

OTC PROFILE

Making An **OTC** Difference

Meet 4 OTC Instructors

Chip Broemmer, p.4
Dr. Becky Crocker, p.5
Michael Pulley, p.6
Dr. Maria Puzziferro, p.7

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President's Message



Hal L. Higdon, Ph.D.
President

In this issue of our course catalog, we've chosen to spotlight some of the outstanding instructors available to you at Ozarks Technical Community College. Our entire faculty has a reputation for excellence and for making the students' learning their priority. Our instructors have been recognized for their teaching, for their own academic achievements, and for their community engagement, and we are proud to have them at OTC.

Whether you are interested in a technical or allied health program, a two-year transfer degree, workforce development programs, or community enrichment offerings, we provide a wide variety of opportunities that can bring a new kind of success to your career and your life. Plus, as you will find in the following pages, our instructors are highly qualified — and interested in seeing you succeed.

Please take a few moments to review the programs and courses detailed in this catalog. If you would like additional information about specific programs or about OTC in general, please visit us at www.otc.edu or stop by one of our campuses or regional education centers.

I look forward to working with you to achieve your own successes. As your community college, OTC is ready to help you become better trained, better educated and better prepared for your future.

Contents

OTC by the Numbers	3
Faculty Profile: Chip Broemmer	4
Faculty Profile: Dr. Becky Crocker	81
Faculty Profile: Michael Pulley	82
Faculty Profile: Dr. Maria Puzziferro	83

Profiles by Steve Koehler

OTC *by the numbers...*

86,585

credit students
served by OTC
faculty since 1991.

127,483

credit hours taught
in Fall 2009.



697

Total number of full-time
and adjunct OTC instructors

4,663

total course sections
taught the last three
semesters.

There are
181 online instructors
in **23 U.S. states** and in the
United Arab Emirates.



Teacher to student ratio

1 to 21

A Driving Influence



Chip Broemmer Automotive Technology Instructor

B.S., Missouri State University
A.A.S., Ivy Tech

When Chip was growing up, he would go with his dad to his engineering job at McDonnell-Douglas in St. Louis. "I liked being around machines and seeing how they were put together," Chip said.

As a high school kid, Chip learned even more about machinery while constantly working on his 1978 Pontiac Trans Am. "I was a product of necessity," he said about vocation.

Chip worked for Toyota and owned his own shop. While bird hunting with Jess Hudson, then dean of technical education at OTC, Hudson suggested Chip try teaching. In 2001, Chip joined as an adjunct member and became a full-time instructor in 2002.

"I enjoy working with cars and with people, so it was a natural transition for me from a shop to a classroom because I still get to spend most of my time with cars and people," Chip said.

How are you making "An OTC Difference?"

"I show students 'now' results. The car came in and it wasn't working, I figured it out, fixed it and 'now' it works. It gives them a sense of accomplishment that they can see 'now.'"

Did you know?

Chip has twin girls.

My hometown is:
Chesterfield, Mo.

My family:
Wife, Megan, two daughters.

When I'm not teaching I:
Love to duck and pheasant hunt with the girls and our labs in the winter and go to the lake in the summer.

Community service/groups:
Ducks Unlimited, Southwest Missouri Retriever Club, Masons Lodge.

My favorite song is:
"Revelation Song" by Phillips, Craig and Dean.

My favorite quote is:
"He who knows best knows how little he knows." Thomas Jefferson

Three dinner guests of my choice would be:
Billy Graham, Clint Eastwood and Thomas Jefferson.

The person that has influenced my life the most is:
Don Kimble, neighbor and long time friend, has helped me a lot by just living by example.

"I expect students to participate and take ownership of their education."

Stretching Boundaries

Dr. Becky Crocker

Physical Therapist Assistant
Instructor

D.P.T., Creighton University
B.S., P.T., University of Missouri

Becky found her passion for physical therapy from a wheelchair-bound college classmate who was in her psychology class.

"He said the only reason he was able to go on with his life was because of physical therapy. It allowed him to regain his life. I thought, 'I could do that,'" she said.

And now, nearly 40 years later, the passion still burns in Becky, who brings her wealth of knowledge and talent to the OTC physical therapist assistant program.

"I want students who are passionate about the profession and not interested in just making money. You just can't be a physical therapist assistant. You have to have a passion for working with humans," Becky said.

"We don't just graduate students for the numbers. Our students have to be outstanding."

How are you making "An OTC Difference?"

"I show a passion for patient care and teach students to help themselves. I try to show students they are in control of their own education."



Did you know?

Becky's a Cardinals fan.

My hometown is:

Springfield.

My family:

Husband, Darrell, one son, two stepsons, two granddaughters.

When I'm not teaching I:

Follow the St. Louis and Springfield Cardinals, travel, hike and scuba dive.

Community service/groups:

Artsfest volunteer.

My favorite song is:

"In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida," by Iron Butterfly.

My favorite quote is:

"People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."
Anonymous

Three dinner guests of my choice would be:

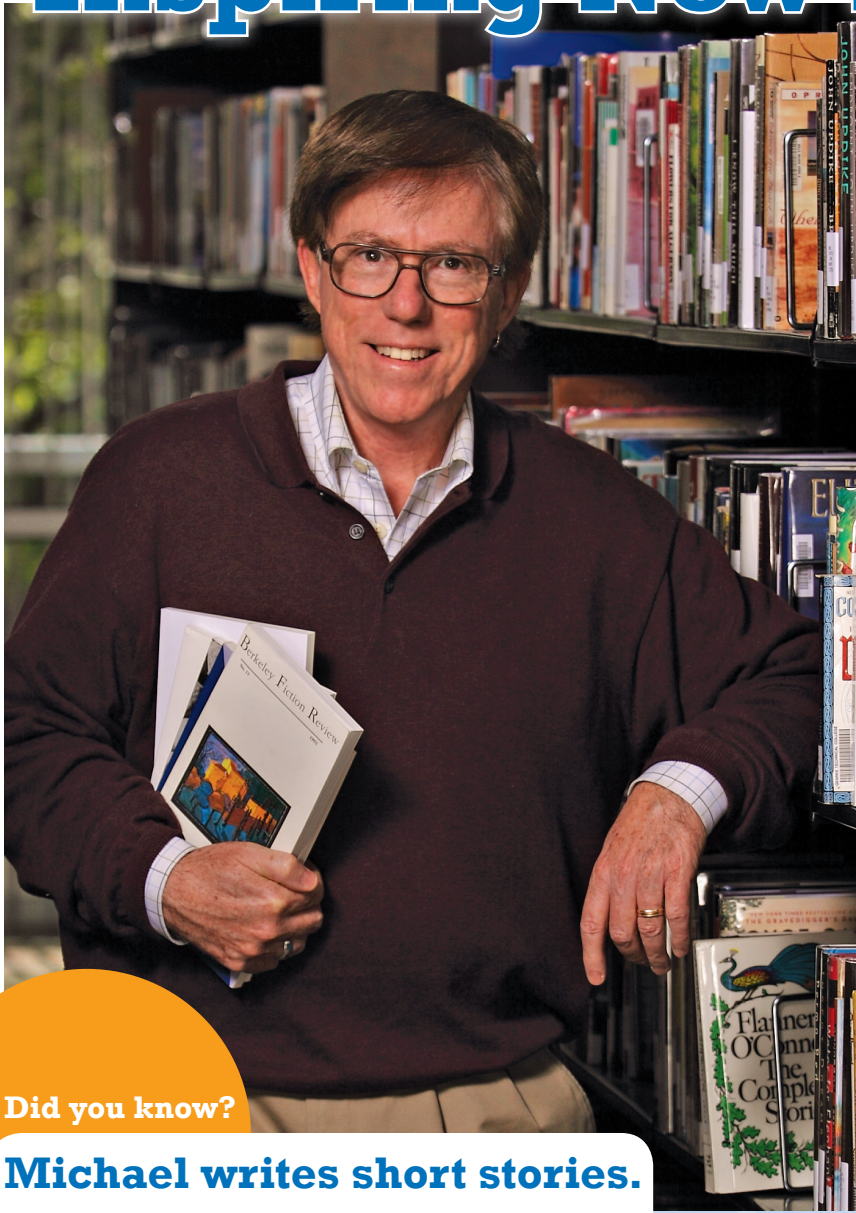
President Obama, my Grandmother Leverington and my son.

The person that has influenced my life the most is:

My dad, who didn't let me quit college in 1968 and told me I could do anything I wanted to in life.

"Being the best is part of our profession. We've got to be the best."

Inspiring New Stories



Michael Pulley

English Instructor

M.A. University of Missouri, St. Louis
B.A., Southwest Baptist University

Teaching is a tradition in the Michael Pulley family. His mother was a teacher. His two brothers were teachers. Naturally, Michael had to follow that tradition.

"I thought I could teach. Everyone was a teacher," he said.

While Michael has had a few non-teaching jobs, he has spent the majority of his career teaching at the high school and collegiate level. He joined the OTC faculty in 1991 when OTC opened.

Michael has a unique perspective on how to reach students who might be struggling with a subject like English or writing.

"Cool is making something difficult appear easy. If I can make the subject cool to do, then students are likely to get the idea that I can do it," he said.

How are you making "An OTC Difference?"

"I try to take the focus off me. I don't promote myself in the classroom. I put the focus on the material and the students. I just try to stay out of their way as much as possible, so they can learn in spite of me."

Did you know?

Michael writes short stories.

My hometown is:

King City, Mo.

My family:

Wife, Ann, two children, eight grandchildren.

When I'm not teaching I:

Ride my bike about 2,500 miles a year, write, read or listen to jazz.

Community service/groups:

Once a week, I work at the food pantry.

My favorite song is:

"Subterranean Homesick Blues" by Bob Dylan.

My favorite quote is:

"...using for my defense the only arms I allow myself to use—silence, exile and cunning." James Joyce

Three dinner guests of my choice would be:

Ernest Hemingway, Genghis Kahn and George W. Bush.

The people that have influenced my life the most:

My two older brothers, Jerry and Jim, whom I look up to and admire.

"Writing fiction and cycling are releases for me. They take me out of myself."

Mile-High Learning

Dr. Maria Puzziferro

Online Political Science Instructor

Ph.D., New York University

M.A., St. John's University

B.A., Adelphi University



Dr. Maria Puzziferro attended colleges in New York, but her educational journey has taken her to both the Rocky Mountains and the Ozarks, as well.

Dr. Puzziferro, who was named president of the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design in March, has been teaching online political science courses at Ozarks Technical Community College since 2008.

"My love of teaching, learning and working with people has set me on a wonderful lifelong journey," said Dr. Puzziferro, who loves the challenges of online teaching.

"One of the challenges of online learning is that the very life

factors that draw nontraditional students to online learning place them at higher risk for course and program attrition."

How are you making "An OTC Difference?"

"Assignments and activities that are problem-based, authentic, relevant and interesting encourage persistence. I also recognize that a symbiotic relationship must be developed between instructor and students that is based on mutual respect, professionalism, and an ongoing connection."

Did you know?

Maria is an avid hiker.

My hometown is:

Denver, Colorado.

My family:

Husband, Ed, two children.

When I'm not teaching I:

Am reading, hiking or relaxing.

My favorite song is:

"After All," by Dar Williams.

My favorite quote is:

"Your life is the fruit of your own doing. You have no one to blame but yourself."
Joseph Campbell

Three dinner guests of my choice would be:

Bob Dylan, Socrates, and Evita (Eva Peron).

The person that has influenced my life the most is:

My mother, for her strength, independence, persistence, but also for her faults.

"My passion for changing peoples' lives will always guide me."



OTC Online

Your Online Community College

Everything you expect from an online college and more.

OTC Online gives you the freedom to take classes that work around your life.

So register today and bring the classroom to you.

www.otc.edu/online