



OCC DEAN RECEIVES AWARD FOR HIS PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE IN NJ



TOMS RIVER – The **New Jersey Public Health Association** (NJPHA) presented the **Dennis J. Sullivan Award** to **Dr. James W. Brown**, Dean of Science, Engineering, Health Sciences and Human Performance at Ocean County College. Established in 1976, the Dennis J. Sullivan Award is the NJPHA’s highest award and is presented to an individual

for dedicated and outstanding public service and contributing to the cause of public health in NJ.

“I always loved science and dreamed of one day tracking down a disease at the Centers of Disease Control. I found AIDS to be a horrible disease and wanted to reach beyond the microscope and test-tubes to help the people who were living with HIV/AIDS,” said Dr. Brown.

“I had opportunities to visit China and India to help set up AIDS testing in remote areas. I saw starvation, disease, hunger, and poverty unlike anything that I have experienced in the U.S. I saw first-hand how basic public health could dramatically improve lives,” he added.

In addition to his work with HIV/AIDS, Dr. Brown is considered a pioneer in online education for public health, developing or co-designing over 40 undergraduate and graduate

online courses. He was the principal investigator on a \$458,000 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grant to place the entire didactic portion of Ocean County College's Nursing program online and created the award-winning One Day per Week Nursing Program.

Dr. Brown covered the International AIDS Conference for over ten years for *Medical Laboratory Observer* and *Medical Economics*. He received the outstanding medical series award for a 10-part series on "New and Emerging Pathogens." Dr. Brown has authored more than 200 technical articles, monographs, scientific abstracts, and published papers on public health, biosafety, infection control, epidemiology, and healthcare.

Dr. Brown is currently working on a book with his brother, the noted author of the *Tom Brown Field Guide* series by Berkeley Books. The new book, entitled *Diseases from the Wilderness*, will address a number of diseases that outdoor adventurers should be aware of and provide recommendations for disease prevention.

Among his other work, Dr. Brown spearheaded an effort to make Ocean County College New Jersey's first completely smoke free campus.

Dr. Brown taught biosafety at Johns Hopkins Medical School and microbiology at New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. Among his past positions, he was assistant dean for the College of Professional Studies at New Jersey City University; a former assistant commissioner of health for the NJ State Department of Health and Senior Services; an AIDS researcher/virologist at the NJ State Department of Health; and was director of microbiology, health, safety, and environmental affairs for Roche Biomedical Laboratories.

Dr. Brown received an M.S. and Ph.D. in microbiology from the Waksman Institute of Microbiology at Rutgers University, an M.S. in health sciences from Jersey City State College, and a B.A. from Rutgers College.