



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 **December 1, 2008, Board Meeting**

DATE: November 26, 2008

Ocean County College Women's Soccer Team

The Ocean County College women's soccer team finished **second** in the **nation** when it competed in the **National Junior College Athletic Association Division III Tournament semi-finals** held at **Richland College** in **Dallas, Texas**. The team won the **opening game** on **November 8th** with a score of **3-1** over **Rochester Community and Technical College**, from **Rochester, Minnesota**. By doing so, the women advanced to the **finals**; however, the team **lost** the **final game** to **Broome Community College**, **Binghamton, New York**, by a score of **2-1**.

Four of these **outstanding student-athletes** earned **All-Tournament Team Recognition**: **Ashley Bechtle, Catherine Dyciewski, Kristen DeMuth, and Stefanie Bonsky**. It will be a pleasure to again **congratulate** the **players** and the **coaches** at Monday's meeting for a **job very well done** this 2008 season.

Middle States Commission on Higher Education

The **2008 Annual Middle States Commission on Higher Education Conference** is scheduled from **Sunday, December 7th** to **Tuesday, December 9th**, in **Baltimore, Maryland**. The **theme** of the conference is "**Target 2018: The Path to the Future**," with the following **questions** being **explored**: What will your **institution** be doing in **2018**? More importantly, what *should* it be doing? And how will you **help** it get there?

Ms. Janet Hubbs, Assistant to the President for Institutional Quality and **Chair** of the **Steering Committee** for our **Periodic Review Report** that is due to **Middle States** in **2009**, will **attend** the conference with **Judy** and **me**. We will have the opportunity to **meet** with our new **Middle States staff liaison, Vice President Dr. Mary Ellen Petrisko**. In addition to various **workshops/sessions**, I will be attending the **Presidents' Breakfast** on **Monday morning**, and **Ms. Hubbs** will join other **Accreditation Liaison Officers** for a **Tuesday breakfast**.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jon H. Larson, Ph.D.

Phi Theta Kappa

Ocean County College's Phi Theta Kappa Chapter, Tau Iota, held its **2008 Fall Induction Ceremony** for **120 new members** on **Thursday evening, November 20th**. I am always **delighted** to join these **exceptional students** as they are **recognized** for their **academic achievements**.

Phi Theta Kappa is the **national honor society** of **two-year colleges**, the **purpose** of which is to **encourage scholarship** among two-year college **students**. A student who has earned **15 or more credits** at OCC with at least a **3.6 grade point average** is **eligible** for **membership** and **invited** to **join** the organization.

This year's **Phi Theta Kappa** executive board includes:

President Jilian McLeer
Vice President of Administration Amanda Gordon
Vice President of Leadership Maria Pipitone
Vice President of Scholarship Caroline Mottola
Vice President of Service Jennifer Baranowski
Vice President of Communications Kathryn Napolitano
Vice President of Fellowship Gonzalo Rios-Pita
Vice President of Publications Tara J. Church

I would also like to recognize our **long-time Phi Theta Kappa Advisors**: **Ms. Carolyn Showalter, Dean of Mathematics**; **Dr. Bill Rickert, Professor of Mathematics**; **Ms. Robin Weitz, Assistant Professor of Computer Studies**; and **Dr. Joaquin Rolon, Assistant Professor of English and Literature**.

The members of Phi Theta Kappa **make a difference** at Ocean County College through their **student leadership** and their **involvement** in many meaningful **academic** and **community projects**. We appreciate all they do on behalf of the College.

Spring 2009 Colloquium

The **Spring 2009 Semester** will begin with the **Colloquium** on **Tuesday, January 20, 2009**. It will again be held in the **Gymnasium**, beginning at **9 a.m.** with a **meet and greet/continental breakfast**, followed by my **state-of-the-college address** to **faculty and staff** at **9 a.m.**

Details of the Colloquium are currently **under development**, but the day's **format** will remain relatively the **same** as past Colloquia, with **workshops** being offered for **faculty, staff**, and possibly **students**. The **focus** of the Colloquium will be on our *Foundations of Excellence in the First College Year* self-study project.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jon H. Larson, Ph.D.

Please mark your calendars and **join us** for this important semester **kick-off event**.

Career, Employment, and Counseling Services

Career, Employment and Counseling Services provides a **comprehensive range of programs and services to students, alumni, and the community** to help them **achieve their career, academic, employment, and life goals**.

Counseling services help students through normal developmental issues that may be affecting their **academic success**. **Career and employment services include counseling, assessment, online resources, linkage with recruiting employers, and assistance with interviewing and resumes**.

In **May**, the Board **accepted a \$75,000 grant** from the **New Jersey Department of Community Affairs/Division on Women** for the **Displaced Homemakers Program of Ocean County**. This program provides **services to women** who must become **economically self-sufficient** due to **divorce, separation, disability, or death of a spouse or partner**. In addition, a **new program, Job Seekers' Support Club**, provides **information and resources** for individuals who are **looking for work**.

Ms. Kate Pandolpho, Director of Career, Employment, and Counseling Services, will attend **Monday's meeting** to give a **brief report on the activities of the Center**. Joining her will be **Ms. Kathleen Bombery, Community Services Specialist**, to make a presentation on the **Displaced Homemakers Program**; **Ms. Bernadette Amato, Career Coordinator**, to discuss **career and employment services**; and **Ms. Nancy Polonitza, Counselor/Assistant Professor**, to talk about **counseling services**.

Ocean County College Sailing Team

I have asked **Mr. Roy Wilkins, Manager of Recreation Activities**, to give us an **update on the Ocean County College Sailing Team**, which just **concluded its fall season**. Mr. Wilkins attracted a **squad of 20 student sailors**, whose hard work **qualified the team for the Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association (MAISA) championships**. OCC is the **only junior college to ever compete in this championship regatta**, and only the **top 18 of the 47 teams in the conference qualify for this event**.

Mr. Wilkins will also share with you the **plans for the Sailing Program Boat Renewal Fund**, which will provide for the **replacement of the sailing fleet**. The **useful life of a competitive sailboat at the collegiate level is generally five years**. The **majority of the OCC boats have been in use by students since 2001**, so they do need to be **replaced after seven years of sailing**.