

**TO:** Members, OCC Board of Trustees

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

**SUBJECT:** Items of Interest for the **September 27, 2004, Board Meeting**

**DATE:** September 22, 2004

### **Technology Building**

Please note that **Monday's Board meeting** will be held in our new **Technology Building**. The **committee meetings** will be held in several **classrooms**, the **caucus meeting** at 11:00 a.m. will take place in the **conference room**, and the **open public meeting** at 12:30 p.m. will showcase the **lecture hall**. When you come to the college on Monday, follow the signs to **Parking Lot 3**, which is located next to the Technology Building.

Following the public meeting, a **ribbon cutting ceremony** and **reception** will take place in the **atrium** of the building. Refreshments will be served, and tours of the building will be available.

### **OCC Website**

**Ms. Maureen Conlon**, our **Web Development Specialist**, recently completed the **redesign of the OCC website**, which consists of **928 pages**, each produced entirely in-house using **various and complex computer programs**--Adobe PhotoShop, JavaScript, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), Macromedia Flash MX, and Macromedia Dreamweaver MX.

The overarching design, created in Adobe PhotoShop, **weaves water elements, color, transparency, and curved shapes with campus images** taken by our **photographer, Mr. Glenn Foster**. Rollover effects were created with JavaScript, and text styling was crafted in a site-wide CSS. Our CGI based **calendar, search applications**, and ASP based **Faculty and Staff Directory** were individually customized **to match our new look**. The **home page animation**, featuring **OCC's sailing fleet**, was created by **Mr. Andrew Gioulis**, our **Graphics Specialist**, in Macromedia Flash MX. Based on a **template structure**, created in Dreamweaver, our new website is dramatically more **flexible and efficient**.

All of the over 900 pages of content were **migrated to our new website** with a **seamless transition**. **Forty-two staff members**, trained in the **Contribute program**, were able to **edit site content** through the transition, keeping information on our site current as Ms. Conlon worked on the new website.

I have asked Ms. Conlon to **present OCC's new website** to you at **Monday's meeting**. I am sure you will be impressed with the new design.

### **Interpreter Training Program**

In April 2002, the Board approved the **Interpreter Training Program (ITP)**. Students who participate in the **36 credit program** acquire a complete understanding of **American Sign Language**, the **deaf community**, and **deaf culture**. Upon completion of the program, students receive a **Certificate of Proficiency** from OCC.

At Monday's meeting, our **new ITP faculty member, Ms. Amy Lazzaretti**, who relocated here from Oregon, will be introduced to you. Ms. Lazzaretti holds a **B.A.** and an **M.A. in Deaf Studies** from California State University at Northridge. **Ms. Kathleen Basilotto**, who played a significant role in **establishing the program** and who has been the **primary ITP instructor** for the past two years, will also be with us.

**Four students, three of whom will attend Monday's meeting—Ms. Kathy Ande, Ms. Natalie Callis, and Ms. Michelle Stover**—are in the final semester of the program and will **graduate in December 2004**. In late summer, these students were **successful in passing the New Jersey Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment**. This certification allows the students to interpret in **educational settings in New Jersey**. Two of these students have been **offered and accepted employment** in Ocean County schools.

I am delighted that Ms. Lazzaretti, Ms. Basilotto, and the three students will be at Monday's meeting to showcase their interpreting skills.

### **Board of Trustees Retreats**

I have taken the liberty of **selecting two dates** during this fall semester for **trustee retreats**. The July 30<sup>th</sup> retreat, which was facilitated by **Dr. Narcisa Polonio, Director**

**of Board Leadership Services at ACCT**, was excellent and proved to be of great value. While being very informative, it also **identified** several **areas of interest** that could be **discussed in greater detail** at upcoming retreats.

The afternoons of **Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>**, and **Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**, are being considered for the retreats, which would be held on the campus. My office will be contacting you to determine your availability. In the meantime, if you have **recommendations for specific topics** you would like to explore at these workshops, please **let me know**.

I also want to call to your attention that the **New Jersey Council of County Colleges' South Jersey Fall Trustee Conference** will be held on **November 4<sup>th</sup>**. Additional details will be forthcoming.

### **Trip to Washington, D.C.**

**Dr. Frank Wetta, Mr. Dave Wolfe**, and I attended a **Board of Directors meeting** of the **College Consortium for International Studies**, which was held on **Thursday and Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>**, in **Washington, D.C.** While in Washington, we also used the opportunity to schedule appointments with **Congressman H. James Saxton, Congressman Christopher Smith**, and an aide to **Senator Jon Corzine** to discuss and request support for several important college initiatives, including the **Sailing and Maritime Studies** program and **ocean sustainability**.

I am pleased to inform you that **Congressman Smith** has agreed to be our **commencement speaker** next May, and **Congressman Saxton** will be a **guest speaker** at the **sustainability conference** that will be held on our campus.

### **NJ STARS Reception**

A **reception** is being held on **Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>**, from **4:30 to 6:00 p.m.** in the **Technology Building atrium** to welcome **NJ STARS students and their parents** to OCC. This innovative program, which provides **community college scholarships** for the **top 20 percent** of each county's **high school graduates**, attracted **120 students** to OCC, more than any other community college in the state.

A brief program at the reception will include **welcoming remarks** from **Dr. Dan Duffy and me** and **presentations** by students in the **Honors Program, Phi Theta Kappa, and International Education**. In addition, **Dr. Lawrence Nespoli, President of the New Jersey Council of County Colleges**, will attend to offer comments on the **NJ STARS legislation**. Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

**You are cordially invited** to be with us at the reception, if your schedule permits.

## **OCC Alumni Association**

The **OCC Office of Alumni Affairs** is busy planning **several events** this fall. On **Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>**, the **Alumni Association** is joining with the **Department of Athletics** for the **Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Dinner**, which will take place at the Holiday Inn in Toms River. This year's inductees include **Mr. Richard Albert '90**, In Memoriam, Soccer; **Mr. Edward Baum '90**, Basketball; **Mr. Bill Frank '73**, Baseball; **Mr. David Rickert '89**, Swimming; **Mr. William Rickert '87**, Swimming; **Ms. Deborah Dietrich Schwartz '80**, Field Hockey, Basketball, Softball, and Tennis; and **Ms. Charlene Rickert Sharkey '87**, Swimming. The **Master of Ceremonies** for the evening will be **Mr. Kevin Williams, Sports/Community Relations Director for WOBM**. Proceeds from the dinner and a Sports Silent Auction will **benefit the Athletic Hall of Fame program**.

For the seventh consecutive year, the Alumni Association is sponsoring the **5K Run and Fitness Walk** on campus on **Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>**. This popular event draws a large number of participants. Awards are presented in various categories, and the proceeds of the day **benefit the students of OCC**.

Finally, plans are underway for the **Scott Chinery Harvest Party** to be held on **Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**. This event, by invitation only, is held for children with cancer and their families. The list of invitees is provided by organizations that support the families during such difficult times.

## **OCC Sailing Program**

On Saturday, **September 18<sup>th</sup>** and Sunday, **September 19<sup>th</sup>**, the Ocean County College Sailing Team hosted its **second annual Fall Open Regatta**. The **Toms River Yacht Club** was again the host site. OCC's two-day intercollegiate regatta began each day at 9:00 a.m. and ended at 4:00 p.m. The regatta was held on the **Toms River** between Island Heights and Pine Beach.

The following intercollegiate teams competed this year: Ocean County College, Christopher Newport University, Cornell University, Drexel University, Fordham University, Georgetown University, Lehigh University, Loyola College, Penn State University, Queens University, Salisbury University, University of Maryland, University of Maryland – Baltimore County, University of Virginia, Villanova University, Virginia Tech University, and Webb Institute.

Because of the weather, ours was the **only regatta held this past weekend**. It was extremely windy and raining on Saturday; Sunday was a much calmer day. OCC's **A-Team** finished **fourth overall**, behind Georgetown, Loyola, and Penn State, and our **B-Team** completed its races in **eighth place**.

## **Phi Beta Lambda**

**Mr. Kurt Wnorowski**, an OCC student from Jackson, was recently elected to the office of **Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) Eastern Region Vice President** at the **PBL National Leadership Conference** held from **July 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>** in Denver, Colorado.

In addition, OCC students **Ms. Samantha Erichsen**, **Mr. Christopher Piano**, **Mr. Steven Baum**, **Mr. Kenneth Corcoran**, and **Mr. Matthew Truex** represented OCC with other students from among PBL's **more than 6,000 chartered chapters** from the United States, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Europe. Approximately **7,000 delegates** to the Conference participated in a structured, four-day meeting that included **business and leadership training workshops and seminars**, **corporate tours**, **competitive awards**, and the **election of national officers**. OCC students advanced to the final rounds in several of the 40 business events. **OCC's PBL chapter** took **First Place honors** with the **most professional division members in New Jersey**.

## **Ocean County Women's Hall of Fame**

On **Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**, **Soroptimist International of Toms River** will be hosting its first annual **Ocean County Women's Hall of Fame reception** in the **Fine Arts Center**, which will become the **permanent home** of the Hall of Fame.

Soroptimist International is the world's **largest organization** for **executive and professional women**. The group achieves **community service** through six programs of service: **Economic and social development**, **education**, **environment**, **health**, **human rights/status of women**, and **international goodwill and understanding**.

I have been invited to make a **brief presentation** at the reception. I **respectfully request** that the trustees **adopt a resolution acknowledging** the Ocean County **Women's Hall of Fame** and **welcoming Soroptimist International** of Toms River to Ocean County College.