

TO: Members, OCC Board of Trustees

FROM: Jon H. Larson, Ph.D.
President

SUBJECT: Items of Interest for the June 1, 2004, Board Meeting

DATE: May 26, 2004

OCC Governance

Following the Board's **adoption of a model** for a **new college governance structure** at Tuesday's meeting, I will ask the trustees to **authorize the President to appoint a bylaw drafting committee**. The committee will work through the summer and into the fall months to complete the task of **defining a new governance model** for OCC, with the goal of **adoption in September or October**. There will be **broad-based involvement** of employees from all campus constituencies, which will work to make this process a model of the **inclusive, collaborative, collegial** values we seek to realize in the revised governance model.

Middle States Evaluation Team Recommendations

The **Middle States Evaluation Team report** contained a **recommendation** under the **Leadership and Governance Standard** that a **procedure be established** and implemented for objective **self-assessment of the Board of Trustees**. A **trustee retreat** is being planned for **Thursday, July 15th**, to discuss the topic of Board Self-Evaluation. For its initial self-assessment exercise and as the trustees seek to develop a state-of-the-art model for future use, **consulting services** are available from the **Association of Community College Trustees** and the **Association of Governing Boards**. I am in the process of **gathering information** from these national governing board organizations to share with you pursuant to selecting a consultant to facilitate the retreat. Additional details regarding the retreat will be shared with you as they become available.

Ocean County College Foundation Gala

The **Ocean County College Foundation Gala** will be held on campus on Saturday evening, **August 21st**, at **6 p.m.** This year's Gala is honoring **Mr. Joseph Citta, Mr. William Hiering, and Mr. Richard Sambol**, three **long-time, respected members** of the Ocean County College **Board of Trustees and Foundation** who have **dedicated themselves** to the college and have been instrumental in ensuring its success. **Mr. Frank Dupignac** is serving as the **Chair of the Gala**, which this year is celebrating **OCC's 40th anniversary**.

A **kick-off celebration** will take place on Thursday evening, **June 10th**, from **5 to 7 p.m.** at the **Toms River Country Club**. You should have received an invitation from the Foundation Office for this event, and I **encourage your participation**. The Foundation will welcome and appreciate any assistance you can provide to support the Gala. Please call **Ms. Sandy Broughton**, Director of the Foundation, if you would like to help in any way.

Tour of Facilities Management Building

Immediately **following the public Board meeting** on Tuesday, **June 1st**, you are invited to drive to the new **Facilities Management Building**, across from the entrance to Parking Lot #1 on College Drive, for a **short, informal tour** of the building. **Light refreshments** will be available. The building will be open to the public at 1:30 p.m.

Employee Commendation

I am extremely pleased to inform you that **Ms. Roberta Krantz**, Director of OCC's Fine Arts Center, was recently chosen to receive the **Governor's Volunteer Award for 2004** for her **outstanding contributions** to the "Arts" and the **students** of Ocean County. **Governor James McGreevey** hosted a **special ceremony** on **May 21st**, at the Governor's Mansion, Drumthwacket, where Ms. Krantz received her award.

Ms. Krantz has served as the Director of the Fine Arts Center since 1974, and she is most deserving of this acknowledgment for her efforts for the college and for the community.

Phi Theta Kappa

Professor and Mrs. Bill Rickert, Professor Bill Scott, Ms. Tara Kelly and I attended the **10th annual Phi Theta Kappa Day** celebration at the War Memorial Theatre in Trenton on Thursday, **May 13th**, an event sponsored by the **New Jersey Council of County Colleges**. The Council each year hosts this luncheon program to **honor the members** of the **New Jersey All-State Academic Team**. These students are recognized for their **outstanding academic achievement** and **exceptional service to their communities** as members of PTK at their local community colleges.

Each of New Jersey's community colleges nominated two students to be on the 2004 New Jersey All-State Academic Team. OCC's honorees were **Ms. Maureen Conlon** and **Ms. Gissela Malgeri**, both outstanding students and leaders of **OCC's Tau Iota Chapter**.

OCC Athletics Program

The **results** of OCC's **spring sports teams** are as follows:

- ◆ **Golf**--Coached by **Mr. Brandon Bencivenga**, the Golf Team had **four members** of the six-person team qualify for **regional competition**, which took place in Ocean City, Maryland.
- ◆ **Softball**--The Softball Team, under the coaching of **Ms. Ilene Cohen** and **Ms. Jill Romanovsky**, met its goal of **20 wins** this season. The team had **two major wins**, defeating the #3 ranked team in the nation, Brookdale Community College, and the #10 ranked Gloucester County College. **Five of the team's players** were named to the **All-GSAC and All-Region teams**.
- ◆ **Baseball**--Under the leadership of **Ernie Leta**, **Rick Trimble**, and **Jason Leta**, the Baseball Team **upset the Region Tournament** by defeating Cumberland County College and moving into the **final 4 of the NJCAA Region XIX Tournament**. Although our team was defeated by Gloucester County College in the tournament, it has **earned respect within the GSAC** for its success this season.

On Monday, **May 24th**, Judy and I attended the **OCC Spring Athletic Awards dinner**, at which the efforts of the coaches and members of these teams were honored. Highlighting the evening was the recognition of three students, **John Richards**, **Courtney Coppinger**, and **Mike Furey**, as recipients of the **Patrick Carroll Award** for **outstanding athletic contributions**. Other awards presented at the dinner were:

- ◆ The **Julie Foukarakis award** was presented to **Ciji Siddons** as the outstanding female athlete.
- ◆ Named to the **All-Academic Region XIX Athletic Team** for earning a **3.25 grade point average** or better were:

Nicole Bonomo, Softball
Felix Capellan, Baseball
Courtney Coppinger, Softball
Sabrina Dalconzo, Swimming
Andres Hawtin, Golf
Michael Haynes, Baseball
Robert Mathias, Golf

Phillip Mazzetta, Baseball
Cara McGrath, Swimming
Dan Mulligan, Baseball
John Richards, Swimming
Ciji Siddons, Softball
Sean Smith, Swimming
Nick Tambone, Baseball
Jarred Volta, Basketball

- ◆ Players who earned a **3.0 grade point average** or better were named to the **All-Academic Garden State Athletic Conference Team**:

Brittany Ankrom, Softball
Dennis Santangelo, Golf
Jessica Bradley, Softball

Gabe Caponetto, Jr., Baseball
Jessica Gianoulis, Basketball
Michael Salerno, Golf

Commencement Week Activities

The annual **Nursing Pinning Ceremony** was held on Monday, **May 17th**, at which **57 students** from the **Ocean County College Nursing Class of 2004** received their nursing pins. The students successfully completed the two-year course of study leading to an **Associate in Applied Science degree in Nursing**. During the ceremony, special nursing awards were also presented.

On Tuesday, **May 18th**, over **\$45,000** was awarded to OCC students at the college's **37th Annual Awards Ceremony**. **Sixty-four awards** were presented to **77 recipients** to recognize, acknowledge, and celebrate student excellence exhibited both inside and outside the classroom.

Finally, our **37th Annual Commencement** took place on Wednesday, **May 19th**. As you know, for the first time, the ceremony had to be **moved indoors** because of inclement weather. We were fortunate that the **Ritacco Center** was available to us. The decision to move the ceremony was made early Wednesday morning, and, through the efforts of the **Office of College Relations, Physical Plant, and the Ritacco Center staff**, the ceremony took place **without a hitch**. There were **929 candidates** for graduation.

2nd Annual Barnegat Bay Ball

Barnegat Bay Charities, Inc. (BBC), a Bay Head based charity that mobilizes Barnegat Bay's sailing community to benefit the Bay, has announced plans for the **2nd Annual Barnegat Bay Ball** (formerly known as the Catboat Ball) on Saturday, **June 12th**, at the historic Wanamaker Field overlooking Barnegat Bay in Island Heights. **Proceeds** from the dinner dance will **benefit Ocean County College's Sailing Team**.

The Ball will feature **dinner, dancing, and both live and silent auctions**. The college will have a table at the Ball. If you are **interested in attending**, please let me know. This will be a wonderful event for the benefit of the college.

Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society

The **Educational Opportunity Fund Program** of OCC established the **Beta Chi Chapter of Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society** in 2003. This national honor society promotes continued **high academic standards**, fosters **increased communication** among its members, and **honors academic excellence** for those students admitted to college via development programs.

On Thursday, **May 13th**, the Beta Chi Chapter **inducted ten new members--eight students, Dr. Dan Duffy, and me.** It was a wonderful evening that also included the **presentation of awards**, and I was honored to become a member of this **extraordinary group of students.**