



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 2, 2009, Board Meeting**

DATE: October 28, 2009

Mr. Jack Lamping

The recent **passing** of **Mr. Jack Lamping** on **October 23rd** is a **great loss** to **Ocean County College** and to **Ocean County**. **Mr. Lamping** has been a **tireless supporter** of the **College** and its **Foundation**, having served as a **Foundation member** from **1976** until his **retirement** in **2005**, at which time he was **designated** as a *Trustee Emeritus*.

Mr. Lamping received the **Ocean County College Distinguished Service Award** in **1988**. In **1998**, he was honored as the **Ocean County College Foundation Humanitarian of the Year**. These awards were **well deserved**; there was **nothing** he would not do to **advance** the **mission** of the **College** and **Foundation**.

Mr. Lamping, a **long-time resident** of **Ocean County**, was known as "**Mr. Ocean County**" by many, for **good reason**. He served as **Director of Ocean County Public Information** for **35 years** and was **vice president** of a **local bank** for **many years**. More importantly, **Mr. Lamping** was **dedicated** to **community service**, working on behalf of the **Ocean County Historical Society**, the **New Jersey Council of Tourism**, the **Toms River Student Loan Fund**, the **Salvation Army**, the **United Way of Ocean County**, the **Ocean County Council of Boy Scouts of America**, the **Monmouth-Ocean Development Council**, the **Monmouth-Ocean Conference for Community and Justice**, and the **First United Methodist Church of Toms River**. His **efforts** on behalf of **Ocean County residents** were **without comparison**.

When I assumed the **presidency** of **Ocean County College** in **2000**, **Mr. Lamping** was among the **first** to **welcome me**. He devoted **several days** driving me throughout **Ocean County** to **introduce me** to **business and community leaders** and to **acquaint me** with the **area**. I will **truly miss** his **friendship** and **positive spirit**, as will so **many others** both in and out of **Ocean County**.



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Ocean County College Athletics Program

I am very **pleased** to inform you of the wonderful **success** of the **Ocean County College Athletics Program** this fall:

- ◆ The **Athletics Department of Ocean County College** is the **first recipient** of the **Region XIX Champions of Character Award**. The new award **recognizes a Region XIX Athletics Department** that exhibits outstanding results in **character development** of its **student-athletes** and **coaches** by embracing the true **spirit of competition** through **five core values** of **respect, integrity, responsibility, servant leadership, and sportsmanship**. The award recipient also demonstrates **outstanding involvement** in the **community**, which results in positive **character development** through sports.
- ◆ The **Collegiate Athletic Administrators of New Jersey (CCANJ)** presents **Scholar Athlete of the Year Awards** to **one male and one female student** from New Jersey colleges in **each athletic division**. The award **recognizes a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher, academic achievement, athletic achievement, and campus/community involvement**. For the **first time, both winners are Ocean County College students**.

Ashley Bechtle, the **Female Scholar Athlete of the Year**, was a **standout women's soccer athlete**. Her **excellence in the classroom** earned her **cum laude honors**, recognition as a **National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Academic All-American**, and membership in **Phi Theta Kappa**. As a **NJ STARS student**, **Ashley** was selected to **speak** to the **New Jersey Legislature** about the **NJ STARS program**.

Ashley was also named a **member** of the **Garden State Athletic Conference Team** in **2007** and the **2008 NJCAA Soccer All-American and All-Region Teams**. At the **National Championships**, **Ashley** was named a **member** of the **All-Tournament Team**. She **graduated** in **May** and is currently **attending Rutgers University**.

Mr. Stephen Kennelly was honored as the **Male Scholar Athlete of the Year**. **Steve** excelled in the **classroom** and on the **golf course**, earning **summa cum laude honors** as well as being named as an **NJCAA Distinguished Academic All-American**. He **led the golf team** to the **Nationals** in **2008** and **finished 35th** in the **country** in **2009**. **Steve** was selected as the **#1 golfer** in **Region XIX**.

Steve was also a **NJ STARS student** and a member of **Phi Theta Kappa**. He **graduated** in **May** with a **4.0 grade point average** and is now **attending Montclair State University**.



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- ◆ **Two Ocean County College student-athletes** were announced on **October 14th** as **Players of the Week** by the NJCAA:
- ◆ **Ms. Kristina Laureigh** was named as **Player of the Week** for NJCAA Division III Women's Soccer. **Kristina**, the sophomore **team captain**, led the **defensive effort** for the College last week, allowing **only two shots on goal** over **three games**. **Ocean County College Women's Soccer** is ranked **#3** in the NJCAA Division III National Soccer Poll, with a record of **11-2-1**.
- ◆ **Ms. Jennifer Nelson** was named **Runner of the Week** for NJCAA Division III Women's Cross Country. This recognition is based on her **performance** in the **Monmouth Invitational 5K** race with a time of **19:51**, the team's **first place finish** at the event, and her **excellent season**. **Ocean County College Women's Cross Country** is currently ranked **#1** in the NJCAA Division III National Poll, and **Jennifer** is recognized as one of the **top runners** in the **nation**.
- ◆ Both the **Men's and Women's Soccer teams** have played well enough this season to reach the **Semi-Finals** of the **Region XIX Tournament**. The **men's team** is playing the **County College of Morris**, and the **women** are competing against **Brookdale Community College**. Because of the **rain** this week, the **games** have been **postponed**.
- ◆ The **Women's Cross Country team** won the **Region XIX Tournament** and is ranked **#1** in the **country**. The team will play in the NJCAA National Tournament on **November 7th** at **Finger Lakes Community College** in **New York**.

Needless to say, the **Ocean County College Athletics Program** is becoming one of the **best in the nation**. We owe that, in large measure, to the **dedication** and **commitment** of **Ms. Ilene Cohen**, **Director of Athletics**, **Mr. AJ Trump**, **Assistant Director of Athletics**, and all of our **team coaches** for providing such **effective, enthusiastic, and excellent leadership** to our **student-athletes**.

Ocean County College Sailing Program

The **performance** of the **Ocean County College Sailing Team** continues to be very **impressive**. The **OCC team** has been quite **successful** sailing against **upper division varsity teams**, such as the **U.S. Naval Academy**, **Princeton University**, the **University of Delaware**, the **University of Pennsylvania**, **Cornell University**, **Monmouth University**, **Penn State University**, **Drexel University**, the **University of Maryland at Baltimore County**, **St. Mary's College**, **Villanova University**, **Christopher Newport University**, **Queens University**, **Washington College**, **Fordham University**, **Columbia University**, and **Loyola College**.



OCEAN
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- ◆ On **September 20th**, the team **qualified** for the **Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association (MAISA) fall regatta**. **Eighteen colleges** participated as **OCC hosted** the event on the **Toms River**.
- ◆ Our team **finished second** in the **COHO Memorial regatta** held at **Webb Institute** on **Long Island** on **September 26th and 27th**.
- ◆ On **October 3rd and 4th**, the team completed the **Philly Fleet race** in **second place**, with OCC's **Tyler Kennedy** and **Autumn Hoover** winning the **A Division** on the **Delaware River**.
- ◆ OCC **triumphed** at the **University of Delaware McCurdy regatta** on **October 10th and 11th**. Again, **Tyler** and **Autumn** won the **A Division**.
- ◆ For the **third time**, **Tyler** and **Autumn** won the **A Division** as **OCC** finished **fourth** at the **Washington College regatta** in **Maryland**. **Eighteen colleges** competed on **October 17th and 18th**.
- ◆ And for the **fourth time**, **Tyler** and **Autumn** won the **A Division**, with **Brad Wright** and **Emily McCarthy** winning the **B Division**, at the **Nittany Lion Open** at **Penn State University** on **October 25th**.

This weekend, the **Sailing Team** travels to **St. Mary's College** in **Maryland** to compete in the **MAISA Championships**.

Ocean County College Chemistry Club

October 18th through 24th was **National Chemistry Week**, an **annual event** to **raise public awareness** of the **importance of chemistry** in **everyday life**. The week is **coordinated** by the **American Chemical Society** and was **first celebrated** in **1987**. This year's **theme** was **"Chemistry—It's Elemental!"** to **celebrate the 140th anniversary** of the **Periodic Table** of elements.

For **National Chemistry Week**, the **Ocean County College Chemistry Club** hosted a **community outreach program** that **demonstrated hands-on chemistry experiments**. **Collaborating** in this effort were **Professor Maria Tamburro**, who serves as **Club Advisor**, **Science Professors Dr. Pat Demko** and **Dr. Marcia Bradley**, **Adjunct Professor of Science Bob Artz**, **Georgian Court University faculty member Dr. Andrew Weber**, **Georgian Court University students**, and **members of the Chemistry Club**.

In addition, the **Ocean County College Chemistry Club** has **responded** to a **challenge** by the **President** of the **American Chemical Society** to produce a **video** to **educate** and **promote chemistry** in our **community** based on the **theme "I am a Proud Chemist because..."** Featured in the video are



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professionals from various disciplines, including **Dr. Bradley, Dr. Jim Brown, Professor Marc Labella, and Professor Tamburro**. Club President **Erine O'Connor** and club members **Joshua Price, Ellen Miller, Daniel Schnell, and Jim Gilroy** worked with our talented **media department** in making this video. The video will be **entered** in the **American Chemical Society's competition**. I have asked **Professor Tamburro** and **club members** to **attend** the Board **meeting** to **share** their **video** with you.

The **Chemistry Club** will also be involved with **other projects** this year: It will continue its efforts with **Dr. William Rickert, Professor of Mathematics and Advisor to Phi Theta Kappa**, and **Phi Theta Kappa members** in the **completion** of the **Rain Garden**, which is located by our recently renovated **Arts and Community Center**. In addition, the group will continue to **raise funds** for a **St. Jude's Children special charity** as well as **collect non-perishable items** for Ocean County's **St. Vincent DePaul's Food Pantry** this holiday season.

Center for Academic Excellence

The **mission** of the **Center for Academic Excellence (CAE)** is to **promote equity and excellence** in the **educational opportunities** for Ocean County College **students**. The **key functions** of the **CAE** include the **leadership and coordination** of the **Student Success course** for **first year students**, **testing services, tutoring and mentoring** activities, **NJ STARS enrichment services, disability services, regional center activities**, and an **orientation program** with **new and untenured faculty**. **Key factors** in the **success** of **CAE initiatives** are: **administrative and faculty support; student-staff contacts** characterized by staff **accessibility, expertise, and commitment**; and **program comprehensiveness**.

The **Center for Academic Excellence** is receiving **financial support** through **two grants** awarded to **Ocean County College** for the **2009-2010** academic year:

- ◆ **Edge Foundation Grant** – Based on OCC's **national reputation** for services for students with **disabilities**, **Ocean County College** has been selected as **one of six colleges**, with **Northeastern University, George Washington University, University of Michigan, and Washington State University**, to receive this grant. The **purpose** of the grant is to **quantify** the **effectiveness** of **personal coaching strategies** on the **academic, professional, and social achievements** of students with **ADHD** in college and **university settings**. **Students** who are **selected** to **participate** in this grant will receive **free coaching** for the **entire year** by a highly trained **Edge coach**. The **cost** for **coaching** each student would normally **cost** a minimum of **\$3,000**.
- ◆ **PASS Grant** – The **Project Academic Skills Support (PASS)** grant funds the **support services** for college **students** with **learning disabilities**. **Ocean County College** will receive **\$162,000 annually** for the next **five years** from the **New Jersey Commission on Higher Education** to continue to serve as a comprehensive **support program** for these **students**. **OCC** is the **recipient** of the **largest** of the **awards** to the **five colleges** in **New Jersey**. The program continues to **focus** on **transition**,



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orientation, academic support, diagnostic services, technical training, and professional development for faculty and staff at OCC and other New Jersey colleges.

I have invited Ms. Maureen Reustle, Dean of Academic Services, to Monday's meeting to share additional information regarding the activities of the Center for Academic Excellence.

GED Testing

The New Jersey Department of Education has renewed its contract for Ocean County College to serve as a site for the testing of General Education Development (GED). Last year, the College served the community's need for an alternate route to a high school diploma in two ways, through the GED test administered in our Testing Center and through application to the State for the 30 college credit route.

Ocean County College ranks third, out of 13 county colleges that offer the GED test, in numbers of students tested and awarded high school diplomas. More impressive is the fact that OCC's passing rate continues to remain among the highest in the State at 77.8 percent in 2008.

Ms. Carol Cappetta, OCC'S GED Chief Examiner, reports that there has been a substantial increase in the number of students taking the GED test at the College since the inception of the program:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Tested</u>	<u>Received Diplomas</u>
2006 (May-December)	166	138
2007	505	398
2008	702	547
2009 (January-June)	379	279
Total Number of Students	1,752	1,362

Ocean County College is clearly providing a much needed service to the Ocean County community. The employment of a full-time test examiner in November 2008 has allowed for additional testing opportunities at the Southern Education Center.

Ocean County College Alumni Association Harvest Party

The Ocean County College Alumni Association's 13th Annual Harvest Party was held on Saturday, October 17th, in the College Center. As you know, the purpose of the Harvest Party is to provide a day of fun activities and refreshments for children who have suffered the devastating effects of cancer and for their families.



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Established in **1997** with a very **modest budget** by **Monica Vermeulen**, former **President of Phi Theta Kappa** and **student/alumni representative** on the **Board of Trustees**, the event is now **supported** with **generous donations** of **funding, food, entertainment, supplies, and time**. It must be **noted** that the event would not be possible without the **financial support** of **Ms. Kathleen Chinery-DeVito** who continues to **support** the event in **memory** of her **husband, Mr. Scott Chinery**.

This year's **Harvest Party** was, unfortunately, affected by the **bad weather**, which necessitated **moving** the **activities**, which are typically located outdoors on the onion field, into the **Gymnasium**. The only features that had to be **cancelled** were the **petting zoo** and the **Batmobile**, although **Batman** did arrive with **Robin**.

The **Gym** proved to be an **excellent setting** for the **inflatable rides, craft and game activities, and live band**. This year PTK introduced a **new craft project** which was fun for the entire family, **dressing and decorating a scarecrow**. In addition, **two celebrities** signed **autographs**, actor **Josh Flitter**, and former NY Giant football player, **Lee Rouson**.

Sincere **appreciation** is expressed to **Ms. Kathy Buffum**, **Manager of the Ocean County College Foundation**, who has **coordinated** this event for **many years**, **Ms. Gina Suriano**, **Director of Resource Development**, **Ms. Monica Vermeulen**, the very hard working **volunteer committee**, and the college's **custodial, grounds, and security staff**, who are **dedicated** to the **success** of this **event** every year.

Ocean County College Recognition

- ◆ **Ocean County College** is one of **three community colleges** featured in an **article** written by **Ms. Jan Baltzer**, **Senior Vice President of Opportunity Management for SunGard Higher Education**, which was included in the **Summer 2009** edition of the **Association of Community College Trustees' publication, Trustee Quarterly**.

Ms. Baltzer's article, "**Online Degrees Evolve to Meet New Demands**," highlights **Ocean County College, San Juan College** in New Mexico, and **State Fair Community College** in Missouri for **recognizing** the need to provide complete **degree programs online** in order to **attract new student populations** as well as to **satisfy existing learners** who want the **convenience** of **online study**.

- ◆ The **Fall 2009** issue of **Kean Magazine** devotes space to the **success** of our **Kean-Ocean partnership** in terms of **student growth**, with over **1,200 students** registered this **fall semester**, **increased** undergraduate and graduate **program offerings**, and **future plans** for the **construction** of the **Gateway Building**. Of **particular interest** is the section in the article in which **Mr. Ernie Muska**, our **2009-2010 student/alumni trustee**, is **featured**. **Mr. Muska** is now **enrolled** in the **Kean-Ocean program**, working toward his **baccalaureate degree** in **business management**. He



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intends to be as **active** as a **Kean University student** as he was at OCC, which will, no doubt, benefit the **Kean**.

- ◆ The **National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR)** recently informed us that **Ocean County College** has won awards in the following categories of **marketing** and **public relations** work:
 - ◆ **Student Handbook**
 - ◆ **Web Site**
 - ◆ **Social Marketing**
 - ◆ **Wildcard Entry – Van Wrapping**

The **awards** will be **announced** at the **Medallion Awards dinner** during the annual **District 1 Conference** that is being held on **Monday evening, November 2nd**, in **Atlantic City**.

This year, **Ocean County College** and **Atlantic Cape Community College** are **co-sponsoring** the event. Because of the **excellent work** by **Ms. Jan Kirstin, Director of College Relations**, as **coordinator** of the **2008 New Jersey Council of County Colleges Best Practices Conference** that took place on our campus, she was **selected** to **serve** as the **NCMPR event chair, coordinating** all aspects of the **conference**. **NCMPR** requested that **I address** the **conference participants** at the **Medallion Awards Ceremony** on Monday night.

Congratulations to all members of the **College Advancement** team who **contributed** to the **success** of the **winning projects**. I will share with you at the **December Board meeting** the specific **awards** won by **Ocean County College**.

- ◆ **Dr. Jim Brown, Associate Professor of Science**, presented at the **Conference on Information Technology** for the **League for Innovation in the Community College** on **October 11th** in **Detroit**. He **co-presented** with **Ms. Allyson Wells, General Manager of SunGard Higher Education**, on **“Grow and Thrive with Innovative Online Academic Programs.”** This presentation featured **Ocean County College’s** innovative **online programs** in both **nursing** and **science** and the **rapid growth** of our **online offerings**, which attract **students** from around the **country** and even the **world**.

Additionally, **Dr. Brown** gave a **presentation** to the annual meeting of the **Association for Educational Communications and Technology** in **Louisville, Kentucky**, on **October 31st**. The presentation was entitled **“Dispelling the Myth of Effectively Teaching Lab Science Fully Online - Yes! It is Possible!”**



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Ocean County College Viking News

Two issues of the **Viking News** have been published this fall with a new student staff under the leadership of Professor Gary Shaffer as Advisor. Twenty-two students are involved with the newspaper and more are being invited to participate as writers, reviewers, photographers, and editors.

The new editions of the **Viking News** have received rave reviews for their improved layout, interesting and current stories, and overall production quality. I hope to re-establish a monthly column devoted to a "President's Message," in which information can be shared with the students.

Veterans Day Ceremony

Please remember the Ocean County College Veterans Day Ceremony will take place on Wednesday, November 11th, at 12:00 noon at the Ocean County College Veterans Memorial on the campus mall. Our guest speaker will be Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Stark, 87th Mission Support Group Deputy Commander at McGuire Air Force Base. In this capacity, he provides base infrastructure support, communications, security, personnel resource management, transportation, supply, logistics plans, contracting, and morale/welfare/recreation services for over 27,000 personnel.

A reception will be held in the Library Tower Room immediately following the ceremony. I hope you will be able to join us for this very important event.

Global Education

The Ocean County College Global Education Committee sponsors and promotes events that heighten student, campus, and community understanding of the interconnectedness of diverse cultures and nations and fosters a college climate of global citizenry. The ultimate goal is to educate students about the world in which they live.

The committee is sponsoring several activities in recognition of OCC's Global Education Week from November 16th to 20th, which is known nationally as International Education Week. The activities will focus on "Globalizing Perspectives on Ecologies and Economies." The following events are scheduled:

- ◆ Monday, November 16th
 - ◆ 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Education and Global Initiatives; plus Thanksgiving Meal – Dr. Michael Searson, Executive Director of the School of Global Education and Innovation at Kean University, will be the keynote speaker, followed by the Global Day of Thanksgiving Meal.



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- ◆ **3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. – Strategizing for Global Education and Innovative Initiatives –** Roundtable discussion led by **Dr. Searson**.

- ◆ **Tuesday, November 17th**

- ◆ **9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon – Film Viewing of “Central Station” – Professors of English and Literature Jayanti Tamm and Charlene Williams** will lead discussion following the film.
- ◆ **12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. – Global Ecological Recovery: A Challenge for Mankind – Adjunct Professor of English Robert Pedone** is the moderator of this discussion.

- ◆ **Friday, November 20th**

- ◆ **Sustainability: The Past, the Present, and the Future – Dr. Nicholas Smith-Sebasto, Co-Executive Director of the School of Environmental and Life Sciences at Kean University**, will present thoughts on global sustainability.

Board of Trustees Retreats

Please note that the **September 2010** date for the **Board of Trustees Retreat** has been **changed**. Retreats are scheduled during **next year** on the following dates:

- ◆ **Friday, March 5, 2010**
- ◆ **Friday, June 4, 2010**
- ◆ **Friday, September 17, 2010**
- ◆ **Friday, December 10, 2010**

All **Retreats** will **begin** at **12:00 noon** and will be held in the **Technology Building Conference Room**.

The **last Retreat** of **this year** is scheduled for **Friday, December 11th**, at **12:00 noon** in the **Technology Building Conference Room**. The **regular public Board meeting** is on **Monday, December 7th**.