

# 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 24, 2010, Board Meeting

**DATE:** May 19, 2010

## Student Successes

I am very pleased to share with you that two of this year's graduates, Ms. Charis Chambers and Mr. Robert McCombs, have been accepted for admission to Cornell University for the 2010 fall semester. Ms. Chambers will be entering the School of Hotel Administration, and Mr. McCombs will attend the College of Engineering. Ms. Chambers and Mr. McCombs are among 254 NJ STARS students who will be graduating on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Elaine Schardien, Coordinator of the NJ STARS Program, will accompany Ms. Chambers and Mr. McCombs to Monday's Board meeting so we can extend our congratulations to them for this wonderful achievement.

## Faculty Success

Ms. Margaret Quinn, Assistant Professor of Nursing, was recently notified that she received a \$1,000 award from Rutgers University College of Nursing. Ms. Quinn is the first recipient of The Laura J. DiClerico Award, which will be used to support her doctoral capstone research project in exercise technology to combat childhood obesity. Ms. Quinn anticipates receiving her doctorate degree in May 2011.

## Ocean County College Strategic Plan

The 2010-2015 Ocean County College Strategic Plan has been completed and is currently being printed. Copies will be distributed to you at Monday's meeting.

**This new Strategic Plan has been in progress for the past year and represents the collective thinking of the entire College community. It reflects the College's Mission Statement with 32 new goals that stress the strategic priorities of each division for the next five years.**

**Ms. Janet Hubbs, Assistant to the President for Institutional Quality, was primarily responsible for the coordination of this very important institutional document. I have asked Ms. Hubbs to briefly comment on Monday about the development process and share with you some of the highlights of the plan.**

#### **Ocean County College Rewards Program**

**As a leader in the community, Ocean County College understands the importance of collaborating with businesses to increase revenue and to sustain the growth of the College and Ocean County, especially in the current uncertain economic environment. In this regard, Ocean County College has established a new Rewards Program to partner with local, regional, and national businesses. This program will provide the opportunity for OCC alumni, Academy for Lifelong Learning participants, and all full-time OCC personnel to take advantage of a wide array of benefits, including discounts, special offers, and incentives from Rewards partner businesses. To date, over 75 businesses have signed on to become Rewards partners. The program is offered with no cost to either the Rewards Program members or its business partners, and it is anticipated that it will be profitable for all who choose to participate.**

**Ms. Gina Suriano, Director of Resource Development, will attend Monday's meeting to provide you with more information about this new, exciting Rewards Program.**

#### **SunGard Higher Education**

**An article in the May 2010 edition of Campus Technology, which is attached, reports that only 16 percent of all community colleges have high-speed broadband connectivity. In general, community colleges lag far behind four-year higher education institutions and K-12 public schools in high-speed broadband. Recognizing the importance of community colleges and the number of students enrolled in this sector, new legislation was recently introduced to provide funds to community colleges to expand internet connectivity.**

**This astonishing fact underscores how technologically advanced Ocean County College is within the higher education sector. Currently, we are engaged in increasing our campus-wide broadband speed from 100 megabytes per building to 1 gigabyte to the desktops and 10 gigabytes between buildings. Our partnership with SunGard Higher Education, under the leadership of Mr. Chip Stoll, Chief Information Officer, provides the ability for the College to stay on the cutting edge of technology in software and services for an integrated digital campus.**

**In July 2009, the College expanded its relationship with SunGard Higher Education to include grants management, which is administered through Ms. Sharla Trimm from**

**SunGard and Ms. Gina Suriano, Director of Resource Development.** SunGard is assisting the College to **increase federal, state, and foundation grant opportunities for alternative funding** in support of our **strategic initiatives**, to **compete more effectively to secure grants**, and to ensure **compliance** with regulations and mandates.

Already **significant progress** is being realized as a result of this **grants partnership**:

- ◆ Ocean County College's request for **designation** as an **eligible institution** under **Title III** and **Title V** programs of the **Higher Education Act of 1965**, as amended by the **Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008**, has been approved by the **U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education**. **Title III** programs address **economically disadvantaged, low-income students**, and **Title V** programs are available for **Hispanic-serving institutions**. As a result of receiving this designation, OCC is also **eligible** for a **waiver of non-federal share matching requirements** for a **five-year period**, beginning **July 1, 2010**.
- ◆ The **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** has approved Ocean County College to receive **\$470,430** of **stimulus funding** over **two years** for **Health Information Technology certification** of a **Continuing and Professional Education** program to support the **national initiative** of implementing **electronic medical record data bases**.
- ◆ An application has been submitted to the **U.S. Department of Education** for a **five-year \$1,100,000 grant** for **student support services**.
- ◆ A **Combined Heat and Power grant application** was submitted to the **New Jersey Economic Development Administration** for **\$540,000** over **five years**.
- ◆ A **\$449,971 grant application** was submitted to the **U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools**, for the **development** of an **all-hazards emergency management plan** in **partnership** with **Ocean County**.

With the assistance of **SunGard Higher Education**, we are hopeful that these grant applications will be **successful** and **increase capacity** for Ocean County College.

### **Marketing Campaign**

A new Ocean County College marketing campaign will begin the **first week in June** and run through **September**. The campaign will be **utilized** for all of our media outlets: **billboards; newspapers, including senior publications; radio; and cable television**.

**Ms. Tara Kelly, Vice President of College Advancement, and Ms. Jan Kirsten, Director of College Relations**, will reveal this new marketing piece at **Monday's meeting** as well as provide you with a **schedule of implementation**.

### **Ocean County College Commencement Week**

Final preparations are being made for Commencement week activities:

- ♦ Nursing Pinning Ceremony - Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m., Gymnasium
- ♦ Awards Ceremony – Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m., Gymnasium
- ♦ 43<sup>rd</sup> Ocean County College Commencement - Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m., college mall (Ritacco Center in the event of rain), with trustees and the platform party robing in the Boardroom at 5:15 p.m.

### **Ocean County College Colloquia**

Please note the dates of the 2010-2011 Colloquia:

- ♦ Fall 2010 Colloquium – Thursday, September 2, 2010
- ♦ Spring 2011 Colloquium – Friday, January 21, 2011

Please mark your calendars to join us.

### **New Jersey Council of County Colleges**

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges will host “Focusing on Student Success,” a conference for presidents, trustees, and foundation board members, on Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, at the Trenton Marriott at Lafayette Yard.

This annual conference will feature a keynote presentation by Association of Community College Trustees Vice President Narcisa Polonio. In addition, some “best practices” will also be shared that have led to student success on campus.

# Trendspotter

## Another Digital Divide

Community colleges lag far behind their four-year brethren when it comes to high-speed broadband internet access.

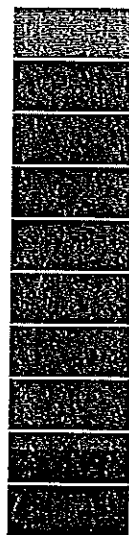
**ONLY 16 PERCENT** of community colleges have high-speed broadband connectivity, compared to 90 percent of four-year research institutions. These startling figures were released as part of the National Broadband Plan on March 16th, and they are one reason behind the proposed expansion of the E-Rate program to include community colleges.

HR 4619, called the E-Rate 2.0 Act, was introduced in mid-February by Representative Edward J. Markey (D, MA), one of the sponsors of the original E-Rate act (which provides funds for internet connectivity to K-12 schools and libraries). In a statement announcing the bill, Markey characterized the explosive growth rate of K-12 classroom internet access—from 14 to 95 percent since the bill's first passage in 1996—as a direct result of the E-Rate.

He wants to see that success replicated for low-income students—in community colleges, Head Start programs, and at home (the bill would provide vouchers to low-income students to purchase residential broadband service).

The National Broadband Plan supports the expansion of the E-Rate program to two-year colleges in recommendation 11.25: "Congress should consider providing additional public funds to connect all public community colleges with high-speed broadband and maintain that connectivity," noting the critical role that two-year colleges play in

**The National Broadband Plan recommends that Congress consider providing additional public funds to connect all public community colleges with high-speed broadband.**



**90%**

**RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES**

**PERCENTAGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS WITH HIGH-SPEED BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY\***

**16%**

**COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

\*More than 90 Mbps in bandwidth. Source: National Broadband Plan, quoting data from Educause Core Data Service, Fiscal Year 2007 Summary Report 35 (2007).

preparing students for careers in teaching as well as science and engineering. "Forty percent of teachers have taken a math or science course at a community college, and 44 percent of science and engineering graduates attended a community college as part of their postsecondary education," the plan says. "Twenty percent of teachers begin their postsecondary education at community colleges."

The National Broadband Plan is available at [broadband.gov](http://broadband.gov). More information on the E-Rate 2.0 Act can be found at [thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov); search on bill number HR 4619. **CT**