



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 28, 2012, Board Meeting**
DATE: May 23, 2013

Ocean County College Response to Super Storm Sandy

The **Ocean County College Disaster Relief Fund** was established in the **aftermath** of **Super Storm Sandy** in early **November 2012**. The **purpose** of the **fund** was to collect **monetary donations** to assist **students** and **employees** who suffered **extreme losses** due to the **storm**.

As of today, approximately **\$28,000** has been **donated** to the **fund** by **trustees**, **employees**, **student groups**, and **concerned sister colleges**. This **outpouring** of **generosity** demonstrates the **caring spirit** of the **OCC family** and our **commitment** to **help one another** during difficult times.

The **funds** were **distributed** as follows:

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| ◆ Wawa gas cards provided to students | \$10,450 |
| ◆ Cafeteria gift cards provided to students | 2,500 |
| ◆ Art supplies for students | 711 |
| ◆ Shop-Rite gift cards to students and employees | 7,350 |
| ◆ Checks to displaced employees | <u>7,025</u> |
| | <u>\$28,036</u> |

The **Disaster Relief Fund** was **one** of **many initiatives** rapidly implemented at the **College** to **assist** our **community**. As you know, the **OCC Foundation** received a **\$200,000 grant** from the **Robin Hood Foundation**. **Students** who were **registered** for the **Spring 2013 semester** and who were **affected** by **Super Storm Sandy** were **eligible** to **receive assistance** from the **Robin Hood Relief Fund**. To be **considered** for **funding**, students were required to provide copies of their **FEMA applications**, **FEMA rental assistance receipts** as a result of **displacement**, and/or copies of **detailed insurance claims** for **losses** resulting from the **storm**. Once this information was provided, a **committee** reviewed the



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documents and **awarded funding** based on the **individual situation** and **number of credits** the student was **registered** for in the **Spring 2013 semester**.

All **\$200,000** from the **Robin Hood Relief Fund** was **distributed** by the **OCC Foundation** to **165 needy students**, with the **goal** of providing the necessary **support** so they could **continue** their **college education**. Funding was provided for:

- **Computers**
- **Textbooks**
- **School supplies**
- **Food**
- **Transportation/gas**
- **Cars**
- **Clothing**
- **Furniture**
- **Medication**

I am **very proud** of the **response** by the **OCC community** to this **unprecedented storm** and believe the **College** has **emerged** from the crisis **stronger** and **more united** than ever before.

37th Annual Ocean County Senior Citizens Art Exhibit

The **37th Annual Ocean County Senior Citizens Art Exhibit** will be **open** to the **public** from **June 1 to June 26** in the **Ocean County College Arts and Community Center Gallery**. **Gallery hours** are **Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**, and **Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**. **Admission** is **free**.

The **original artwork** on display is **created** by both **professional and non-professional artists** age **60 and older**. Categories include **acrylic, craft, computer imagery, drawing, mixed media, oil, pastel, photography, print, sculpture, and watercolor**.

A **Reception and Awards Ceremony** will be held on **Friday, June 7**, from **10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon**. **Awards** will be **announced** and **presented** in the **Ocean County College Theatre**. **Light refreshments** will be **served**. **Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey** is generously **sponsoring** the **reception**.

A **special tribute** in **memory** of **local artist Jane Robbins** will take place during the **ceremony**. Ms. Robbins, a **frequent participant** and **two-time ribbon winner** in the **Art Show Exhibit**, **passed away** last year. Because of Ms. Robbins' **fondness** for the event, her **family** asked that **donations** be given to the **Art Show Exhibit** in **lieu of flowers**. **Two easels** have been **purchased** that feature **special**



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nameplates honoring Ms. Robbins. The easels will be used in the Arts and Community Center Gallery during future exhibits.

The 37th Annual Ocean County Senior Citizens Art Exhibit is sponsored by Ocean County College's Department of Resource Development, Office of College Relations, Senior Art Advisory Committee, and the Arts and Community Center, along with the Ocean County Office of Senior Services, Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission.

Academic Affairs

- ◆ On Friday, June 7, four OCC American Sign Language students will serve as volunteer interpreters for the Opening Ceremonies of the 2013 New Jersey Special Olympics Summer Games at Lions Football Stadium on the campus of the College of New Jersey. Over 3,500 athletes and coaches and 5,000 spectators are expected to attend.
- ◆ Once again, OCC's Nursing Program graduates were extremely successful on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN), another indicator of the strength of our program. The results recently received reported a 97 percent pass rate for OCC graduates who sat for the examination between April 2012 and March 2013, a pass rate that continues to be higher than other similar programs in the State and Nation.
- ◆ OCC's Interim Dean of Adjuncts has been providing some very valuable services to OCC's adjunct faculty as part of our efforts to increase student success.
- ◆ The new Task Force on Scheduling is busy at work; its subcommittee recently distributed a survey to students seeking input for improving the scheduling of classes to meet their needs. To date, over 2,000 students have responded.
- ◆ The Developmental Education Committee is currently planning for the implementation of the developmental Math and English pilot programs this summer.
- ◆ The Global Education Committee submitted a comprehensive recommendation for strengthening our institutional commitment to that effort. As a result, the Study Abroad Program will be expanded and global awareness will be more infused across the College, both inside and outside the classroom.
- ◆ Three new associate degree programs and two new certificates are being recommended for approval at Monday's meeting, all of which are made possible through articulation agreements



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with the **University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey – School of Health Related Professions:**

- ◆ **A.A.S. Degree in Respiratory Therapy**
 - ◆ **A.S. Degree in Respiratory Care**
 - ◆ **A.S. Degree in Psychosocial Rehabilitation**
 - ◆ **Dental Assisting Certificate of Completion**
 - ◆ **Dietary Manager Certificate of Completion**
- ◆ **Additional academic programs currently in development include cyber security, gaming and animation, tourism and hospitality, and environmental studies.**

Commendation

Dr. Maysa Hayward, Dean of e-Learning, was the **Keynote Speaker** at the **Ocean County Bar Association Law Day Program** held at the **Ocean County Courthouse** in **Toms River** on **May 1**. A **letter** was received from a **woman** who **attended** the event with her **family praising Dr. Hayward** for her **presentation**, which they found “**electrifying**” as she discussed the **differences between life in Egypt and the United States**.

Board of Trustees Retreat

The last **Board of Trustees Retreat** of this **academic year** is scheduled for **Friday, June 7**, from **12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.** in the **Boardroom** of the **Administration Building**. If you have **suggestions for discussion**, please let me know.