

# I N N O V A T I O N

# C E L E B R A T I O N

## 2.20.24

## IDEAS · WITH · IMPACT



### GET Involved

## STUDENT SUCCESS MINI GRANTS

WIN A \$1,000 GRANT FOR YOUR PROJECT THAT PROMOTES STUDENT SUCCESS

1. Apply for funds to support evidence-based initiatives that promote student success by Dec. 20.
2. The Office of Strategic Planning and Grant Development selects winners.
3. Student Success Mini Grants will be awarded at Innovation Celebration.

## TRAILBLAZER AWARDS

NOMINATE AN EMPLOYEE WHO EMBRACES THE OTC CARES STRATEGY

1. Nominate a colleague who has made extraordinary impact using the OTC Cares decision-making model by Nov.17.
2. Finalists are selected by Strategic Planning Council and employees begin voting in Jan. 2024.
3. Trailblazer Awards will be presented at Innovation Celebration.

## GAME CHANGER GRANTS

WIN ONE OF THE THREE \$10,000 GRANTS FOR YOUR INNOVATIVE IDEA

1. Brainstorm an idea, collaborate with peers and attend Innovation Labs hosted by the Center for Academic Innovation.
2. Submit your idea by Dec. 20. Finalists will be selected by Strategic Planning Council.
3. Finalists present their ideas at Innovation Celebration. Employees vote live to select the winners.

THE CENTER FOR ACADEMIC INNOVATION IS LEADING INNOVATION LABS TO HELP YOU GET STARTED. ATTEND IN-PERSON ON THE SPRINGFIELD CAMPUS, OR CONTACT THEM AT [FACDEV@OTC.EDU](mailto:FACDEV@OTC.EDU) FOR A TEAMS LINK.

WED., OCT. 11, 3:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.  
PMC 103AB

FRI., OCT. 20, 1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.  
PMC 155

TUE., NOV. 14, 10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.  
PMC 103AB



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# TIPS FOR WRITING

YOUR GAME CHANGER AND STUDENT SUCCESS MINI GRANTS

## IDEA DEVELOPMENT

The first step to any successful project is developing your idea. Start by identifying the problem you want to solve and then develop your proposal for how to solve it.

### USEFUL TIPS

1. Consider the student experience when developing your problems and solutions.
2. Reach out to related departments and incorporate them or their expertise into your idea.
3. Consider feasibility, research what other institutions have done and build on their success.

## OTC CARES

Using the OTC Cares framework, consider how your project is student-centered, data-informed, proactive and holistic.

### USEFUL TIPS

1. Support your application by examining the impact this project will have on students. Consider the institutional focus on student success and how your project furthers this goal.
2. Use internal and external data related to your solution. Resources for data related to the institution or our students can be accessed through the OTC Research Office.

## PROJECT COSTS

Project costs show your plan in action. Planning this portion helps show how you will implement your project idea.

### USEFUL TIPS

1. Project costs should be clear, detailed and supported by researched costs.
2. Projects that can sustain the impact of their activities will be the most competitive — think of a plan for after the grant ends.

## PRESENT

If selected, your presentation is your opportunity to sell the college on your idea.

### USEFUL TIPS

1. Make sure your project idea is clearly explained in your presentation.
2. Double-check that all required elements are included: description of the problem and innovative solution, total projected cost, goals and outcomes, long-term sustainability.