



# 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 **September 24, 2012, Board Meeting**

**DATE:** September 19, 2012

## Commendation

**Dr. William Rickert, Professor of Mathematics**, will attend **Monday's meeting** to be **recognized** for his **35 years** as an **advisor** to the **Ocean County College Tau Iota Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa**. The **Phi Theta Kappa Center for Excellence**, located in **Jackson, Mississippi**, sent a letter to me expressing its **sincere appreciation** to **Dr. Rickert** for his **service** and **time** as an advisor.

The purpose of **Phi Theta Kappa** is to **recognize** and **encourage scholarship** among **two-year college students**. **OCC's Tau Iota Chapter** has achieved **great success** and has been a **vital student organization** on campus. Throughout the years, **Tau Iota** has received **Five-Star Chapter status** many times and many **PTK members** have been **acknowledged** for their **accomplishments**.

Our **Chapter** has evolved into a **strong organization** as a result of the **quality of leadership** and **commitment** of its **advisors**. It gives me **great pleasure** to **congratulate Dr. William Rickert** on behalf of the **College** and the **Phi Theta Kappa Center for Excellence**. His **dedication** to the **College, Phi Theta Kappa**, and our **students** has been **extraordinary**.

## 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** as well as fosters a **college climate** of **global citizenry**.

The **committee**, in conjunction with the **Student Life Committee**, is again presenting the **Drepung Gomang Monastery Sacred Arts Tour** on our campus from **Monday, October 29, through Friday, November 2**. Last on our campus in **January 2011**, the **monks** have been sent to the United States to spread a **message** of **wisdom** and **compassion**, to share unique **Tibetan Buddhist teachings, culture, and traditions**, to generate a **greater awareness** of the **endangered Tibetan civilization**, and to **raise support** for the **refugee monks' community** in **Southern India**. All **proceeds** from the **sale** of



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merchandise go directly to **support, educate, house, feed, and clothe** the nearly **2,000 refugee monks** now residing at **Drepung Gomang**.

Attached is a **flyer** with the **schedule** for the **week**. Of **particular interest and fascination**, the **Drepung Gomang monks** are **renowned** for the **construction** of the **Sacred Art of Sand Mandala**, which begins **Monday morning** and ends with its **ceremonial disposal** into the **lake** on College Drive on **Friday afternoon**. Also, this year, in **conjunction** with the **full moon**, a **Puja Ceremony** will take place on the **field** next to the **College Center** early **Monday evening**.

## Barnegat Bay Sailing Hall of Fame

In my July report, I informed you of the **Barnegat Bay Sailing Hall of Fame induction ceremony** scheduled for **Saturday, October 6, 2012**, in the **College Gym**. Inductees are individuals with ties to the **Barnegat Bay** who have achieved **excellence** in and/or **contributed** to the **sport of sailing** on the Bay in some **extraordinary manner**.

Representing the **fifth class** inducted, those being honored this year are:

- ◆ **Britton Chance, Jr. - Mantoloking Yacht Club**
- ◆ **Charles J. Horter – Island Heights Yacht Club**
- ◆ **John P. Harkrader – Bay Head and Manasquan River Yacht Clubs**
- ◆ **John J. Applegate – Lavalette Yacht Club**
- ◆ **Mark Schleckser – Shore Acres and Lavallette Yacht Clubs**
- ◆ **Roger Brown – Metedeconk River Yacht Club**
- ◆ **Paul Coward – Brant Beach Yacht Club**
- ◆ **Doug and Peg Galloway – Little Egg Harbor Yacht Club (posthumously)**

Please **join us** on **October 6** if you can.

## Middle States Self-Study Report

**Dr. Ellie Fogarty**, Middle States Commission on Higher Education's liaison to Ocean County College, will visit the **campus** on **Friday, September 21**, to meet with **Ms. Janet Hubbs**, Chair of the **Middle States Self-Study Steering Committee**, and **me**. We will share with her **our progress** to date on the **Self-Study**, and she will, no doubt, continue to provide **useful, personal insight** on our efforts.

**First-draft chapters** of the **Self-Study** have been **received**, and the **committee** will meet on **Friday, October 19**, to **review** this **preliminary draft report**. Under the **excellent leadership** of **Ms. Hubbs** and **Dr. Carolyn Lafferty**, the **self-study process** continues to be **on schedule**.