



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 25, 2011, Board Meeting**

DATE: April 20, 2011

Ocean County College Commencement Week

Another **academic year** will be **ending** soon. Please make note of the following **exciting events** to **recognize** the **achievements** of our students:

The **44th Ocean County College Commencement** will be held on **Thursday, May 26th**, at **6:00 p.m.** on the **college mall**. In the event of **rain**, the ceremony will be moved to the **Poland Spring Arena** on **Old Freehold Road** in **Toms River**. Our **guest speaker** will be **Admiral Paul G. Gaffney, President of Monmouth University**.

The **Nursing Pinning Ceremony** will precede Commencement on **Tuesday evening, May 24th**, at **7:30 p.m.**, and the annual **Awards Ceremony** will take place on **Wednesday evening, May 25th**, at **7:00 p.m.** Both events will return to 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**.

Displaced Homemakers Program

The **Displaced Homemakers Program of Ocean County**, funded by a **grant** from the **New Jersey Division on Women**, has been in existence at Ocean County College since **2007**. The **purpose** of the program is to provide **comprehensive services** to **women** who have **lost** their primary source of **income** due to **divorce, separation, death, or disability of a spouse** to assist them in becoming **economically self-sufficient** through **career counseling, training, educational opportunities, and information/referrals** to community resources and social services.



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The program has provided services to over **235 women** since its inception. There are **50 active clients** for the current program year. Completion of **education** is a **significant activity** in their move to **economic self-sufficiency**. Several clients have **completed** their **GED or ESL preparation** classes; **two clients** enrolled in **OCC classes** after attaining the GED. In the **fall 2010 semester**, **10 clients** were enrolled for **104 credits**. In this **spring 2011 semester**, there are **14 clients** enrolled for **153 credits**. **One client graduated**, is enrolled in **Kean-Ocean courses**, and is a **member of Phi Theta Kappa**. **Another client** has been consistently on the **President's Honors List**. **Three clients** are enrolled in **other colleges**, and **one** is enrolled in **graduate school**.

The **success** of these **women** is due to the efforts of **Ms. Kate Pandolpho, Director of Career, Employment, and Personal Counseling**, and **program staff**. **Ms. Pandolpho** will make a **brief presentation** about the program at Monday's meeting, and a **resolution** will be offered to **proclaim** the month of **May 2011** as **Displaced Homemakers Awareness Month** at Ocean County College.

Robert J. Novins Planetarium

Since its **official reopening** in **October 2010**, the **Robert J. Novins Planetarium** has attracted small but **enthusiastic crowds**. Early **response** to the planetarium and its **new and innovative programming** has been **favorable**. In late 2010, an **extensive marketing effort** was launched to **increase awareness** of the beautiful, **new facility** and its **state-of-the-art technology**.

On Monday, **Mr. Lee Kobus, Executive Director of Media and Community Programs**, will give a **brief update** on the **progress** of the **Planetarium** since its **reopening**, and **Ms. Jan Kirsten, Director of College Relations**, will inform you of the ways in which the Planetarium is being **publicized**, including the recent **partnership/sponsorship** with the **Lakewood Blue Claws Kid's Club**.

Holocaust Remembrance Week

The **United States Congress** established the **Days of Remembrance** as our nation's **annual commemoration** of the **Holocaust** and created the **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum** as a **permanent living memorial** to the **victims**. This year **Holocaust Remembrance Week** is **Sunday, May 1st**, through **Sunday, May 8th**. The Museum designated *Justice and Accountability in the Face of Genocide: What Have We Learned?* as the **theme** for **2011**.

Observances and **remembrance activities** occur during the week by state and local **governments, military bases, workplaces, schools, churches, synagogues, and civic centers**. The **Ocean County College Center for Peace, Genocide, and Holocaust Studies** will **sponsor** a number of **activities** throughout the **week**, beginning with an **opening ceremony** on **Monday, May 2nd**, with **Assemblyman David Wolfe** welcoming the attendees. In addition, there will be **readings, lectures, guest speakers, films, and a play**.



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At Monday's meeting, **Ms. Ali Botein-Furrevig, Professor of English and Literature**, will share with you the **events** scheduled for **Holocaust Remembrance Week** and extend an **invitation** to attend.

Ocean County College Nursing Program

Notification was just received from the **National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission** that formal **action** was taken at its meeting on **March 3rd and 4th** on the **Ocean County College Nursing Program**. The **Board of Commissioners** reviewed and accepted the **Follow-Up Report** of the program and **affirmed** the next **accreditation visit** for **spring 2016**. The Nursing Program was noted for **achievement of quality and excellence** in **Nursing education**.

Congratulations are extended to **Ms. Colleen Manzetti, Assistant Dean of Nursing**, and all of the **faculty and staff** who make the **program** as **successful** as it is.

Continuing and Professional Education

Included in the **2010 Ocean County College Restructuring Plan**, which was **approved** in **December**, was **Organizational Renewal**, wherein the **Vice Presidents** made **reorganizational recommendations** for each of their **divisions**. **Several factors** were taken into **consideration** to support the recommendations, among which were **position redundancies** and **overlaps, reporting lines, and realignment of job responsibilities**.

The **restructuring** of the **Continuing and Professional Education** operation, under the **leadership** of **Ms. Tara Kelly, Vice President of College Advancement**, is **successfully underway**. To **eliminate the redundancy** of **accounting functions**, **two CPE Technicians** have **relocated** to the **College Accounting Department**. The move provides **additional human resources** to **Accounting**, with **no budgetary impact**, while still **servicing** our **CPE students**. Similar moves will be made by the **CPE registration staff**.

Additionally, moving into the **future**, **Continuing and Professional Education** will **focus** on generating **increased revenue** through the **development** of relevant **online job training** and **career oriented programs**. These **courses** and **programs** will ultimately be **offered** in **collaboration** with the College's **global e-learning initiative**.

Ms. Kelly will report briefly on the **progress** that has been made in a **few short months**.

Grants

On **April 2**, **Ocean County College** began its **second year** of a **two-year Health Information Technology Project** as a member of a **consortium** led by **Tidewater Community College**. This project is **funded** through a **grant** from the **Office of the National Coordinator of Information Technology** in the **U.S.**



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Department of Health and Human Services. Ocean County College received **\$232,927** in year one of the grant and **\$187,666** for year two.

The **purpose** of the **grant** is to provide **certificate training programs** in **health information technology** to meet the **growing demand** for **professionals** needed to assist hospitals and medical practices in the process of **transitioning** from **paper files** to **electronic health records**.

On **April 18**, the College submitted a **\$6,375,236 grant proposal** for a **Consortium Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Project grant**. **Consortium members** include **Ocean County College**, as the **lead applicant**, **Camden County College**, and **Raritan Valley Community College**.

The **purpose** of this **three-year grant** is to **expand** and **improve** the ability to **deliver education** and **career training programs** that can be **completed** in **two years** or **less** and prepare program participants for **employment** in **high-wage, high-skill occupations**. The **grants** will be **administered** by the **U.S. Department of Labor** in partnership with the **U.S. Department of Education**.

I have asked **Ms. Kelly** to share more information with you about these grants at **Monday's meeting**.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ The **Ocean County College Civility Team** and the **Full-Time Faculty Constituency** are co-sponsoring an **Employee Picnic** on **Wednesday, May 5th**, on the **College Center patio** from **12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.** If it rains, the picnic will be moved **inside** the **College Center**. The cost is **\$5 per person**.
- ◆ You are **cordially invited** to attend the **annual Student Spring Dinner/Dance**, which is being held on **Friday, May 6th**, at **7:00 p.m.** at **The Crystal Point Restaurant** in **Point Pleasant**.
- ◆ The next **Board of Trustees Retreat** is scheduled for **Friday, June 10th**, from **12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.** in the **Technology Building Conference Room**.
- ◆ The **New Jersey Council of County Colleges** has the following **events** scheduled:
 - ◆ **Phi Theta Kappa Day** on **Thursday, May 5th**, at the **Lafayette Yard Marriott Hotel** in **Trenton**.
 - ◆ The **Trustee Conference Spirit Award Dinner** on **Monday, June 20st**, at the **Lafayette Yard Marriott Hotel** in **Trenton**, which will also include:



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- ◆ A year-end conference, “**Strong Trustee Leadership and Governance = Student Success,**” for trustees and presidents.
- ◆ A presentation, “**Trustee Orientation: For New and Experienced Trustees,**” which will focus on **three dimensions** of trustee responsibility – **fiduciary, strategic, and generative.**
- ◆ A special presentation by **Dr. Elizabeth Sibolski, President of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education,** on “**Trustee Governance and the Accreditation Process,**” to discuss guidelines for **exceptional college governance** and the **role of trustees** in the **accreditation process.**