

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 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>**, 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 **1<sup>st</sup> 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 **2<sup>nd</sup> 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**.