 9: Start of 2nd 8 week classes
- 9: Transfer Fair
- 20: Gardening Seminar (Mammoth Spring)

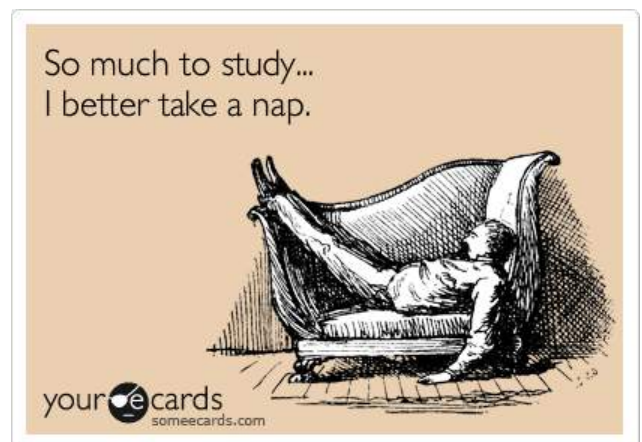
April

- 6: Fall Registration open for Current Students
- 7: American Voices
- 9: Last day to receive a “W”
- 13: Fall Registration open for New Students
- 20: Canning/Food Preparation (Mammoth Spring)
- 24: Celebrating Arbor Day
- 30: ARNEC Classes end

* Continuing Education Courses *

for more info, please contact the Ozarka College campus location hosting the course

College Humor



Contact the Editor
to share your news:

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