



# 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 **May 23, 2011, Board Meeting**

**DATE:** May 18, 2011

## Ocean County College Commencement Week

We are looking forward to the following **very important events** during **Commencement week**:

- ◆ The **44<sup>th</sup> Ocean County College Commencement - Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**, at **6:00 p.m.** The **trustees and platform party will robe at 5:30 p.m.** in the **Boardroom**. We are delighted that the **President of Monmouth University, Admiral Paul G. Gaffney**, will deliver the **commencement address**.
- ◆ The **Nursing Pinning Ceremony - Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>**, at **7:30 p.m.** in the **Arts and Community Center Theatre**.
- ◆ The **Awards Ceremony - Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>**, at **7:00 p.m.** in the **Arts and Community Center Theatre**.

## College Reading and Language Association Certification and Peer Tutoring

The **College Reading and Language Association (CRLA)** has awarded **International Tutor Training Program Certification (ITTPC)** to **Ocean County College's Center for Academic Excellence, Writing Center, and Math Center** as a **Multiple-Center Tutor Training Program**. **OCC** is now **authorized to grant certification to peer and professional tutors** who meet the **CRLA requirements for Level I Certification**. **Ms. Loretta Cramer, Center for Academic Excellence Learning Specialist**, led this **initiative** with the assistance of **Ms. Diane DeFilippo, Academic Support Specialist**, and **Dr. Christine Kephart, Writing Skills Coordinator**.

The **mission** of the **College Reading and Language Association** is to provide **college reading and learning professionals** with an **open forum** to **discover and exchange the learning tools and techniques** to **enhance student academic success**. The **purpose** of **International Tutor Training Program**



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**Certification is twofold:** first, it provides **recognition** and **positive reinforcement** for **tutors' successful work** from an **international organization, CRLA**; and, second, CRLA's tutor **certification process** sets an **internationally accepted standard** of **skills** and **training** for **tutors**.

The **first training session** has been **completed**, and **three students** have been **awarded** the **certification**: **Ms. Anna Milewski, Ms. Nicole Lloyd, and Mr. Trevor Woolley**. **Trevor** will be attending **Monday's meeting** with **Ms. Maureen Reustle, Dean of Academic Services**, to comment briefly on this **new program** and his **experience**.

During the **2010-11 academic year**, approximately **40 students** were trained as **peer tutors** to work with other students in a **wide array of subjects**, including **accounting, anatomy and physiology, computer science, math, chemistry, nursing, and writing**. The vast **majority** of students **volunteered** their **tutoring time**.

**Students** are **recommended** by **faculty** to become **peer tutors**, and, in many cases, the faculty members **mentor** the students throughout the **semester**. **Peer tutoring** cultivates a **learner-centered environment** on campus and promotes the **growth and development** of both the **tutors** and those **students** being **assisted**.

## Senior Citizens Art Exhibit

This year is the **35<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the **Annual Senior Citizens Art Exhibit**. It will be held in the **Arts and Community Center Gallery** from **Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, to Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>**. The exhibit is open **Monday through Friday** from **8 a.m. to 8 p.m.** and **Saturday** from **9 a.m. to 12 noon**.

The **original artwork**, created by both **professional** and **nonprofessional senior artists**, may be in one of **eleven categories**—**acrylic, computer imagery, drawing, mixed media, oil, pastel, photography, print, sculpture, watercolor, and crafts**. The **artwork** must have been **executed** by the submitting **artist** within the **past three years**. Last year, **135 talented participants** submitted very **impressive works of art**.

The **Art Exhibit** is hosted by the **Ocean County College Resource Development and College Relations Departments** in collaboration with the **Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders**, the **Ocean County Office of Senior Services**, and the **Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission**.

A **reception** will be held at the close of the exhibit in the **Gallery** on **Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup>**, from **10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**. At **11:00 a.m.**, I will be presenting **awards** to artists, as judged by the **Senior Art Advisory Committee**. **First place award recipients** will then be eligible to enter the **New Jersey Senior Art Show** competition.



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If your schedule permits, please **join me**. I am sure you will be **quite impressed** with the level of **talent** of our **senior population**.

## Homeland Security Program

On **Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>**, **Ocean County College** and **Monmouth University** signed an **articulation agreement** to establish a **partnership** that will offer students a **four-year degree** in **homeland security**. **OCC** is currently the **only** New Jersey **community college** to offer an **associate degree** in **homeland security**, and this new **partnership** will allow our graduates to make a **seamless transition** to the **university** to continue studying toward a **baccalaureate degree** in **homeland security**.

## Board of Trustees Retreat

Please remember that the last **Board of Trustees Retreat** of this academic year is scheduled for **Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**, from **12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.** in the **Technology Building Conference Room**. If you have **suggestions** for **discussion**, please let me know.