



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jon H. Larson, Ph.D.

TO: Members, OCC Board of Trustees

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

SUBJECT: Items of Interest for the November 2, 2009, Board Meeting

DATE: October 28, 2009

Mr. Jack Lamping

The recent passing of Mr. Jack Lamping on October 23rd is a great loss to Ocean County College and to Ocean County. Mr. Lamping has been a tireless supporter of the College and its Foundation, having served as a Foundation member from 1976 until his retirement in 2005, at which time he was designated as a *Trustee Emeritus*.

Mr. Lamping received the Ocean County College Distinguished Service Award in 1988. In 1998, he was honored as the Ocean County College Foundation Humanitarian of the Year. These awards were well deserved; there was nothing he would not do to advance the mission of the College and Foundation.

Mr. Lamping, a long-time resident of Ocean County, was known as "Mr. Ocean County" by many, for good reason. He served as Director of Ocean County Public Information for 35 years and was vice president of a local bank for many years. More importantly, Mr. Lamping was dedicated to community service, working on behalf of the Ocean County Historical Society, the New Jersey Council of Tourism, the Toms River Student Loan Fund, the Salvation Army, the United Way of Ocean County, the Ocean County Council of Boy Scouts of America, the Monmouth-Ocean Development Council, the Monmouth-Ocean Conference for Community and Justice, and the First United Methodist Church of Toms River. His efforts on behalf of Ocean County residents were without comparison.

When I assumed the **presidency of Ocean County College in 2000, Mr. Lamping** was among the **first to welcome me**. He devoted **several days** driving me throughout Ocean County to **introduce me to business and community leaders** and to **acquaint me with the area**. I will **truly miss his friendship and positive spirit**, as will so **many others** both in and out of Ocean County.

Ocean County College Athletics Program

I am very **pleased** to inform you of the wonderful success of the **Ocean County College Athletics Program** this fall:

- ◆ The **Athletics Department of Ocean County College** is the **first recipient** of the **Region XIX Champions of Character Award**. The new award **recognizes a Region XIX Athletics Department** that exhibits outstanding results in **character development** of its **student-athletes and coaches** by embracing the **true spirit of competition** through **five core values of respect, integrity, responsibility, servant leadership, and sportsmanship**. The award recipient also demonstrates **outstanding involvement** in the **community**, which results in **positive character development** through sports.

- ◆ The **Collegiate Athletic Administrators of New Jersey (CCANJ)** presents **Scholar Athlete of the Year Awards** to **one male and one female student** from New Jersey colleges in **each athletic division**. The award **recognizes a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher, academic achievement, athletic achievement, and campus/community involvement**. For the **first time, both winners are Ocean County College students**.

Ashley Bechtle, the Female Scholar Athlete of the Year, was a **standout women's soccer athlete**. Her **excellence in the classroom** earned her **cum laude honors**, recognition as a **National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Academic All-American**, and membership in **Phi Theta Kappa**. As a **NJ STARS student**, Ashley was selected to **speak to the New Jersey Legislature** about the **NJ STARS program**.

Ashley was also named a **member of the Garden State Athletic Conference Team** in **2007** and the **2008 NJCAA Soccer All-American and All-Region Teams**. At the **National Championships**, Ashley was named a **member of the All-Tournament Team**. She **graduated in May** and is currently **attending Rutgers University**.

Mr. Stephen Kennelly was honored as the **Male Scholar Athlete of the Year**. **Steve excelled in the classroom and on the golf course**, earning **summa cum laude honors** as well as being named as an **NJCAA Distinguished Academic All-American**. He led the **golf team to the Nationals in 2008** and **finished 35th in the country in 2009**. **Steve** was selected as the **#1 golfer in Region XIX**.

Steve was also a **NJ STARS student** and a member of **Phi Theta Kappa**. He graduated in **May** with a **4.0 grade point average** and is now attending **Montclair State University**.

- ◆ **Two Ocean County College student-athletes** were announced on **October 14th** as **Players of the Week** by the **NJCAA**:
 - ◆ **Ms. Kristina Laureigh** was named as **Player of the Week** for **NJCAA Division III Women's Soccer**. **Kristina**, the sophomore team captain, led the defensive effort for the College last week, allowing **only two shots on goal** over three games. **Ocean County College Women's Soccer** is ranked **#3** in the **NJCAA Division III National Soccer Poll**, with a record of **11-2-1**.
 - ◆ **Ms. Jennifer Nelson** was named **Runner of the Week** for **NJCAA Division III Women's Cross Country**. This recognition is based on her performance in the **Monmouth Invitational 5K race** with a time of **19:51**, the team's **first place finish** at the event, and her **excellent season**. **Ocean County College Women's Cross Country** is currently ranked **#1** in the **NJCAA Division III National Poll**, and **Jennifer** is recognized as one of the **top runners** in the nation.
 - ◆ Both the **Men's and Women's Soccer teams** have played well enough this season to reach the **Semi-Finals** of the **Region XIX Tournament**. The **men's team** is playing the **County College of Morris**, and the **women** are competing against **Brookdale Community College**. Because of the **rain** this week, the **games** have been **postponed**.
 - ◆ The **Women's Cross Country team** won the **Region XIX Tournament** and is ranked **#1** in the country. The team will play in the **NJCAA National Tournament** on **November 7th** at **Finger Lakes Community College** in **New York**.

Needless to say, the **Ocean County College Athletics Program** is becoming one of the **best in the nation**. We owe that, in large measure, to the **dedication and commitment** of **Ms. Ilene Cohen, Director of Athletics**, **Mr. AJ Trump, Assistant Director of Athletics**, and all of our **team coaches** for providing such **effective, enthusiastic, and excellent leadership** to our **student-athletes**.

Ocean County College Sailing Program

The **performance** of the **Ocean County College Sailing Team** continues to be very **impressive**. The **OCC team** has been quite **successful** sailing against **upper division varsity teams**, such as the **U.S. Naval Academy**, **Princeton University**, the **University of Delaware**, the **University of Pennsylvania**, **Cornell University**, **Monmouth University**, **Penn State University**, **Drexel University**, the **University of Maryland at Baltimore County**, **St. Mary's College**, **Villanova University**, **Christopher Newport University**, **Queens University**, **Washington College**, **Fordham University**, **Columbia University**, and **Loyola College**.

- ◆ On September 20th, the team qualified for the Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association (MAISA) fall regatta. Eighteen colleges participated as OCC hosted the event on the Toms River.
- ◆ Our team finished second in the COHO Memorial regatta held at Webb Institute on Long Island on September 26th and 27th.
- ◆ On October 3rd and 4th, the team completed the Philly Fleet race in second place, with OCC's Tyler Kennedy and Autumn Hoover winning the A Division on the Delaware River.
- ◆ OCC triumphed at the University of Delaware McCurdy regatta on October 10th and 11th. Again, Tyler and Autumn won the A Division.
- ◆ For the third time, Tyler and Autumn won the A Division as OCC finished fourth at the Washington College regatta in Maryland. Eighteen colleges competed on October 17th and 18th.
- ◆ And for the fourth time, Tyler and Autumn won the A Division, with Brad Wright and Emily McCarthy winning the B Division, at the Nittany Lion Open at Penn State University on October 25th.

This weekend, the Sailing Team travels to St. Mary's College in Maryland to compete in the MAISA Championships.

Ocean County College Chemistry Club

October 18th through 24th was National Chemistry Week, an annual event to raise public awareness of the importance of chemistry in everyday life. The week is coordinated by the American Chemical Society and was first celebrated in 1987. This year's theme was "Chemistry—It's Elemental!" to celebrate the 140th anniversary of the Periodic Table of elements.

For National Chemistry Week, the Ocean County College Chemistry Club hosted a community outreach program that demonstrated hands-on chemistry experiments. Collaborating in this effort were Professor Maria Tamburro, who serves as Club Advisor, Science Professors Dr. Pat Demko and Dr. Marcia Bradley, Adjunct Professor of Science Bob Artz, Georgian Court University faculty member Dr. Andrew Weber, Georgian Court University students, and members of the Chemistry Club.

In addition, the Ocean County College Chemistry Club has responded to a challenge by the President of the American Chemical Society to produce a video to educate and promote chemistry in our community based on the theme "I am a Proud Chemist because..." Featured in the video are professionals from various disciplines, including

Dr. Bradley, Dr. Jim Brown, Professor Marc Labella, and Professor Tamburro. Club President Erine O'Connor and club members Joshua Price, Ellen Miller, Daniel Schnell, and Jim Gilroy worked with our talented media department in making this video. The video will be entered in the American Chemical Society's competition. I have asked Professor Tamburro and club members to attend the Board meeting to share their video with you.

The **Chemistry Club** will also be involved with **other projects** this year: It will continue its efforts with **Dr. William Rickert, Professor of Mathematics and Advisor to Phi Theta Kappa, and Phi Theta Kappa members** in the completion of the **Rain Garden**, which is located by our recently renovated **Arts and Community Center**. In addition, the group will continue to **raise funds** for a **St. Jude's Children special charity** as well as **collect non-perishable items** for Ocean County's **St. Vincent DePaul's Food Pantry** this holiday season.

Center for Academic Excellence

The **mission** of the **Center for Academic Excellence (CAE)** is to **promote equity and excellence** in the **educational opportunities** for Ocean County College students. The **key functions** of the CAE include the **leadership and coordination** of the **Student Success course** for **first year students**, **testing services**, **tutoring and mentoring activities**, **NJ STARS enrichment services**, **disability services**, **regional center activities**, and an **orientation program** with **new and untenured faculty**. **Key factors** in the **success** of CAE initiatives are: **administrative and faculty support**; **student-staff contacts** characterized by **staff accessibility, expertise, and commitment**; and **program comprehensiveness**.

The **Center for Academic Excellence** is receiving **financial support** through **two grants** awarded to **Ocean County College** for the **2009-2010** academic year:

- ◆ **Edge Foundation Grant** – Based on OCC's **national reputation** for **services** for **students with disabilities**, **Ocean County College** has been selected as **one of six colleges**, with **Northeastern University, George Washington University, University of Michigan, and Washington State University**, to receive this grant. The **purpose** of the grant is to **quantify the effectiveness** of **personal coaching strategies** on the **academic, professional, and social achievements** of **students with ADHD** in **college and university settings**. **Students** who are selected to **participate** in this grant will receive **free coaching** for the **entire year** by a highly trained **Edge coach**. The **cost for coaching** each student would normally **cost** a minimum of **\$3,000**.
- ◆ **PASS Grant** – The **Project Academic Skills Support (PASS)** grant funds the **support services** for **college students with learning disabilities**. **Ocean County College** will receive **\$162,000 annually** for the next **five years** from the **New Jersey Commission on Higher Education** to continue to serve as a **comprehensive support program** for these students. **OCC** is the **recipient** of the **largest** of the awards to

the five colleges in New Jersey. The program continues to focus on transition, orientation, academic support, diagnostic services, technical training, and professional development for faculty and staff at OCC and other New Jersey colleges.

I have invited Ms. Maureen Reustle, Dean of Academic Services, to Monday's meeting to share additional information regarding the activities of the Center for Academic Excellence.

GED Testing

The New Jersey Department of Education has renewed its contract for Ocean County College to serve as a site for the testing of General Education Development (GED). Last year, the College served the community's need for an alternate route to a high school diploma in two ways, through the GED test administered in our Testing Center and through application to the State for the 30 college credit route.

Ocean County College ranks third, out of 13 county colleges that offer the GED test, in numbers of students tested and awarded high school diplomas. More impressive is the fact that OCC's passing rate continues to remain among the highest in the State at 77.8 percent in 2008.

Ms. Carol Cappetta, OCC'S GED Chief Examiner, reports that there has been a substantial increase in the number of students taking the GED test at the College since the inception of the program:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Tested</u>	<u>Received Diplomas</u>
2006 (May-December)	166	138
2007	505	398
2008	702	547
2009 (January-June)	379	279
Total Number of Students	1,752	1,362

Ocean County College is clearly providing a much needed service to the Ocean County community. The employment of a full-time test examiner in November 2008 has allowed for additional testing opportunities at the Southern Education Center.

Ocean County College Alumni Association Harvest Party

The Ocean County College Alumni Association's 13th Annual Harvest Party was held on Saturday, October 17th, in the College Center. As you know, the purpose of the Harvest Party is to provide a day of fun activities and refreshments for children who have suffered the devastating effects of cancer and for their families.

Established in 1997 with a very modest budget by **Monica Vermeulen**, former **President of Phi Theta Kappa** and **student/alumni representative** on the **Board of Trustees**, the event is now supported with **generous donations of funding, food, entertainment, supplies, and time**. It must be noted that the event would not be possible without the **financial support** of **Ms. Kathleen Chinery-DeVito** who continues to support the event in memory of her husband, **Mr. Scott Chinery**.

This year's **Harvest Party** was, unfortunately, affected by the **bad weather**, which necessitated **moving the activities**, which are typically located outdoors on the onion field, into the **Gymnasium**. The only features that had to be **cancelled** were the **petting zoo** and the **Batmobile**, although **Batman** did arrive with **Robin**.

The **Gym** proved to be an **excellent setting** for the **inflatable rides, craft and game activities, and live band**. This year PTK introduced a **new craft project** which was fun for the entire family, **dressing and decorating a scarecrow**. In addition, **two celebrities** signed **autographs**, actor **Josh Flitter**, and former NY Giant football player, **Lee Rouson**.

Sincere appreciation is expressed to **Ms. Kathy Buffum**, **Manager of the Ocean County College Foundation**, who has **coordinated** this event for many years, **Ms. Gina Suriano**, **Director of Resource Development**, **Ms. Monica Vermeulen**, the very hard working **volunteer committee**, and the college's **custodial, grounds, and security staff**, who are **dedicated** to the **success** of this event every year.

Ocean County College Recognition

- ◆ **Ocean County College** is one of three community colleges featured in an article written by **Ms. Jan Baltzer**, **Senior Vice President of Opportunity Management for SunGard Higher Education**, which was included in the **Summer 2009** edition of the **Association of Community College Trustees' publication, Trustee Quarterly**.

Ms. Baltzer's article, "**Online Degrees Evolve to Meet New Demands**," highlights **Ocean County College**, **San Juan College** in New Mexico, and **State Fair Community College** in Missouri for **recognizing** the need to provide complete **degree programs online** in order to **attract new student populations** as well as to **satisfy existing learners** who want the **convenience of online study**.

- ◆ The **Fall 2009** issue of **Kean Magazine** devotes space to the **success** of our **Kean-Ocean partnership** in terms of **student growth**, with over **1,200 students** registered this **fall semester**, **increased** undergraduate and graduate **program offerings**, and **future plans** for the **construction** of the **Gateway Building**. Of particular interest is the section in the article in which **Mr. Ernie Muska**, our **2009-2010 student/alumni trustee**, is featured. **Mr. Muska** is now **enrolled** in the **Kean-Ocean program**, working toward his **baccalaureate degree in business**

management. He intends to be as active as a Kean University student as he was at OCC, which will, no doubt, benefit the Kean.

- ◆ The National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) recently informed us that Ocean County College has won awards in the following categories of marketing and public relations work:
 - ◆ Student Handbook
 - ◆ Web Site
 - ◆ Social Marketing
 - ◆ Wildcard Entry – Van Wrapping

The awards will be announced at the Medallion Awards dinner during the annual District 1 Conference that is being held on Monday evening, November 2nd, in Atlantic City.

This year, Ocean County College and Atlantic Cape Community College are co-sponsoring the event. Because of the excellent work by Ms. Jan Kirstin, Director of College Relations, as coordinator of the 2008 New Jersey Council of County Colleges Best Practices Conference that took place on our campus, she was selected to serve as the NCMPR event chair, coordinating all aspects of the conference. NCMPR requested that I address the conference participants at the Medallion Awards Ceremony on Monday night.

Congratulations to all members of the College Advancement team who contributed to the success of the winning projects. I will share with you at the December Board meeting the specific awards won by Ocean County College.

- ◆ Dr. Jim Brown, Associate Professor of Science, presented at the Conference on Information Technology for the League for Innovation in the Community College on October 11th in Detroit. He co-presented with Ms. Allyson Wells, General Manager of SunGard Higher Education, on “Grow and Thrive with Innovative Online Academic Programs.” This presentation featured Ocean County College’s innovative online programs in both nursing and science and the rapid growth of our online offerings, which attract students from around the country and even the world.

Additionally, Dr. Brown gave a presentation to the annual meeting of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology in Louisville, Kentucky, on October 31st. The presentation was entitled “Dispelling the Myth of Effectively Teaching Lab Science Fully Online - Yes! It is Possible!”

Ocean County College Viking News

Two issues of the Viking News have been published this fall with a new student staff under the leadership of Professor Gary Shaffer as Advisor. Twenty-two students are

involved with the newspaper and **more** are being **invited** to participate as **writers, reviewers, photographers, and editors.**

The **new editions** of the **Viking News** have received **rave reviews** for their **improved layout, interesting and current stories,** and overall **production quality.** I hope to **re-establish a monthly column** devoted to a **“President’s Message,”** in which **information** can be **shared** with the **students.**

Veterans Day Ceremony

Please **remember** the **Ocean County College Veterans Day Ceremony** will take place on **Wednesday, November 11th,** at **12:00 noon** at the **Ocean County College Veterans Memorial** on the **campus mall.** Our **guest speaker** will be **Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Stark, 87th Mission Support Group Deputy Commander** at **McGuire Air Force Base.** In this capacity, he provides **base infrastructure support, communications, security, personnel resource management, transportation, supply, logistics plans, contracting, and morale/welfare/recreation services** for over **27,000 personnel.**

A **reception** will be held in the **Library Tower Room** immediately following the ceremony. I hope you will be able to **join us** for this **very important event.**

Global Education

The **Ocean County College Global Education Committee** sponsors and promotes events that **heighten student, campus, and community understanding** of the **interconnectedness** of **diverse cultures and nations** and **fosters a college climate of global citizenry.** The ultimate goal is to **educate students** about the world in which they live.

The committee is **sponsoring several activities** in **recognition** of **OCC’s Global Education Week** from **November 16th to 20th,** which is known **nationally** as **International Education Week.** The activities will **focus** on **“Globalizing Perspectives on Ecologies and Economies.”** The following events are scheduled:

◆ Monday, November 16th

- ◆ 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Education and Global Initiatives; plus Thanksgiving Meal – Dr. Michael Searson, Executive Director of the School of Global Education and Innovation at Kean University, will be the keynote speaker, followed by the Global Day of Thanksgiving Meal.**
- ◆ 3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. – Strategizing for Global Education and Innovative Initiatives – Roundtable discussion led by Dr. Searson.**

◆ **Tuesday, November 17th**

- ◆ **9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon – Film Viewing of “Central Station” – Professors of English and Literature Jayanti Tamm and Charlene Williams will lead discussion following the film.**
- ◆ **12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. – Global Ecological Recovery: A Challenge for Mankind – Adjunct Professor of English Robert Pedone is the moderator of this discussion.**

◆ **Friday, November 20th**

- ◆ **Sustainability: The Past, the Present, and the Future – Dr. Nicholas Smith-Sebasto, Co-Executive Director of the School of Environmental and Life Sciences at Kean University, will present thoughts on global sustainability.**

Board of Trustees Retreats

Please note that the **September 2010** date for the **Board of Trustees Retreat** has been **changed**. Retreats are scheduled during **next year** on the following dates:

- ◆ **Friday, March 5, 2010**
- ◆ **Friday, June 4, 2010**
- ◆ **Friday, September 17, 2010**
- ◆ **Friday, December 10, 2010**

All Retreats will begin at **12:00 noon** and will be held in the **Technology Building Conference Room**.

The last Retreat of this year is scheduled for **Friday, December 11th**, at **12:00 noon** in the **Technology Building Conference Room**. The regular public Board meeting is on **Monday, December 7th**.