



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 **April 22, 2013, Board Meeting**

DATE: April 17, 2013

Ocean County College Athletics

I am very excited to share with you that the **Ocean County College Women's Basketball Team** was announced as the **2013 Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) Russell Athletic "Together We R" Team Award winner**. The women's basketball programs at **Cal State Fullerton, Purdue University, the University of Oklahoma, and OCC** had been selected as **finalists**.

The **award** was **announced and formally recognized** during the **Third Annual WBCA Awards Show** on **Monday, April 8, in New Orleans, Louisiana**. The **Awards Show** is part of the **WBCA National Convention**, which is held in conjunction with the **National College Athletic Association Women's Final Four**.

At the **presentation, Russell Athletic Senior Vice President Gary Barfield** said, "The **perseverance and selflessness of Ocean County College women's basketball team** in the wake of **Super Storm Sandy** is truly **inspiring**. This group of **young women** has **overcome tremendous odds** to be both **successful on the court** and at putting their **community first**. For this, we are proud to award them the **'Together We R' award**." **OCC's Head Women's Basketball Coach Dana Kovich** accepted the **award on behalf of the team** and spoke in front of **500** of her **colleagues and peers**.

In its **second year**, the **"Together We R" Team Award** honors programs that have **strived to succeed** in the face of **adversity and overcome extraordinary circumstances**, such as an **unforeseen team crisis, barrier, or unfortunate situation** that caused **extra stress**. The team must **exemplify strong commitment** to the **core values of togetherness, courage, unparalleled work ethic, and heart** and must personify the **"Together We R" belief** that **teams are stronger than individuals**.

Executive Director of Athletics Ilene Cohen and **Director of Athletics A.J. Trump** will attend **Monday's meeting** to share with you the **video** that was prepared for consideration of this award.



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We are equally excited that **Ocean County College** was **successful** in its **bid** to **host** the **Division III Women's Soccer National Championship** games in **2014, 2015, and 2016**. Based on our **bid submission** and because of our **beautiful new athletic facilities**, the **National Junior College Athletic Association** selected our **campus** as the **site** for the **soccer tournaments** for the **next three years**.

Ocean County College Commencement Week

Ocean County College's 46th Commencement will be held on **Thursday, May 23, at 6:00 p.m.** on the **College mall**. In the event of **rain**, the ceremony will be **moved** to the **Pine Belt Arena** on **Old Freehold Road** in **Toms River**. The Board of Trustees will present **Freeholder John C. Bartlett, Jr.**, with the **2013 Distinguished Service Medal**.

The **Nursing Pinning Ceremony** will precede Commencement on **Tuesday evening, May 21, at 7:00 p.m.**, and the annual **Awards Ceremony** will take place on **Wednesday evening, May 22, at 7:00 p.m.** Both events will be held in our **Theatre** in the **Arts and Community Center**.

Members of the College community will be **invited** to a **reception** prior to commencement from **4:30 to 5:30 p.m.** in the **Arts and Community Center Atrium**. At **5:30 p.m.**, the **trustees** and **platform party** will **robe** for the **ceremony** in the **Boardroom**.

We look forward to another **wonderful evening** as we **congratulate** our **2013 graduates** for their **achievements**.

The Ocean County College Foundation

The **Ocean County College Foundation's 12th Annual Golf Outing** is taking place at the **Pine Barrens Golf Club** in **Jackson** on **Tuesday, May 7**. Over the last **11 years**, the **Foundation** has raised over **\$500,000** from the **Golf Outing** to support the **students of Ocean County College**.

The **entry fee** is **\$295 per player**, which includes **lunch**, the use of the **driving range** for **one hour** before the **shotgun start**, **greens fees**, a **golf cart**, and a **golf gift**. An **Awards and Cocktail Reception** will immediately **follow** the tournament in the **Club House**. The **fee** for the **Cocktail Reception** alone is **\$100**. **Sponsorship opportunities** are still **available**.

If you are not a golfer, please consider **joining us** for the **Reception**. It is a terrific day and evening.

Ocean County College Online

Because of the efforts of **Ms. Pat Fenn, Executive Director of e-Learning and Continuing and Professional Education**, **Ms. Joanne Padrone, Director of Resource Development**, and **Ms. Sharla**



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Trimm and her **staff** from **Ellucian**, Ocean County College was awarded a **Recovery New Jersey Talent Network Grant**. Under this grant, the **OCC Continuing and Professional Education Department** will be **responsible** to:

- ◆ **Identify business needs** across the state with emphasis in the **recovery communities**
- ◆ **Communicate and document resources** available for **displaced businesses**
- ◆ **Provide support** for **new industries** that take advantage of **rebuilding efforts** and create **new jobs and opportunities** (infrastructure, environment, public health, healthcare, education, human services, and coastal protection)
- ◆ **Connect displaced and dislocated jobseekers** to **businesses** with **on-the-job training** assistance, **skills training**, and other **career and placement services**

OCC is also part of a **second Talent Network Grant** that was awarded to **Stockton College** in the area of **hospitality, tourism, and retail**.

Under **Mr. Jeff Harmon, Associate Director of e-Learning**, and **Ms. Fenn, e-Learning** is in the **final stage** of a **pilot** that will permit **online students** to achieve **proper placement** in **developmental and college-level courses**. This pilot will involve our **Pearson partner** in terms of **aligning** Ocean County College's **course learning outcomes** of our **developmental courses** with **Pearson's diagnostic test instrument**. If it proves successful, students with **developmental needs** will be able to **master** their **deficiencies** and **proceed** to **college-level courses** within **one semester**. At a later date, e-Learning will be making an **in-depth presentation** to the **Board**. While e-Learning is conducting its totally online pilot, the department will also be working cooperatively with **Academic Affairs** as it conducts its own **pilot** in this area for **traditional courses**.

On **Tuesday and Wednesday, April 16 and 17**, **Ms. Fenn** attended the **Conference on State Authorization and Reciprocity Agreement**, which was sponsored by the **Lumina Foundation** and held in **Indianapolis, Indiana**, to discuss the **establishment** of a **national reciprocity agreement** for **students** taking **online courses** from **providers** located in **other states**. **Ms. Fenn** was **one** of a **three-person delegation** appointed by **Secretary of Education Rochelle Hendricks** to represent **New Jersey**. The other delegates were **Thomas Edison College President George Pruitt** and **NJIT Associate Vice President for Continuing and Distance Education Gale Spak**.

Ms. Fenn's initial report from the conference indicates that **New Jersey** will need to decide about the way in which it wants to **participate** in a **reciprocity agreement** and that this is a **complicated issue** that will require **two to three years** of **active participation** for an **agreement** to be **achieved**.



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Displaced Homemakers Month

Since 2007, Ocean County College has been the recipient of a grant from the New Jersey Division on Women for the Displaced Homemakers Program of Ocean County. The program provides services to women to become economically self-sufficient after the loss of their primary source of income due to divorce, separation, death, or disability of a spouse.

Ms. Eileen Burdge serves as the Coordinator of the Displaced Homemakers Program, and Dr. Kathryn Pandolpho is the Program Director. The Program has had a very productive year, with 78 clients currently participating. Nineteen clients are enrolled in higher education, 16 of whom are registered at OCC for a total of 114 credit hours, 2 at Kean University and 1 at Richard Stockton College. At least three clients will graduate from OCC this semester. Two of the clients are members of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society. Two clients are enrolled in the Kean-Ocean program, and both are graduating this year. Since last July, three clients found full-time employment and seven secured part-time positions. Ten clients were adversely affected by Super Storm Sandy.

At Monday's meeting, I will offer a resolution to proclaim the month of May 2013 as Displaced Homemakers Awareness Month at Ocean County College. Additionally, Ms. Burdge and Dr. Pandolpho will attend the meeting to share with you the success of the program and the ways in which it is having an impact on the lives of its participants.

Academic Affairs

Academic Affairs continues to explore several program initiatives on which Vice President of Academic Affairs Jianping Wang will report at the May Board meeting. Dr. Wang is currently attending the 93rd Annual Convention of the American Association of Community Colleges in San Francisco.

On Saturday, April 6, Professor Kathy Basilotto and students in the Deaf Interpreter Training Program presented the annual American Sign Language Rock and Roll Show as a fundraiser. More than 300 deaf and hearing audience members enjoyed sign language performances by our professors and students.

The performance raised \$3,179, of which \$500 will be donated to the Deaf-Blind League of New Jersey. The remaining funds will be used to support the students' annual trip to Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., in the Fall semester.

Proceeds from past fundraising events have been donated to:

- ◆ Wounded Warrior Project



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- ◆ Louisiana School for the Deaf
- ◆ Deaf Movie Producer
- ◆ American Heart Association
- ◆ American Cancer Society
- ◆ Senior Deaf Housing Organization
- ◆ Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf
- ◆ Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research

OCC Summer Camps

Continuing and Professional Education recently released its **2013 Summer Kids Camps brochure**. There are an **impressive number** of offerings available for **children** during the **summer months** of **June, July, and August**. They include **courses, workshops, and activities** in such areas as **arts and crafts, business, dance, languages, writing, sports, computers, music, mathematics, science, building and engineering, adventure, mind building, and just plain summer fun**. A **four-week performing arts intensive camp, Ocean's Theatre Makers**, is also being offered.

Ms. Carol Kaunitz, Director of Auxiliary Services, will provide you with additional information at **Monday's meeting** and report on the **Open House** that was held on **April 13**.

Commendations

- ◆ Several months ago, **Dr. William Rickert, Professor of Mathematics**, was **nominated** for a **2012 John and Suanne Roueche Excellence Award** from the **League for Innovation in the Community College**. I was recently informed that **Dr. Rickert** was **selected** as **one of only two New Jersey professors** who were **honored**.

John and Suanne Roueche are **leaders** in the **community college sector** and **friends** of the **League for Innovation** for over **thirty-five years**. The **League** established the **Excellence Awards** in **2012**. The awards **celebrate outstanding contributions and leadership** by **community college faculty and staff**.

Dr. Rickert has been invited to **Monday's Board meeting** to be **presented** with the **League's certificate and medallion**. His **selection** in the **inaugural year** of the **award** is **noteworthy** and **very well deserved**.

- ◆ In **November**, following **Super Storm Sandy**, I shared with you that **Associate Professor of Science Marc Labella** remained as **one of five EMT's** at the **Barnegat Light Firehouse** on **Long Beach Island**, performing **rescues** during the height of the storm, **providing meals, first aid, and assistance**



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to **emergency personnel**, and working with **police and military personnel** to **open the roadway** off the Island.

On **April 6**, Mr. Labella was **honored** by the **Barnegat Light First Aid Squad** in recognition of his **“quick thinking, exemplary dedication, and unselfish bravery during Super Storm Sandy.”** He was also **installed** as **treasurer** and **trustee** of the **Squad**. We extend **congratulations** and **appreciation** to Mr. Labella.

- ◆ The **Ocean County College Sailing Team** won the **Team Race Regatta** that was held on the weekend of **April 6 and 7** on the **Toms River**, hosted by the **Toms River Yacht Club**. **OCC** defeated **Fordham University, Monmouth University, Webb Institute, Cornell University, Drexel University, and Bucknell University**. **Nick Rinaldi** and **Zac Shippe** skippered the winning team, with **Mary Noricia, Liam Boyle, and Shawn Hartigan** crewing for the two days.

Mr. Roy Wilkins, Sailing Program Manager, and the **entire OCC sailing team** are **commended** for their **outstanding performance**.

- ◆ **Ms. Eileen Burdge** was recently selected to **receive the Patricia C. Donohue Leadership Award** from the **American Association of Women in Community Colleges, Mercer Chapter**. The award was presented to **Ms. Burdge** at the **3rd Annual Leaders' Breakfast** on **April 5** at **Mercer County Community College** for her **exemplary service** as the **Community Service Specialist** for the **Displaced Homemakers Program**.

Dr. Donohue, President of Mercer, is **president emerita** of the **national association**. This award was presented to **five professional community college women** in **New Jersey** for their **service to and mentoring** of **women in the community**, their **leadership**, and their **successful implementation** of **initiatives** for **women**.

Ms. Maureen Conlon, Manager of Web Services, was also **nominated** for this **award** for the **computer training** she provides to **clients** of the **Displaced Homemakers Program**. She, too, attended the **Awards Breakfast** and is **commended** for her **service**.