



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 **November 3, 2008, Board Meeting**

DATE: October 29, 2008

Enrollment

The **ten-week Fall Quick Term** began on **Wednesday, October 10th**. This year, **900 students** registered for a total of **3,946 credits**, representing an **increase** in total **enrollment** of **29.5 percent**, with an **increase** in total **credit hours** of **26.8 percent** over last year. **Full-time** enrollment is **up 37.8 percent** to **51 students**, and **part-time** student enrollment is **up 29.0 percent** at **849 students**.

The combined total **unduplicated headcount** for the **Fall Semester** and the **Fall Quick Term** is **10,282**, an **increase** of **2.3 percent** from **10,046** last year. The total number of **credits** is **104,788**, **up 8.2 percent** from last year's total of **96,840**. This is the **second time** in the **history** of the college that **student enrollment** exceeded **10,000** in the **Fall Semester** and the **Fall Quick Term** combined.

Ocean County College Audit

The **Ocean County College 2008 Report of Audit** for the **fiscal year** ended **June 30, 2008**, will be presented to the trustees for **acceptance** on **Monday**. I am pleased to inform you that the auditor concludes that the **financial statements** present **fairly** the **financial position** of the **business-type activities** of the college and that **no deficiencies** in **internal control** over **financial reporting** were **identified**.

Representatives from the auditing firm, **Bowman and Company**, will **present** their **findings** to the members of the **Finance Committee** and the **full Board** on **Monday**.

Ocean County College Women's Soccer Team

Last year, the **Women's Soccer Team** finished **fourth** in the **nation**. This year, the team is **headed** to the **Final Four** of the **National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Tournament**.



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With a **5-0** victory over **Gloucester County College** on **October 7th**, the Women's Soccer Team went **undefeated** in **Region XIX** divisional play and the **Garden State Athletic Conference** division. This win earned the OCC team the **Garden State Athletic Conference Title** and the **top seed** in the **Region XIX** tournament. It also earned **Head Coach Karen Trump** the **GSAC "Coach of the Year"** award. This was her **50th** win in **six seasons** leading Women's Soccer.

The team then **won** the **Region XIX Division III Tournament** with a **4-1** victory over **Camden County College**. The team had an **overall record** of **16-2** and was **undefeated** in **NJCAA Division III** play (**11-0**).

On **October 26th**, the team (**17-2**) then went on to **defeat Oxford College of Emory University (15-5)** by the score of **2-0** to **win District C** and **advance** to the **Final Four** of the **NJCAA National Tournament**. **District C** encompasses schools from **New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, Delaware, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland, Western Pennsylvania, and Georgia**.

The **Vikings** will now play on **November 8th and 9th** in the **Final Four** for the **NJCAA Division III National Championship** in **Richland, Texas**. Needless to say, we are **thrilled** with the **stellar performance** of the **team, Coaches Karen and AJ Trump, and Director of Athletics, Ilene Cohen**. **Judy and I** will be **traveling to Dallas to cheer on the team** at the **National Tournament**.

Ocean County College Athletic Program

- ◆ **Men's Soccer** – The team did **extremely well**, finishing **second** in the **Garden State Athletic Conference**. However, the men **lost** in the **semi-final round** of the **Region XIX** tournament to the **County College of Morris**. **Mr. Jason Asch** is the team coach.
- ◆ **Women's Tennis** – Under the **leadership** of **Coach Stan Friedman**, the team enjoyed another **fine season**, qualifying for the **National tournament** this **spring** in **Arizona**. They **finished second** in the **Garden State Athletic Conference** and **third** in **Region XIX**.

National Council for Marketing and Public Relations

The **National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR)** is the **only organization** that exclusively **represents marketing and public relations professionals** at **community colleges**. As one of the **fastest-growing affiliates** of the **American Association of Community Colleges**, **NCMPR** today has more than **1,500 members** from nearly **600 colleges** across the **United States, Canada** and **other**



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countries. **District I** includes **Eastern United States** from **Maine** to the **District of Columbia**, as well as the **Maritime Provinces of Canada** and the **United Kingdom**.

I am extremely **pleased** to inform you that **Ocean County College** received **numerous awards** at the **annual NCMPR District I Conference** on **October 27th** in **Saratoga Springs, New York**. The College received the following **Medallion Awards**:

- ◆ **Bronze Award, Electronic Media, for the OCC Foundation *Dragnet* Gala Video**
- ◆ **Bronze Award, Electronic Media, for *The Best Years***
- ◆ **Silver Award, CD-Rom/Promotional Video, for the OCC Recruitment Video**
- ◆ **Silver Award, Invitations, for the Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program Reaffirmation Ceremony Invitation**
- ◆ **Silver Award, Annual Report, for the OCC 2007 Annual Report**
- ◆ **Gold Award, Logo, for the new OCC Sail Logo**
- ◆ **Gold Award, Electronic Video Campaign, for the OCC *Reach For the Stars* Community Campaign Video**

Additionally, I am **delighted** to say that I was **honored** with the **Pacesetter Award**, an award that is presented to a **community college chief executive** in each of NCMPR's **seven districts** who has demonstrated an **outstanding commitment** to **marketing** and **communications** at his or her college and who has demonstrated **strong personal leadership** in the institution's **community outreach endeavors**.

All of this recognition is the **result** of the **good work** of **Ms. Tara Kelly, Vice President of College Advancement**; **Ms. Jan Kirsten, Director of College Relations**; and their **outstanding and creative staff**. **Warm congratulations** are extended to all of them.

NJ STARS Program

As you know, **Dr. Larry Nespoli, President of NJCCC**, and I represented the community colleges on the **NJ STARS Task Force** appointed by **Governor Corzine** to **review** and **make recommendations** to the **NJ STARS Program**. **Mr. Dave Wolfe, Assemblyman and Special Assistant to the President**, **co-sponsored** this **legislation** with **Assemblypersons Patrick Diegnan and Pamela Lampitt** and also **served** as a **member** of the **Task Force**.

On **October 23rd**, the **New Jersey Assembly Higher Education Committee** amended **NJ STARS legislation** as proposed by the **Task Force**. I **expect** that both the **Assembly** and the **Senate** will **approve** this **revised bill**.



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I will **share** with you the **changes** that were made to the program in an effort to **strengthen** the **academic requirements** and to keep the program **affordable**. Basically, **eligibility** for the **NJ STARS I Program** will be revised **from the top 20 percent** of high school graduates **to the top 15 percent**. Additionally, **NJ STARS I** students must achieve at least a **3.25 grade point average** at the community college to **continue** in the **NJ STARS II Program** at the **four-year institutions**.

Foundations of Excellence

This summer, **Ocean County College** was selected as **one of 50 colleges and universities** nationwide to participate in *Foundations of Excellence in the First College Year*, a **comprehensive, guided self-study** and **improvement process** that **enhances** an institution's **ability** to **realize** its **goals** for **student learning, success, and persistence**

Foundations of Excellence is sponsored by **John Gardner's Policy Center on the First Year of College**. The centerpiece of *Foundations of Excellence* is a **model** for **excellence** as outlined through a set of **nine principles** referred to as **Foundational Dimensions**. **Developed** collaboratively with over **300 institutions**, these **Dimensions** provide an **inspirational model** to help **guide** the **institution** in the **evaluation** of the **quality of education** provided to its students.

The **purpose** of this project will be to **produce** an **evidence-based action plan** for **change** that will **improve** the **quality of education** for students during the **first college year**. *Foundations of Excellence* will **demonstrate** our **national leadership** as we **focus** on this **crucial time** in our **students' development** and **engagement** in the **habits of learning**. We anticipate that the **self-study** will be **completed** and a **report** will be prepared by **May 13, 2009**.

I have asked **Mr. Don Doran, Vice President of Student Affairs**, and **Ms. Maureen Reustle, Dean of Academic Services**, to serve as **co-chairs** of this **project**. They will provide a **report** at **Monday's meeting** on the **progress** made to date for the **implementation** of this **self-study**.

GED Testing at Ocean County College

In **May 2006**, Ocean County College began its **GED (General Educational Development) testing** on campus, offering **New Jersey residents** the **opportunity** to **achieve** a New Jersey state-endorsed **high school diploma**. Ocean County College is **one of thirteen** of the **nineteen community colleges** in the state that conducts **GED testing**.

Ms. Carol Cappetta is **OCC's GED Chief Examiner**. She recently learned from the **New Jersey Department of Education** that in **2007**, **OCC's first full year of testing**, **505 students** completed the



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seven hour test. Of that number, **391 passed** the test and **3 did not complete** it. OCC's **passing rate of 78 percent** was among the **highest** in the state.

As a **GED testing site**, OCC plays a very **important role** in the **lives of Ocean County residents** who wish to **achieve a high school diploma**. The **number** of people taking and passing the GED test at Ocean County College **continues to increase**. With **additional test dates** being offered at the **Southern Education Center** in **2009**, it is expected that even **more residents** will **take advantage** of this service in the **upcoming year**.

Annual Harvest Party

The Ocean County College Alumni Association's **12th Annual Scott Chinery Harvest Party** was held on **Saturday, October 18th**, in the **College Center** and adjacent **onion field**. The event provides a day of **fun activities** and **refreshments** for **children** who have suffered the **devastating effects of cancer** and for their **families**. This event continues to be led by **Ms. Monica Vermeulen, 1999 OCC graduate**, and the **Harvest Party Committee**, which is comprised of **many alumni** who have **supported the event** from its **inception in 1997**. In addition, current **Phi Theta Kappa students** manage and staff the **Craft and Game Tent** with **student organizations** from **OCC** and **Phi Theta Kappa chapters** from **Hudson** and **Brookdale** community colleges.

This year's **party** was **supported** with **monetary** or **in-kind donations** from over **sixty organizations, businesses, and/or individuals**. This year, **former NY Giants player, Keith Elias**, joined the festivities as a **celebrity guest** signing **autographs** and **posing for photos** with the **children**. Other **new features** included a live **rock and roll band** and the **Markland Renaissance group**, which staged an exciting choreographed **medieval sword and shield mini-tournament** that the **older children** particularly enjoyed.

Over **100 children** attended the party this year, along with **their parents** and **siblings**. It is a **wonderful, heart-warming, and rewarding experience** for all who **plan, participate in, and enjoy the day**. **Ms. Sandy Broughton, Executive Director of Resource Development**, will be with us on **Monday** to comment on the **Harvest Party**.

Ocean County College Sailing Program

The **OCC Sailing Team** and the **Toms River Yacht Club** co-hosted the **Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association (MAISA) Qualifying Regatta** on the **Toms River** on **September 20th and 21st**. College **sailing teams** that participated included **Ocean County College, Christopher Newport University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Drexel University, Fordham University, Loyola College, Monmouth University, Princeton University, Queen's University, St. Mary's College, Stevens Institute, U.S. Naval Academy, University of Delaware, University of**



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Maryland at Baltimore County, University of Pennsylvania, Villanova University, and Washington College.

OCC's Sailing Team finished in **first place** in a **two-day regatta**, **Coho Memorial**, hosted by **Webb Institute** in **Glen Cove, New York**, over the weekend of **September 27th and 28th**. Finishing in **first place** in the **A division** were **Joe Lepis** and **Luci Saraceno**. **Holden Muehleisen** and **Samantha Gonzalez** won the **B division**.

OCC also finished **first** in the **McCurday Open Regatta** hosted by the **University of Delaware** on the **Bohemia River** in **Maryland** on **October 11th and 12th**. Sailing in the **A division** was **Bradford Wright** and sailing in the **B division** was **Holden Muehleisen**. Crewing in their **first regatta** were **Marion Burke, Lisa Ricciardi, and Sarah Salter**.

During the weekend of **October 18th and 19th** at the **Washington College Regatta**, the OCC Sailing Team **qualified** for the **MAISA Championship War Memorial Regatta**. OCC is the **only junior college** ever to **compete** in the **War Memorial Regatta** and will sail among **MAISA's top 18 schools** at **Cornell University** on **November 1st and 2nd**.

We are **proud** of the wonderful **success** of the **OCC Sailing Team** and commend **Mr. Roy Wilkins, Manager of Recreation Activities**, and all of the **members** of the **Sailing Team**. We wish them well at the **War Memorial Regatta**.

Sustainable Roofing

The **U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system** was developed in response to **market demand** for **"green" buildings** to **reduce or eliminate negative impacts** on the **environment**. As the college continues its efforts to be **environmentally friendly**, we continually seek **new ways** to **improve our stewardship**.

One of those ways is **green roofing**. As is usually the case, **Europe leads** the way when it comes to **energy savings**. As far back as **1997**, **Germany** spent over **\$400 million** on the **installation** of **green roofing**. Because of the success realized, there will now be a **considerable interest** in the use of **green roofing** in this country as the **cost of fuel and energy increases**.

Mr. Ken Olsen, Executive Director of Facilities and Engineering Operations, will discuss the **construction of green roofs** at **Monday's meeting** as well as share with you some of the **environmental benefits** of this technology, such as a **reduction in HVAC equipment and insulation requirements**, **decreased noise levels**, **marketing exposure**, and **storm water management**.



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Veterans Day

The Ocean County College annual **Veterans Day** ceremony will be held on **Friday, November 11th**, at **11 a.m.** at the **Veterans Memorial** on the **campus mall**. A **reception** will immediately **follow** in the **Library Tower Room**, at which **Ms. Martha Cybyk, Adjunct Professor**, will play the **piano**. In the event of **rain**, all activities will take place in the **Fine Arts Theatre**.

The **guest speaker** this year will be **Captain Phillip L. Beachy, United States Navy, Commanding Officer** at the **Naval Air Engineering Station in Lakehurst**. Also participating in the program will be the **Color Guard, United States Marine Corps League, Attachment 796, Toms River; the OCC Concert Band Trombone Ensemble; and the Rifle Squad, American Legion, Post 129, Toms River**. "Taps" will be played by **Mr. Frank Richetti, United States Marine Corps League**.

Please **join us** for this important ceremony to **honor our veterans**.

New Jersey Council of County Colleges

The next **Trustee Educational Seminar** sponsored by the **New Jersey Council of County Colleges** is scheduled for **Monday, November 24th**, from **5 to 6 p.m.** at **Forsgate Country Club in Monroe Township**. This retreat will focus on "**Winning the Skills Race and Strengthening America's Middle Class**."

Last year, a **National Commission on Community Colleges** was **established**, in association with the **College Board**, to **expand the community college role in America's educational system**. The **guest speaker** at the seminar, **Dr. Ronald A. Williams, Vice President of the College Board**, will discuss the Commission's community college **action agenda** and other **College Board community college initiatives**.

If you are **interested in attending** the seminar, please **let me know**.

Ocean County College Trustee Retreat

The final **Trustee Retreat** of this year is scheduled for **Friday, December 12th**, from **12 noon to 3 p.m.** in the **Technology Building Conference Room**. The **purpose** of this retreat is to **briefly review the results of the Board's self-evaluation** as well as to have an **in-depth discussion** regarding the college's **future capital projects**.

Commendations

- ◆ **Dr. Marilyn Kralik, Professor of Fine Arts and Media Studies**, presented a **paper on "Religion and Identity in Islamic Art"** at the **International Conference on Art, Religion, and Identity** that



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took place at the **University of Glasgow Graduate School of Arts and Humanities** in **Scotland** on **September 23rd and 24th**. This **topic** was an **outgrowth** of the **scholarship** she completed as part of her **sabbatical leave** at the **University of Bradford** in **West Yorkshire** in the **United Kingdom** in **2004-2005**.

The **Glasgow Conference** was held as part of a **worldwide celebration** honoring the **100th birthday** of **Hannah Frank**, the **last living member** of the **Scottish Art Nouveau movement** and an important **Jewish female artist**. In addition to the Conference itself, Dr. Kralik attended a **dinner reception** at the **Scottish Parliament** in **Edinburgh**, where she met the **Scottish Minister of Culture** as well as the **curator** of the **Ben-Uri Gallery**, the **London Jewish Museum of Art**.

At my request, **Dr. Kralik** will give you a **brief report** on her **trip** at **Monday's meeting**.

- ◆ **Organic chemistry** has recently been **revitalized** through the **efforts** of **Ms. Maria Tamburro**, **Instructor of Science**. Several **years ago**, there was **little student interest** in organic chemistry, but it is **now** a **vibrant curriculum** with **course offerings** essential to prepare for **medical, veterinarian, and dental professions**. In addition, Ms. Tamburro **established** the **OCC Organic Chemistry Club**, which is now recognized as a **Student Affiliate** of the **American Chemical Society**. **Affiliation** with this group enables our students to **seek job opportunities, network** in the **scientific community, publish** and **research papers**, and find sources for **scholarships**.
- ◆ Several **OCC graduates** have been **selected** by **Monmouth University** to receive the **Ocean County Community College Golden Anniversary Scholarship** for the **2008-2009** academic year. The scholarships were **awarded** to:
 - ◆ **Mr. Michael Herbert**, a senior studying **history and political science**
 - ◆ **Ms. Brenda Hubit**, a senior who is studying **social work**
 - ◆ **Mr. Christopher Inglis**, a senior who is studying **criminal justice**
 - ◆ **Mr. Daniel Kannheiser**, a junior who is studying **criminal justice**
 - ◆ **Ms. April Wennlund**, a senior who is studying **business administration**