



**OCEAN**  
COUNTY COLLEGE

# 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 **February 23, 2009, Board Meeting**

**DATE:** February 18, 2009

## National Council on Aging

The **National Council on Aging (NCOA)** is a **national non-profit service and advocacy organization** headquartered in **Washington, D.C.**, whose **mission** is to **improve the lives of older Americans**. NCOA works with thousands of organizations across the country to **help seniors live independently, find jobs and benefits, improve their health, and remain active** in their communities.

The NCOA **New Jersey operation** is part of the **Workforce Development Division**, which administers the federal **Senior Community Service Program** in **six New Jersey counties**. NCOA received a **U.S. Department of Labor grant** to provide **tuition for healthcare occupation training** leading to **certification and jobs in entry-level healthcare occupations** for **seniors age 55 and older**. If individuals are currently in healthcare occupations, the grant will provide healthcare training leading to **higher level jobs**.

**OCC's Continuing and Professional Education** has been **working with NCOA** since **summer 2008**, and the program's **effectiveness** has become **evident** since then as they have provided an education for individuals who need the **guidance and financial assistance** to obtain **viable employment**. There are **41 seniors** enrolled this **spring 2009 semester**, and **43** took advantage of the program in the **fall 2008 semester**. This **professional relationship** has provided an opportunity for our **Continuing and Professional Education** operation to **reach out** to a **new group of customers** in Ocean County, seniors who otherwise may not have been able to afford the education.



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Ms. Deborah Robinson, Director of Continuing and Professional Education, will attend Monday's Board meeting as we recognize Mr. Jules Sackman, Training and Employment Coordinator, and Mr. Roger Leahey, Program Director, acknowledge their efforts on behalf of NCOA, and thank them for selecting Ocean County College as their partner in providing these educational opportunities in healthcare for seniors.

## Ocean County College Board of School Estimate Meeting

The Ocean County College Board of School Estimate meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, at which time the financial support from the County of Ocean towards the College's FY 2010 budget will be approved. Several resolutions will also be presented for adoption pertaining to capital projects and their funding.

As noted last month, this year's Board of School Estimate members are Freeholders John C. Bartlett, Jr., James F. Lacey, and Gerry P. Little and Board Chair Van Thulin and Board Treasurer Jerry Dasti.

Ocean County College is extremely fortunate to have the continuing strong support of the County Freeholders, who recognize the importance of the College to the residents of Ocean County. There are few, if any, other New Jersey community colleges that enjoy such support, especially in this current difficult economic climate.

## Spring 2009 Enrollment

The spring 2009 semester official ten-day statistics indicate there are 9,448 students registered for a total of 95,571 credits, representing an increase in total enrollment of 9.1 percent and an increase in total credit hours of 11.3 percent over last year. Full-time enrollment is up 12.2 percent (5,177 students), while part-time student enrollment is up 5.5 percent (4,271 students).

For the first time in the history of the College, the total headcount in the spring semester is over 9,000. Last spring, there were 8,663 students enrolled; this year, 785 more students were registered.



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Over the **last 10 years**, **full-time** enrollment has **increased 77.8 percent**, **part-time** enrollment has **increased 29.0 percent**, and the **total headcount** has **increased 51.9 percent**. For the **next few years**, both full-time and part-time **enrollment** will continue to **grow**. A number of **factors** may **contribute** to that **growth**, such as the **increasing number of graduates** from local **high schools**, the **NJ STARS** and **Kean-Ocean** programs, and the impact of the **current economic conditions**.

This semester, **42 percent (4,001)** of students enrolled are **male**, and **58 percent (5,447)** are **female**. Over the **last ten years**, the **proportion of male students** remained between **40 to 42 percent** for **spring semesters**.

The **average age** is **22.2** for **male** students, **24.7** for **female** students, and **23.6** for **all students**. The **youngest** student is aged **15** and the **oldest** is **81**.

With regard to ethnicity, **3.9 percent** of students are **African American** (3.0 percent ten years ago), **0.1 percent** are **American Indian/Alaskan Native**, **2.6 percent** are **Asian** (2.1 percent ten years ago), **7.0 percent** are **Hispanic** (4.7 percent ten years ago), and **80.9 percent** are **White** (84.6 percent ten years ago).

This spring, **675 courses** and **1,265 sections** are **offered**, compared to **665 courses** and **1,188 sections** of **last spring**. Of the total number of sections, **9.8 percent (124 sections)** are offered **online**, as compared to **8.5 percent (101 sections)** in **spring 2008**. In terms of credits, **9.8 percent** of **all credits** are generated by **online courses**, as compared to **8.4 percent last spring**.

The **total number of credits** for **FY 2009** is **up 9.1 percent (208,957)**. If the **enrollment** in the **Spring Quick Term** and **Summer Five-, Ten-, and Twelve-Week Sessions** remains the **same** for the **rest of the fiscal year** as that of last year, the **number of credits** for **FY 2009** will be **8.5 percent higher** than **FY 2008**.

**Mr. Chengbo Yin, Research and Assessment Administrator**, will provide **updated enrollment data** at **Monday's meeting**.



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## Regional Economic Development Summit

Ocean County College will host a **Regional Economic Development Summit** on **Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**, in the Gymnasium, at which **business, education, and organization leaders** will come together to discuss the **efforts** that need to be **undertaken** to ensure the **economic recovery** of the **Ocean County area**. **Mr. Dave Wolfe, Special Assistant to the President**, is in the process of **coordinating** this event.

So far, the **Monmouth-Ocean Development Council**, the **New Jersey Business and Industry Association**, and **OceanFirst Bank** have agreed to be **co-sponsors** of the Summit. In addition, **Congressman John Adler** has agreed to be the **keynote speaker**, and **Congressman Chris Smith** has also been invited to **participate**. It is anticipated that **five topics** will be **highlighted**: **health, energy, "green" technology, small business, and hospitality and tourism**.

The **idea** of this Summit was originally **proposed** by **Mr. Dave Wintrode, former Chair of the Ocean County College Foundation**, in response to the **Federal Stimulus Package** that was still under consideration at the time.

## Academic Alliance Conference on Physical Security

**Dr. Jim McGinty, Executive Vice President, Mr. Chip Stoll, Chief Information Officer, and I** will be attending an **Academic Alliance Conference on Physical Security** at the invitation of the **Federal Bureau of Investigation**.

This conference, a product of the **FBI's Counterintelligence Domain Program's Academic Alliance Initiative and the InfraGard Program**, will take place at **Villanova University in Pennsylvania** on **Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**. It will address a variety of **security-related issues** that have the **potential** for **affecting institutions of higher learning** as well as **focus** on **lessons learned** from previous unfortunate events. **Attendance** is being drawn from **colleges and universities** in **New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania**.

## New Jersey Council of County Colleges

The **New Jersey Council of County Colleges** has scheduled a **trustee seminar, "The Federal Stimulus Package and What It Means for New Jersey's Community Colleges,"** for **Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>**, from **5 to 6 p.m.** at the



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**Forsgate Country Club in Monroe Township. Dinner will follow the seminar. Ms. Jane Oates, Executive Director of the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education, will be the keynote speaker and will discuss the components of the Federal Stimulus Package that directly affect community colleges: the State Stabilization Fund, Facilities Funding, Job Training, the Pell Grant, and the new tax credits for college attendance.**

Please **join us** for this very **important seminar**. If you would like to ride with me to Forsgate, please let me know.

## Board of Trustees Retreat

Please note the date of the **next Board of Trustees Retreat—Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**, at **12 noon** in the **Conference Room** of the **Technology Building**. Discussion will continue on the **community college priorities** in the **Economic Recovery Legislation**.

If there are other issues you would like to discuss at the retreat, please let me know.

## Women's History Month

The **month of March** is designated annually as national **Women's History Month**. This year's **theme** is ***Women Taking the Lead to Save our Planet***, with the **National Women's History Project** honoring women who have **provided leadership** in the environmental or "**green movement**." Many **activities** are being **developed** and **presented** by **faculty and administrators** to **honor women scientists, engineers, business leaders, writers, filmmakers, conservationists, teachers, community organizers, religious leaders, and others** whose lives show **exceptional vision and action** to **save our planet**.

It is **respectfully requested** that the trustees **adopt a resolution** to **proclaim March** as **Women's History Month** at Ocean County College and, further, to **encourage participation** by the **college community** in **activities** on campus.