



## *Fostering a Faculty Culture of Continuous Learning & Engagement*

2-MINUTE MENTORS -- SEMINARS -- EVENTS -- SOTL -- PUBLICATIONS

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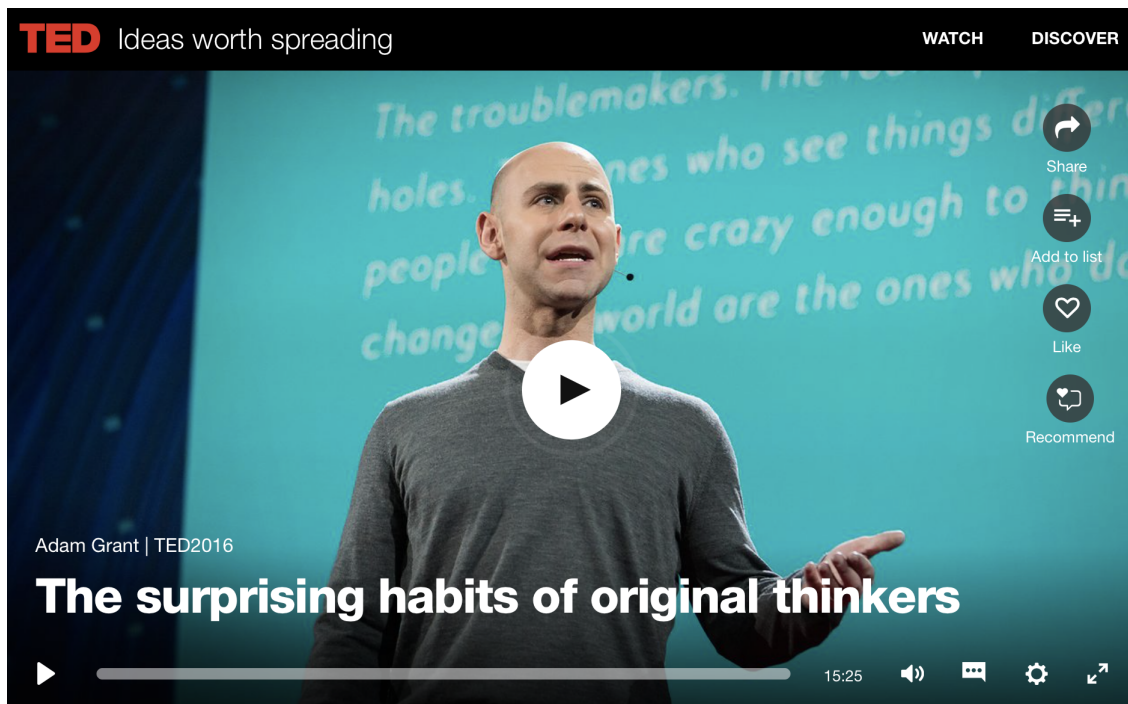
### **SPARK TANK INNOVATION GRANT**

Spark Tank – an innovation grants challenge designed to create community and invigorate faculty teaching and learning at Park University. Teams of 3 (faculty/student/staff combinations) pitch their innovative teaching and learning ideas for a chance to win up to **\$5,000** to fund their project! All faculty/student/staff teams are eligible to apply. Cross-disciplinary and cross-campus projects are encouraged. [APPLY TODAY!](#)



### **THE SURPRISING HABITS OF ORIGINAL THINKERS**

Just in case you need some inspiration to get you thinking about a Spark Tank project, we wanted to share this humorous and research-based presentation by organizational psychologist, Adam Grant, who discusses how creative people come up with great ideas. He studies "originals": thinkers who dream up new ideas and take action to put them into the world. In this talk, learn three unexpected habits of originals.



## TECHNOLOGY TIPS: GAME BASED LEARNING WITH KAHOOT

Are you interested in a game-based learning platform that is free for teachers? [Kahoot](#) makes it easy to create, share and play fun learning games or trivia quizzes in minutes. [Kahoot](#) works on any device with an internet connection. No account or login is required to join a game. Starting a conversation, reinforcing knowledge, introducing new topics, encouraging teamwork, and more. It fosters social learning, unlocks learners' potential and deepens pedagogical impact. You can connect and play in real time with other players in 180+ countries. For more information about teaching strategies utilizing [Kahoot](#) contact [Melanie Kinney](#) (Coordinator of Educational Technology Initiatives).



### **CONNECTING COLLEAGUES: ERICA JANSEN**

As an active duty military spouse teaching at Laughlin Air Force Base on the border of Texas and Mexico, Erica Jansen represents a large majority of the people who make up [#ParkU](#): a working adult, learning from a distance, often with some relationship to the military. Erica's background is in English, Literature, and Spanish, and she embodied Park's innovative spirit by embracing technology to teach writing classes virtually: From Erica: "With Pirate Patch, I can 'patch' into Park classrooms at other military bases across the country. Sometimes I'll have students from North Dakota, Arizona, and Washington all in the same virtual classroom!" To learn more, read Erica's story [HERE](#).



## **GET MORE DONE: INTERRUPT YOUR INTERRUPTIONS**

We can't do away completely with interruptions in the workplace. But we can learn to mitigate them by creating more personal space for ourselves. First, get conscious on how you split your attention. On average, employees are interrupted 50 to 60 times per day at work. It takes ten to 16 minutes to refocus on a thinking task following that interruption. And the really scary insight – approximately 50% of the decisions made at work today are rote behaviors – doing versus thinking. Check out some of the tangible strategies to help avoid those interruptions in your work life and personal life. Click [HERE](#).

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8700 NW River Park Drive, Parkville, MO 64152  
(816) 584-6770 -- [innovatepark.org](http://innovatepark.org)*

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