

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 **December 11, 2006, Board Meeting**

DATE: December 6, 2006

New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development

At a recent meeting of the **New Jersey Council of County Colleges**, **Dr. Robert Bowman, Executive Director** of the **New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development**, provided a report on the **Consortium's activities** during the past year. I was extremely **impressed** with his presentation highlighting the **Consortium's successes** and have **asked Dr. Bowman to attend Monday's Board meeting** to share with you the **Consortium's many accomplishments**.

The **Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development** provides **one-point access** to all of the **vast resources** of the **state's nineteen community colleges**, which include over **1,000 programs** taught by **highly qualified faculty** with **business and industry experience**. Through the Consortium, companies can access, develop, and receive **workforce education and training** for their **current and emerging employees**. The Consortium also **assists businesses** with the **development and submission** of New Jersey **customized training grant applications**.

Educational Opportunity Fund Program

The **OCC Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Program** was recently informed that it will receive **additional funding** from the **New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund**. In April 2006, the state **set aside \$98,786** to distribute to **eight institutions**, two in each of the four higher education sectors, based on **program outcomes**. An award of **\$12,345** in **Article IV funds** will be received in **FY 2007**, which will become part of the program's **base budget** in future years **if supported** by state appropriations. OCC received this additional funding as a result of having the **highest graduation rate** for the **fall 2001 cohort** in New Jersey's **community college sector**.

The EOF Program provides **financial assistance** and **support services**, such as **counseling, tutoring, and developmental course work**, to students from **educationally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds**, who attend institutions of higher education in New Jersey.

This recognition by the state is a **testament** to the **fine work** by the college's EOF Program staff and its **leadership, Mr. Don Doran, Vice President of Student Affairs; Dr. Toni Clay, Assistant Vice President for Instructional Support Services; and Ms. Laura Rickards, Director of EOF and the Office of Minority Services.**

OCC Sailing Program

The **OCC Sailing Program** recently concluded its **fourth year**, having been **established in fall 2002**. In that short time, it has **developed** into a **program of distinction** and is recognized as a **leader** within the **Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association (MAISA)**.

On Saturday and Sunday, **November 4th and 5th**, the **OCC Sailing Team** and the **Toms River Yacht Club** co-hosted the **MAISA 2006 Club Championship**. The **two-day** intercollegiate **regatta** was sailed on the **Toms River** and was **sponsored by** the law firm of **Carluccio, Leone, Dimon, Doyle, and Sacks**.

Nineteen intercollegiate teams **competed** in the regatta; **Fordham University** finished in **first place** and **OCC** came in **second, besting** many **four-year sailing teams**, such as American University, Colgate University, Cornell University, Drexel University, George Washington University, Lehigh University, Penn State University, and Villanova University.

Mr. Roy Wilkins, Manager of Recreation Activities, will attend Monday's Board meeting, and he will **introduce** two **Sailing Program students, Joe Lepis**, a graduate of Wall High School, who is attending OCC because of its **excellent Sailing Program**, and **Ashley Kark**, a Southern Regional graduate, who is also a **NJ STARS student**. Mr. Wilkins will present an eight-minute **Sailing Program video** that is being utilized for **recruiting purposes**.

Student Athletic Commendation

Ocean County College **Women's Soccer Player Nicole Laureigh** has been selected to the **1st team** on the **National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) All-American 2006 soccer team**. Nicole has been an **asset to OCC** both in the **classroom** and on the **field**. She scored **30 goals** in **two years**, with **25 assists**. During her two seasons at OCC, Nicole was selected the **top player** in **Region XIX**, which earned her **recognition** on both the **Garden State Athletic Conference team** and the **Region XIX team**. In her **freshman season**, she was selected **2nd team All-American**. As a **team captain**, Nicole **led** the **2006 season** with a **team high** of **17 goals**, placing her in the **top 25 leading scorers** in the **nation**.

We are **extremely proud** of Nicole and her achievements while at OCC. Also to be **congratulated** are **Ms. Ilene Cohen, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics**, and the coaching staff of **Ms. Karen Geiger Trump, Mr. AJ Trump, and Mr. Terry Byrnes**.

Associated Students of Ocean County College

I have invited the **executive officers** of the **Associated Students of OCC (ASOCC)**, the college's **student government organization**, to attend Monday's meeting. **Mr. Don Doran**, Vice President of Student Affairs, will introduce them to you:

Marisa Tursini, President
Kelly Tooker, Vice President
Calvin Cheung, Treasurer
Kate Tooker, Secretary

The **mission** of the ASOCC is to further the **well-being of the students**, to serve as a channel of **communication** between the **students and the administration**, and to cooperate closely with the faculty and administration in maintaining **academic and social standards of excellence**. The **philosophy** of the ASOCC is **individual integrity** and **group responsibility**.

Commendations

The **Office of College Relations** has again been **acknowledged** by the **National Council for Marketing and Public Relations** for the **quality** of its **publications**. OCC was **honored** with **silver recognition** in the **2006 District 1 Medallion Awards** competition for the **2006 OCC Commencement Program**. **Ms. Tara Kelly, Vice President of College Advancement, Ms. Jan Kirsten, Director of College Relations**, and the members of **their staff** deserve **congratulations** for **continued excellence** in their publications.

Dr. Frank Wetta, Vice President of Academic Affairs, was **featured** in a recent **publication, *Making A Difference***, distributed by **SunGard Higher Education**. The **magazine** profiles several of SunGard's **customers and organizations** and brings **recognition** to a few **inspirational individuals** who help **better** both **SunGard** and **their institutions**.