



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 23, 2012, Board Meeting**

DATE: April 18, 2012

Ocean County College Commencement Week

Ocean County College's **45th Commencement** will be held on **Thursday, May 24th**, 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**. I am delighted that our **guest speaker** will be the **Honorable Bob Martin, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection**.

The **Nursing Pinning Ceremony** will precede Commencement on **Tuesday evening, May 22nd**, at **7:00 p.m.**, and the annual **Awards Ceremony** will take place on **Wednesday evening, May 23rd**, 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**.

Environmental Stewardship

In **2008**, the **New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)** established the **Environmental Stewardship Initiative**, a **recognition program** developed for **entities regulated** by the **Department** for **compliance issues**. **Environmental stewardship** is defined as **activities that go beyond the minimum requirements** for **environmental compliance**, and **participation** in the program is **voluntary**.

Following an **on-campus water quality inspection** on **March 6th**, the **NJDEP** recognized **Ocean County College** as an **Environmental Steward** for having completed **several activities** for **improving the environment** in the **Outreach Program, Green Building Implementation, and Renewable Energy Use** categories. As a result of that visit, the Department **formally acknowledged** the **proactive measures** taken by **Ocean County College** to better the **environment**.



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I have invited **Mr. Jule Raichle, Manager of Safety and Environmental Compliance**, to **Monday's Board meeting** to provide you with additional information on the **Environmental Stewardship Initiative**.

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 **83 clients** currently **participating**. **Seventeen clients** are enrolled in **higher education**, **13** of whom are registered at **OCC** for a total of **127 credit hours**. **Two** of the clients are members of **Phi Theta Kappa**, the **national honor society**. **Two clients** are enrolled in the **Kean-Ocean program**, and **two clients** are enrolled at **Stockton State University**. Since last **July**, **six clients** found **full-time employment** and **four** secured **part-time positions**.

At **Monday's meeting**, I will offer a **resolution** to **proclaim** the **month of May 2012** 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**.

Ocean County College Viking Cheerleaders

The **Ocean County College Viking Cheerleaders** won **1st Place** in their **division** at the **32nd Annual National Cheerleaders Association/National Dancers Association Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championship**, which was held from **April 11th through 14th** in **Daytona Beach, Florida**. **Performing twice in two days** in the **Intermediate All-Girl II Division**, the Vikings **outscored teams** representing **four-year universities** in **North Carolina, Massachusetts, Georgia, and Texas**, earning the **coveted title of National Champions**. This was **OCC's second time** competing at the **National level**, the most **prestigious competition** for college teams.

The **Cheerleading Club**, led by **Coach Maureen Williams**, worked hard this year to **prepare** for and make this **dream a reality**. In addition to **exhaustive practices, choreography, and fundraising efforts** to **support** their **trip**, these students are required to **maintain** their **grades**, and, in many cases, their outside **work schedules**. For these students, **cheerleading** is a very **important part** of their **college experience**. The **Cheerleading Club** is **funded** and **supported** by the **Student Union** and the **Office of Student Life**.



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Congratulations to Coach Williams and the members of the Cheerleading Club for their success at the National competition.

Faculty Recognition

Dr. Jennifer Dellner, Associate Professor of English and Literature, has been selected to receive a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship to attend a summer seminar for college and university teachers. Participants in this five-week seminar, which will be held in Dublin, Ireland, from June 18th to July 30th, will study James Joyce's Ulysses: Text and Contexts.

Dr. Dellner was one of 16 people selected for the seminar; two graduate students will also attend. Although the exact number of applicants is not known, the seminar director said there was strong competition for the fellowship. Professor Dellner was the only community college professor selected to participate.

Dr. Dellner has also authored a chapter in Two Thousand Years of Solitude, which was recently published by the Oxford University Press. The title of her chapter is "Children of the Island: Ovid, Poesis, and Loss in the Poetry of Eavan Boland and Derek Mahon."

We extend our congratulations to Professor Dellner for these notable achievements.

Student Recognition

Ms. Elizabeth Lawler, who scored over 1,000 points in her basketball career at Ocean County College and earned All-American honors from the National Junior College Athletic Association, has been selected to have her OCC Viking jersey hang in the Ring of Honor section of the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tennessee. The Ring of Honor consists of over 100 jerseys hanging from rafters. The jerseys represent the top high school and college players from each season. Elizabeth's jersey will be displayed from June 2012 through May 2013.

Elizabeth is the first OCC athlete to receive this honor, and we again congratulate her on yet another recognition of her outstanding accomplishments.

The Ocean County College Foundation

The Ocean County College Foundation's 11th Annual Golf Outing is taking place at the Pine Barrens Golf Club in Jackson on Tuesday, May 1st. In the ten years since the inception of the golf outing, the Foundation has raised over \$450,000 to support the students of Ocean County College.



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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.

Gateway Building Tour

The **trustees** are **invited** to take a **brief tour** of the **Gateway Building** and the **Combined Heat and Power Plant** following **Monday's Board meeting**. The **Gateway Building** is **not yet fully enclosed**, so it can be quite **windy** and **cool** on the **upper levels**; please **be prepared** for the **weather**. The **building** is **impressive**, and the **view** from the top floor is **magnificent**.