



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 **March 22, 2010, Board Meeting**

DATE: March 17, 2010

Ocean County College Athletics

The College was recently informed by the **National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA)** that the **OCC Women's Cross Country Team** not only won the **national championships** but also ranked **#1 academically** in the country with a **team grade point average of 3.73**. The **Men's Soccer Team** ranked **#2** in the country with a **team grade point average of 3.02**. This **academic excellence** is **outstanding** and is a **reflection** of the **OCC Athletic Program's expectations** from and **support** to its **student-athletes**.

The **2010 NJCAA Swimming and Diving Championships** were held from **March 2nd to March 6th** in **Fort Pierce, Florida**. The **men's team** finished in **second place** in the **non-scholarship division** and the **women's team** finished **fourth**.

The **OCC swimmers** made quite an **impact** at the **national championships**. **Five new Ocean County College records** were set:

- ◆ In the **50 freestyle relay**, **Billy deRouville** set a **record** by besting his previous school record of **22.08** with a time of **21.99**.
- ◆ In the **100 freestyle relay**, he set another **record** with a time of **47.41**, beating his previous record of **48.28**.
- ◆ In the **200 freestyle relay**, **Billy** broke a **school record** that has been in place since 1977. He swam with a time of **1:47.01**; the previous record was **1:47.52**.
- ◆ The **200 freestyle relay team** of **Jordan Centofanti, Rob Coates, Brian Mahoney, and Billy deRouville** set an **OCC record** with a time of **1:28.44**, besting the previous record of **1:29.06** which was set last year.

- ♦ The 400 freestyle relay team of Jordan Centofanti, Rob Coates, Brian Mahoney, and Billy deRouville set the record with a time of 3:17.06. The previous record was set last year with a time of 3:19.64.

Other recognition for OCC swimmers included:

- ♦ 2009-2010 NJCAA Swimming and Diving All-Americans

- ♦ Jordan Centofanti – 400 Freestyle Relay
- ♦ Rob Coates – 400 Freestyle Relay
- ♦ Billy deRouville – 400 Freestyle Relay
- ♦ Brian Mahoney – 400 Freestyle Relay

- ♦ 2009-2010 NJCAA Swimming and Diving All-American Honorable Mentions

- ♦ Lauren Ashman – 800 Freestyle Relay, 1650 Freestyle Relay
- ♦ Marion Burke – 800 Freestyle Relay, 200 Freestyle Relay, 400 Freestyle Relay
- ♦ Alyssa Giglio – 400 Medley Relay, 200 Freestyle Relay, 200 Medley Relay, 100 Butterfly, 200 Butterfly, 400 Freestyle Relay
- ♦ Jaimie Hinshelwood – 400 Medley Relay, 200 Medley Relay, 200 Backstroke
- ♦ Amelia Hrabal – 200 Backstroke
- ♦ Kristina Laureigh – 400 Medley Relay, 200 Medley Relay
- ♦ Brittany Nycz – 800 Freestyle Relay, 200 Individual Medley, 400 Individual Medley, 200 Butterfly
- ♦ Erine O'Connor – 400 Medley Relay, 200 Freestyle Relay, 500 Freestyle Relay, 1650 Freestyle Relay, 200 Medley Relay, 400 Individual Medley, 400 Freestyle Relay
- ♦ Priscilla Robinson – 800 Freestyle Relay, 200 Freestyle Relay, 400 Freestyle Relay
- ♦ Alex Carpenter – 800 Freestyle Relay, 200 Butterfly
- ♦ Jordan Centofanti – 400 Medley Relay, 200 Freestyle Relay, 200 Medley Relay
- ♦ Rob Coates – 800 Freestyle Relay, 200 Freestyle Relay, 100 Backstroke, 200 Backstroke
- ♦ Billy deRouville – 400 Medley Relay, 200 Freestyle Relay, 50 Freestyle Relay, 200 Medley Relay, 200 Freestyle Relay, 100 Freestyle Relay
- ♦ Brian Mahoney – 400 Medley Relay, 200 Freestyle Relay, 200 Medley Relay, 100 Backstroke, 200 Backstroke
- ♦ Richard Maier – 400 Medley Relay, 200 Medley Relay, 100 Breaststroke, 200 Breaststroke
- ♦ Anthony Porzio – 800 Freestyle Relay, 1650 Freestyle Relay, 200 Butterfly
- ♦ Patrick Solan – 800 Freestyle Relay

Mr. AJ Trump, Assistant Director of Athletics, and several of our swimmers will attend Monday's meeting to discuss their participation at the national competition and to receive congratulations for their fine performances. Our appreciation is also expressed to Mr. Steve Stout, Swimming Coach.

Phi Beta Lambda

Ocean County College's **Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) Chapter** attended the **New Jersey PBL State Leadership Conference** on **February 27th** at **Mercer County College**. Present at the Leadership competition were PBL members from several **two- and four-year colleges** in New Jersey, including **Rutgers University, Stevens Institute of Technology, Ryder University, and The College of New Jersey**. This conference supports the mission of **Phi Beta Lambda** to bring **business and education together** in a **positive working relationship** through **innovative leadership and career development programs**.

OCC's **Phi Beta Lambda Chapter** won **23 awards**, including the prestigious **Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit**, which is the **highest honor** a chapter can be awarded in **PBL**. Many rigorous requirements had to be fulfilled to win the **Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit**, including **project conduction goals, managing financial development projects**, and extensive **community volunteer service work**. In the **2009-2010 academic year**, **PBL donated over \$10,000** in **tangible and non-tangible goods** to a variety of **needy nonprofit organizations** in **Ocean County**.

The following awards were presented to **OCC's PBL Chapter** at the **Leadership Conference**:

- ♦ **Largest Professional Membership**
- ♦ **Largest Local Membership**
- ♦ **Local Chapter Professional of the Year – Vice President of Academic Affairs Richard Strada**
- ♦ **Businessperson of the Year – Michael Napolitano, Owner/Operator, Napo Properties**
- ♦ **Outstanding Local Advisor – Katherine Dillon, Associate Professor of Business Studies**
- ♦ **State Membership Director and Who's Who in PBL – Frank Gorman**
- ♦ **Outstanding Officer – Travis Cheney**
- ♦ **Outstanding Member – Raymond Brophy**
- ♦ **Computer Applications – Kristin DeMartino, 2nd place**
- ♦ **Financial Services - Evan Hernandez, 2nd place**
- ♦ **Hospitality Management – Charis Chambers and Chris Marzella, 1st place**
- ♦ **Human Resource Management – Raymond Brophy and Travis Cheney, 2nd place**
- ♦ **Impromptu Speaking – Raymond Brophy, 1st place**
- ♦ **International Business – James Lennon, 2nd place**
- ♦ **Management Concepts – James Lennon, 1st place**
- ♦ **Sales Presentation – Gil Viron, 1st place**
- ♦ **Small Business Management Plan – Kathryn Trachta, Frank Gorman, and Chris Marzella, 1st place**
- ♦ **Word Processing – Christine Gonzalez, 1st place**
- ♦ **Mr. Future Business Executive – Frank Gorman, 1st place**

Phi Beta Lambda members will represent **OCC** at the **National PBL Leadership Conference** in **Nashville, Tennessee**, in **July**. They are looking forward to **demonstrating their hard work** and the **excellent education** they are receiving at **OCC**.

Advisors Professor Katherine Dillon, Dr. Virginia Reilly, Professor of Business Studies, and Mr. Dean LaBollita, Assistant Dean for the School of Social Science and Human Services, provide exceptional leadership to our PBL students, which allows them to be so successful. We commend all of these students for their achievements.

Ocean County College Office of Recruitment

The OCC Office of Recruitment has developed a newsletter, The Ocean County College Navigator, in an effort to reach the parents of high school students to emphasize the value of a college education, especially a community college education in comparison to four-year public and private institutions. The Winter 2010 edition of The Navigator includes many informative articles, some of which focus on college choice, athletic opportunities, the cost effectiveness of OCC, financial aid, and new student orientation.

In support of recruitment, an Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, April 7th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Gymnasium, at which information will be available about OCC offerings, the Kean-Ocean partnership, the NJ STARS Program, athletic programs, financial aid, and various other programs. In addition, campus tours will be provided.

At Monday's meeting, Mr. Don Doran, Vice President of Student Affairs, will introduce Ms. Jaclyn Rodemann, Director of Recruitment and Admissions, and Ms. Megan Springsted, Recruitment Coordinator, who will share with you an overview of recruitment activities.

Ocean County College Security Department

The goal of the OCC Security Department is to provide a safe and secure environment for the campus community. To accomplish this goal, the Security Department has implemented several new programs and initiatives, some of which include:

- ◆ An emergency loudspeaker system was recently purchased and deployed that is capable of sending clear and concise messages to the entire college campus. The loudspeaker system proved to be quite effective when it was utilized during a recent snow storm. Eventually, all buildings will be capable of receiving messages via a public address system.
- ◆ The closed circuit TV system has been enhanced to provide coverage in areas that were previously considered vulnerable.
- ◆ With assistance from College Relations, the security webpage has been improved to now include an anonymous "crime tip" line.
- ◆ The visibility of security on campus has been improved with an increased presence in high traffic areas as well as at athletic events. Security uniforms have been upgraded for a more professional appearance, a new look that has been favorably received by security officers themselves and the campus community.

- ♦ A new **student security team** has been **established** on campus. The **Community Service Officer (CSO) program** allows select **students** to work closely with the College's **security force**, receiving **training** in areas such as **patrol tactics** and **medical emergencies**. The **CSO's** wear **bright yellow shirts** as they **patrol** the campus, and they have become an **extension** of our eyes and ears.
- ♦ A **Ford Escape Hybrid** and a **Vantage Electric truck** have been **added** to the **Security fleet**. Aside from the obvious **cost savings** associated with these **new vehicles**, they have been a **public relations success** as numerous students and staff have made **positive comments** on our efforts to "go green."
- ♦ **Seven Automated External Defibrillators (AED's)** have been **installed** throughout the campus in the event of **cardiac emergency**, and approximately **30 faculty and staff members** have been **trained** in **CPR and AED**.

I have asked **Mr. Bob Kumpf, Director of College Security**, to talk with you at **Monday's meeting** about all of these **new initiatives**. Since his arrival at the **campus last August**, **Mr. Kumpf** has made **exceptional progress** in ensuring the **safety** of our **students**, our **staff**, and our **campus facilities**.

2010 Best Practices Conference

The **New Jersey Council of County Colleges 2010 Best Practices Conference**, "New Directions for Turbulent Times," is scheduled for **Friday, April 23rd**, from **8:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.** This year, the event is being **hosted** by **Brookdale Community College** in its **Warner Student Life Center** in **Lincroft**.

Sponsoring the conference this year are **AXA Equitable**, **The College Board**, **Boston Reed College**, **ING**, **SmartThinking**, **SSP Architectural Group**, and **TIAA-CREF**.

The **conference** is offered by the **Council** to **improve** the ways by which the **community college sector** delivers **educational services** to better ensure **learning excellence** and **student success**. The event features **special sessions** on **New Business Models**, the **Developmental Education Initiative 2010**, **best practices presentations** from **colleagues and peers**, a **Presidential Roundtable**, **numerous vendor tables**, and **networking**.

The **Best Practices Conference** is always an **interesting** and **informative event**. If you would like to attend, please let me know.

Media Interview

NJN, New Jersey Public Television and Radio, visited the **Ocean County College campus** to **interview Ms. Sara Winchester, Vice President of Finance**, to garner the College's **reaction** to the Governor's **announcement of reduced State funding** for the remainder of **FY 2010**.

Ms. Winchester discussed **OCC's plans** to implement **internal cost-saving measures** to ensure the College remains **affordable** for **students**, among which are a **selective freeze** on **hiring**, **deferment** of some **major capital projects**, **restricted travel**, and additional **administrative reorganization**. She emphasized that the **loss in State aid** will **not affect** the **quality of education** OCC provides.

This **short video** will be shown at **Monday's meeting**. It aired on **NJN** and **Channel 13, PBS**, on **Tuesday, March 2nd**.

National Poetry Month

National Poetry Month, established by the **Academy of American Poets** in **1996**, is an **annual celebration** in **April**. Its **purpose** is to **increase** the **visibility** of **poetry** in **popular culture** while also to **acknowledge** poetry's ability to **sustain itself** throughout the **years**. The **goal** is to introduce the **pleasures of reading poetry**, make poetry an **important part** of **school curricula**, and increase the **attention** paid to **poetry**.

The College is **sponsoring** several **events** in **recognition** of **National Poetry Month**:

- ♦ **April 26th** – Poetry Reading by **Mr. Donald Moores, Professor** at **Kean University**
- ♦ **April 28th** – Film Screening: **"The Mirror,"** from **Russian director, Andrei Tarkovsky**
- ♦ **April 29th** – **Open Mic** for poetry reading
- ♦ **April 30th** – **Poet Valzhyna Mort, Reading and Book Signing**

Ocean County College Foundation Golf Outing

The **Ocean County College Foundation 9th Annual Golf Outing** is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 4th**, at the **Eagle Ridge Golf Club** in **Lakewood**. In the **past eight years** of the outing, **over \$400,000** has been raised to **support** our **students**.

Registration and lunch will **begin** at **11:00 a.m.**, with **driving range practice** from **11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** The **shotgun start** is at **12:30 p.m.**, and the **awards/cocktail reception** will take place from **5:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

Please **join us** if you can.