



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 **August 23, 2010, Board Meeting**

DATE: August 20, 2010

Robert J. Novins Planetarium Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

The **Robert J. Novins Planetarium Ribbon Cutting Ceremony** will take place **immediately following** the Board of Trustees **meeting on Monday, August 23rd**. **Light refreshments** will be served and a **tour of the building** and an **inaugural demonstration show** will be provided.

The **Robert J. Novins Planetarium** was originally **constructed in 1974**. Its **renovation and renewal** began in **2007** with the “**Reach for the Stars**” campaign, **chaired by Mr. Stephan Leone**, to **raise funds to replace** outdated **equipment** and **renovate the facility** to provide rich **astronomical, scientific, and cultural learning opportunities**. The result is a **Planetarium** that is **equal to the best available in today's world of digital technology**.

Please also **join us** at the **Donor Reception on Friday evening, August 20th**, from **5:00 to 7:00 p.m.** in the **Planetarium**. This **reception** will give us with the opportunity to **express our gratitude** to the many people whose **donations**, large and small, provided the **funding** to support this **major renovation**.

Fall 2010 Colloquium

The **Fall 2010 Semester Colloquium** will take place on **Thursday, September 2nd**, in the **newly renovated Theatre of the Arts and Community Center**. The morning will **begin** with a **continental breakfast** and **meet and greet at 8:00 a.m.**, with the **President's State of the College Address** beginning at **9:00 a.m.** The **theme for the Colloquium** is “**The Economic State of Higher Education in New Jersey and its Impact on Ocean County College.**”

Dr. Lawrence A. Nespoli, President of the New Jersey Council of County Colleges, will be our **guest speaker**, offering his **perspective on the economic challenges facing community colleges** statewide. He will then participate in a **panel discussion** on the “**Impact of the Economic Environment on Ocean**”



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County College” with fellow panel members Ms. Sara Winchester, Vice President of Finance; Mr. David Wolfe, New Jersey Assemblyman, member of the State Assembly Budget Committee, and Senior Assistant to the President; and Mr. Lou Goetting, Cabinet Secretary from the Office of the Governor of New Jersey.

An Evening Adjunct Faculty Colloquium will be held at 5:30 p.m. My presentation will be followed by a panel discussion on “The Role and Importance of Adjuncts at Ocean County College.”

If you are available, please come to the Colloquium. I am certain the panel discussion will be enlightening and interesting.

Ocean County College Foundation Summer Celebration

This year’s Ocean County College Summer Celebration, “An Evening by the Sea,” is scheduled for Saturday, September 11th, at 6:00 p.m. The event will be held in the OCC Gymnasium, which will be transformed into an elegant setting. The Foundation is honoring Jim and Marion Caldwell as the 2010 Humanitarians of the Year.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell have been extremely active in the Ocean County community, serving on various boards of trustees and participating in fundraising activities to benefit many non-profit charities. They are long-time Toms River residents whose generous donations of time, energy, and resources have made a significant impact on the lives of many Ocean County citizens. They are indeed deserving of this recognition.

The proceeds from this year’s Summer Celebration will be dedicated to the continuing development of the OCC Foundation’s endowment, which is devoted to making the dream of a college education a reality for hundreds of students annually.

I hope you will join us on September 11th for a delightful evening.

Smoking Policy

Following the revision of Policy #3075, Control of Smoking, at last month’s Board meeting, which now prohibits smoking throughout the campus, a committee has been established to develop procedures to ensure effective communication and enforcement of the policy.

Dr. James McGinty, Executive Vice President, is leading this effort with the assistance of Mr. Bob Kumpf, Director of College Security. During the next few months, the new policy and procedures will be fully implemented. I have asked Dr. McGinty to provide you with a progress report of the committee’s work at Monday’s meeting.



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Board of Trustees Retreat

Please mark your calendars for the next **Board of Trustees Retreat**, which is scheduled for **Friday, September 17th**, at **12:00 noon** in the **Technology Building Conference Room**. Please let me know if you have **specific issues** you would like to **discuss** at the **retreat**.

Student Success

I recently received a **letter** from the **parent** of **Robert (R.J.) Norcia**, who **graduated** from the College in **May**. I knew R.J. personally because he was quite **involved** in **campus activities** and he was a **participant** in the annual **Student Leadership Conference**.

R.J. served an **internship** this **summer** in **Washington, D.C.**, in **Mr. Newt Gingrich's office**, known as **Gingrich Communications**. He will earn **four credits** for the internship from **The College of New Jersey**, where R.J. will continue toward his **bachelor's degree**. During his internship, R.J. wrote an **excellent article**, which is **attached**, for the **online newsletter**, "**The Americano**," on the **benefits of attending a community college**.

Faculty Success

Last month, I informed you that **Dr. Ali Botein-Furrevig**, **Assistant Professor of English and Literature**, wrote a **book**, which was recently **published**, "**Heart of the Stranger, A Portrait of Lakewood's Orthodox Community**." **Dr. Botein-Furrevig** will attend **Monday's meeting** to **discuss** her **book** with you.