

TO: Members, OCC Board of Trustees

FROM: Jon H. Larson, Ph.D.
President

SUBJECT: Items of Interest for **May 23, 2005, Board Meeting**

DATE: May 18, 2005

Dr. Lawrence Nespoli, President of the New Jersey Council of County Colleges, will be joining us at Monday's Board meeting to provide an update on the Council's efforts on behalf of the community colleges.

38th Annual Commencement Week Activities

Next week will be a wonderful week for the college as we **celebrate our students' successes** as well as **pay tribute** to a very special person, **Mr. Joseph Citta**, for his steadfast **friendship, counsel, commitment, and generosity** to Ocean County College.

- ◆ **Tuesday, May 24th – Nursing Pinning Ceremony at 7:00 p.m.** in the Fine Arts Theatre.
- ◆ **Wednesday, May 25th – Reception to honor Mr. Joseph A. Citta from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.** on the college campus.
- ◆ **Wednesday, May 25th – OCC Awards Ceremony at 7:30 p.m.** in the Fine Arts Theatre.
- ◆ **Thursday, May 26th – Commencement at 6:00 p.m.** on the college campus. A **reception** will be held from **4:45 to 5:30 p.m.** in the Library prior to robing in the Board Room. In the event of **rain**, commencement will move to the **Ritacco Center**.

The commencement **guest speaker** is **Ms. Gwendolyn M. Robosson**, Partner in the firm of Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, and the **student speaker** is **Ms. Patricia Sherman**, Phi Theta Kappa President.

Ocean County College Foundation

◆ Golf Outing

The 4th annual OCC Foundation Golf Outing took place at the Sea Oaks Golf Club in Little Egg Harbor on Monday, May 2nd, and it was a great success. Approximately 135 participants enjoyed the day, and over \$65,000 was raised for the Athletic Scholarship Program. We are grateful for the major sponsors of our event, Sungard/Collegis and Custodial Consultants, as well as for all who contributed in any way to the Outing.

During the awards ceremony and dinner in the evening, Joe Nagy, an OCC basketball player and recipient of a Foundation athletic award, described the positive impact the scholarship has had as he pursues his degree.

◆ Foundation Gala

Please save the date for the Ocean County College Foundation Gala, which will be held on campus on Saturday evening, August 20, at 5:00 p.m. This year's Gala is honoring Mr. David C. Wintrode, current Foundation Vice Chair, who has played a significant role in the Foundation's success during his 23 year membership. Mr. Joseph Coronato is serving as the Chair of the Gala.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey York are hosting a kick-off celebration at their home on Thursday evening, June 2nd, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Although I will be unable to be there because of a previous commitment, Ms. Tara Kelly and my wife Judy will attend. I encourage your participation.

◆ Resolution

In recognition of Mrs. Barbara Hierung's outstanding contributions to the OCC Foundation, to the College, and to the community at large, it is respectfully requested that a resolution be adopted by the trustees to express their deep sorrow and sense of loss upon her death on April 12th. Mrs. Hierung was a steadfast supporter of the College and higher education in Ocean County, and she will be missed.

Trustee Seminars

The second trustee educational seminar sponsored by the New Jersey Council of County Colleges is scheduled for Monday, June 13th, at the Breakers in Spring Lake at 5:00 p.m. Each of these one-hour seminars is devoted to different topics. The June 13th seminar topic is "Community Colleges, Then and Now." Discussions will include how the 1994 restructuring of higher education enhanced trustee responsibilities and the ways in which community colleges have flourished under a system of "coordinated autonomy." Trustees attending the seminar are invited to stay

for dinner with other **trustees and presidents from throughout the state** who will be attending the regular monthly Council meeting.

The Council has also scheduled the **Annual Trustee Conference** for **Thursday, June 23rd**, at the **Marriott Hotel** in **Trenton**. This conference will focus on **“Effective Leadership, Solid Foundations”** and will include a **roundtable** with **reporters and political strategists**. There will also be an update on the **gubernatorial campaign**, and **legislators** will be in attendance to discuss **state funding**.

I strongly **encourage your participation** at these trustee events. The Council is providing outstanding opportunities to **gain valuable information** relating to **trustee responsibilities** and **statewide community college issues**.

Employee Commendation

Ms. Gloria Villalobos, Planetarium Director, recently received a **Master of Astronomy degree** from the **University of Western Sydney, Australia**. Ms. Villalobos will be with us on Monday to **receive recognition** for her achievement, and I have asked that she provide the trustees with a **brief update on Planetarium activities**.

Middle States Commission on Higher Education

I will be meeting with the **Committee on Evaluation Reports** of the **Middle States Commission on Higher Education** in Philadelphia on **Tuesday, June 7th**, to present my **evaluation brief on Dutchess Community College**. This presentation is the result of the **evaluation team visit to Dutchess** which I chaired in April.

On **Thursday, June 30th**, **Ms. Janet Hubbs and I** are scheduled to meet in Philadelphia with **Ms. Jean Morse, Executive Director of the Commission on Higher Education**, and two **Executive Associate Directors, Dr. Michael Kiphart, OCC’s liaison** to the Commission, and **Ms. Linda Suskie**. The Commission is **authoring a booklet on institutional effectiveness**, and Ms. Hubbs and I will share with them **OCC’s institutional effectiveness initiatives** to assist with their impending publication.

Sailing Program

The **OCC Sailing Team** won the **Drexel Open Regatta** which was sailed during the weekend of **May 7th and 8th** at the **Corinthian Yacht Club** on the **Delaware River**. Sailors **Greer Scholes** and **Genevieve Semple** won in the **A division** and **dominated the regatta**, winning all but two of their twelve races. **Cori Erb** and **Karalyn Rapp** were the winners in the **B division**.

The Sailing Team continues its **outstanding success**. It was a remarkable season, beginning with the win at the **OCC Open** in early April, performing well at the **American Regatta**, and finishing with an terrific performance at the **Drexel Open**.

The **Sailing Advisory Committee** will be hosting **Mr. Dave Perry**, a **national authority** on **sailing racing rules**, on **Friday, June 17th**. Sailors from throughout the county are being invited to meet Mr. Perry and expand their knowledge of sailing.

Interpreter Training Certificate Program

An **Open House** was held on campus on **Saturday, May 14th**, for **OCC's Interpreter Training Program**. Approximately **40 prospective students** attended the Open House, during which they had the opportunity to meet with **Dr. Martin Novelli, Dean of Humanities, Fine Arts, and Media, and Interpreter Training Professors Kathy Basilotto, Amy Lazzaretti, and Camille Lorello** to discuss the program. **Student expectations** were reviewed in terms of **course content, contact hours with the deaf community, and observation hours of interpreters**.

The **demand** for sign language interpreting is **rapidly increasing**, and OCC's relatively new Interpreter Program has already gained **wide recognition**. Already more than **25 students** are registered for the **fall 2005 semester**, and **interviews for admission** to the program will continue **through the summer**.

2005 Spring Sports Results

Golf - Over the course of the season, the Golf Team **improved its performance** and **finished sixth** in the **Garden State Athletic Conference** tournament, which qualified the team to participate in the **Region tournament**. The players scored well but, unfortunately, did not qualify for any further competition.

Softball – Playing for the **first time** at the **scholarship level**, the OCC Softball team completed its season with **21 wins and 13 losses**. The players enjoyed and were very successful playing on OCC's **new softball field**, holding a **home record of 12 wins and 4 losses** this season. The team has been ranked among the **top 20 in the country**, with a team **battling average of .389** for the season. Based on their athletic talent, a number of players were named to the **All-Conference, All-Region teams**:

- ◆ **Jessica Bradley and Brittnay Jones – All-Region and All-Conference**
- ◆ **Laura Britton, Stephanie Busby, and Brittany Ankrom – All-Region**
- ◆ **Lindsey Long and Kerri Petersen – All-Conference**

Baseball - The OCC Baseball team held a **13 win, 13 loss record** for the season, with a **9-7 record in the Region**, earning the team the **4th seed** in the **Garden State Athletic Conference**. Despite several **unfortunate injuries** to players this year, the team **played very well** and made it to the **final four in the Region**. Two OCC players were named to the **All-Conference and All-Region teams**:

- ◆ **Kyle Bahrle- All-Region and All-Conference**
- ◆ **David Vargo – All-Region**

Tennis - The Men's Tennis team **came on strong** this season as a whole even though the record has fell short in team wins. The team earned the right to participate in the **Region 19 tournament** and performed well.

New Member of Coaching Staff – Mr. Bill Zasowski, a former **OCC Standout Men's Basketball player**, has been named **Head Coach** for the **Vikings Men's Basketball Team** this 2005 season.