

**TO:** Members, OCC Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Jon H. Larson, Ph.D.  
President

**SUBJECT:** Items of Interest for the **March 28, 2016, Board Meeting**

**DATE:** March 23, 2016

## **Academic Affairs**

### ➤ **e-Learning and Learning Enterprises**

#### ➤ **New Partnerships**

The **e-Learning and Learning Enterprises** area recently established a **new partnership** with **Mission United**, a subdivision of **United Way**. **Mission United** is an organization **supporting veterans** and their **families** by helping them to **re-acclimate** to **civilian life**, supporting **veteran empowerment**, and promoting their **self-sufficiency**. Its **services** are **free** to veterans and focus on **six key areas**:

- **Employment and Career Development**
- **Education** – Including **Mentorship**
- **Health** – Accessing **Health Care after Active Duty**
- **Legal Assistance**
- **Financial Services** – **Budget Counseling** and **Short-Term Assistance**
- **Housing** – Eliminating **Homelessness**

Through a **partnership pathway**, **Mission United** will **direct veterans** to **OCC** relative to the **Education** and **Mentorship** component of its mission. **OCC's Veterans Affairs Office** will be instrumental in ensuring that these **veteran-students** are **supported** in **pursuit** of their **education**. **Mission United** will provide the **mentorship** aspect as both **OCC** and **Mission United** work together collaboratively to **support** our **veterans**.

Additionally, **OCC** has **completed negotiating** the **terms** of a **new contract** with **Ahram Canadian University (Cairo, Egypt)**. Once **signed** and **approved** (anticipated by the end of the month), **OCC** will begin a **train-the-trainer** model leading toward a **Bridge program** enabling students of **Ahram Canadian** to **matriculate** to **United States-based graduate degree programs**. This **Bridge program** will focus on the

language skills of reading, writing, and speaking, as well as academic success initiatives.

➤ **Other Projects**

The **e-Learning and Learning Enterprises team** is currently working with **Academic Affairs** to enhance the College's awareness of all **partnership** and **articulation agreements**. Working to **develop** a new website are **Mr. Jeff Harmon, Associate Vice President of e-Learning and Learning Enterprises; Ms. Sabrina Mathues, Director of Off-Campus Programs; Ms. Maureen Conlon, Assistant Director of Web Services; and Ms. Tara Huff, Instructional Designer and Web Developer**. This website will proudly **display** and provide ease of access to and **understanding** of **OCC's articulation and partnership programs** that afford students a **myriad** of **opportunities**, including but not limited to **Kean Ocean, NJIT, and Temple University**. This webpage will be instrumental in the **College's marketing plan** for **local and distance learning students**.

➤ **School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics**

- During the **2015-2016 academic year**, the **Curriculum Review Committee** is assessing all **science and technology courses** that are currently included in the **College's inventory**. Simultaneously, all **General Education science and technology courses** are being reviewed by the **New Jersey Council of County Colleges** to **affirm General Education designation**. Based on the **College's recent submission** in both categories, all **OCC science and technology courses** have been **approved**.
- The **OCC Chapter** of the **Mathematics Association of Two-Year Colleges in New Jersey** held a **mathematics competition** on **February 25**. **Professor of Mathematics Yuan Xu** coordinated the competition, and this semester over **30 students** participated. The **top scoring students** will receive **certificates** to be use in the **Bookstore**.
- **Dr. Angel Camilo, College Lecturer II of Biology, and Mr. Edmond Hong, College Lecturer II of Computer Studies**, presented a **hands-on session** to over **100 students** from **18 high schools in Ocean and Monmouth Counties** at the **IEEE-Neptune High School Mini-Engineering Academy** on **February 24**. The session was on **electronic circuits** using **Circuit Scribe kits**. **OCC students Frances Ball, Brandon Jacobs, and Jovi Bandy** from the **Computer Science and Makers Clubs** assisted. **Dr. Camilo and Mr. Hong** have been asked to **participate** with a **follow-up event** to **train high school teachers** on using the **Circuit Scribe kits**. **Representatives from Toms River and Manchester Schools** who were in **attendance** indicated they would like to **partner** with **OCC** for **STEM-related activities** for **high school students**.
- **Professor of Science Eric Antonelli and Dr. Angel Camilo** were selected to **present** at the night session for **NJEdge** at **Stevens Institute of Technology** on **March 23**. They presented on the **use of cell phone digital media** in **science laboratories**.

- At the **Health Occupations Students of America New Jersey State Conference** on **March 5 and 6** at **Gloucester County Institute of Technology**, **six OCC students competed** against students from other New Jersey two- and four-year institutions. **OCC had two first-place winners** (placing **higher** than **Rutgers** and **NJIT**) as well as a **recipient** of the **Barbara James Service Award-Bronze Level**. **Steven Jones** won **first place** in **Biomedical Laboratory Science**, **Christina Fichner** won **first place** in **Job-Seeking Skills**, and **Adrienne Merchant** received the **Barbara James Service Award** for having over **160 hours** of **community service** in the **health field**.
- **New Programs**
  - **Summer @ the Beach – Five courses** will be offered in the **First Five-Week Summer Session** beginning on **May 23** and ending **June 28**. The classes will be held in **Ship Bottom** on **Long Beach Island** and in **Seaside Park** in the **morning**. The courses will be offered as **traditional face-to-face courses**, but only **two or three times a week**, or as **hybrid courses**. The **goal** of this program is to **recruit** a **new segment** of the **summer population**. **Seasonal residents** and **seasonal employees** may find these **general education courses** to be **beneficial**.
- **Southern Education Center**
  - **Mr. Jeff Kurz**, **Supervisor of Student Services** at the **Southern Regional Center**, was **recognized** at the **Regional National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Conference**, held from **March 16 to 18** in **Maryland**, for **excellence in academic advising**. **NACADA** is the **Global Community for Academic Advising** and is an **international professional association** that includes **advisors, administrators, faculty**, and other **student and academic affairs professionals**. **Mr. Kurz** is one of **only two recipients** in the **Mid-Atlantic Region** of the **Certificate of Merit Award** in the **new advisor category**. The **receipt** of this **award** is a **testament** to the **efforts** of **Mr. Kurz** and all of the **Southern Education Center faculty and staff** in creating the type of **environment and culture** that allows **excellence** to **flourish** and be **recognized**.
  - **Ms. Sarah Campbell**, **Psychology and ACAD Adjunct Faculty Member** who teaches both **distance learning courses** and at the **Southern Education Center**, recently **earned** a **Ph.D. in Counseling Education** from **Capella University**.

## ➤ **STEM Academy**

- On **March 10**, OCC sponsored a **STEM Day** with **65 junior chemistry students** from **Toms River South High School**. This group had **previously participated** in a **kickoff STEM event** with the **Liberty Science Center** as well as a series of **four chemistry workshops** provided by **College Lecturer II of Chemistry Vijay Ramdeen**. The day began with a **welcome breakfast** that included **Toms River Superintendent, Dr. David Healy; Assistant Superintendent Marc Natanagara; Assistant Superintendent John Coleman; and Principal James Ricotta**. The students had an opportunity to **participate in two** of the following **four workshops**:
  - **Advanced Manufacturing – Mechatronics** – A **mobile trailer** was on **campus** that was outfitted with **training equipment** for **automated manufacturing, electronics, radio communications, robotics, hydraulics, pneumatics, and water filtration**. **Explanations and demonstrations** were performed for **each training item**.
  - **Crime Scene/Forensics** – The **former Student Life Office** in the **College Center** was used as a **crime scene** from a **terrorist attack**. **Imitation pipe bombs, firearms, blood, foot prints, laptop computers, and back packs** were used for **students to investigate**; they needed to **ensure the security** of the **crime scene** and **collect evidence** for **processing** in a **chemistry laboratory**.
  - **Physiology/Acid Stomach** – Students explored **acids, bases, and pH** in a **chemistry laboratory** to investigate what is needed to **digest different types** of **aspirin** and how each type **breaks down** depending on **pH** within the **stomach**.
  - **Light Spectrum** – Students explored **electronics and magnetism**. They also viewed a **movie** in the **Planetarium** on **cosmic light and astronomy**.

During their visit, the **students** had an opportunity to **experience college life** and enjoyed **taking photos** with the **OCC Viking mascot, Vidar**.

The **event culminated** with a **luncheon** in the **Jon and Judith Larson Student Center** that was attended by **representatives** from the **Investors Bank Foundation**, including **Ms. Sandy Broughton, Vice President of Community Development; Ms. Cindy Dundas, Market Manager; and Ms. Cheryl Macera, Branch Manager**.

## ➤ **College Readiness Now**

The **College Readiness Now program** is a **collaboration** between **Ocean County College** and **Ocean County high school districts**. The **purpose** of the **program** is to help **junior and senior students** achieve **college and career readiness skills**. OCC is currently working with its **third cohort** of **students**:

- **Cohort 1** was a **pilot** with **three Ocean County high schools, Toms River East, North, and South**. There were **61 students** involved in the program; of the **61 students, 49 or 80%** are currently **registered** as **OCC students**.
- **Cohort 2 expanded collaboration** from **three to seven schools**. There were **413 students** involved in the program, **44** of whom were **seniors**. Of the **44 seniors, 33 or 75%** are currently **registered** as **OCC students**. The **remaining 369 students** will be **graduating in June 2016**. **Registration data** will be reviewed in **Fall 2016** to determine **how many** of those 369 students **registered** at **OCC**.
- This year, **Cohort 3** has **further expanded** the program from **7 to 11 high schools**, with **551 students** involved. The **data** for this **cohort follows**:

High School	Students Tested	Achieved OCC Math Placement	Achieved OCC English Placement	Achieved High School Graduation Requirement Math	Achieved High School Graduation Requirement English	# of Times Accuplacer Has Been Administered 2015-2016
Central Regional	50					0
Jackson Liberty	51	3	1	3	7	2
Jackson Memorial	46	7	0	7	7	2
Lakewood	44	3	0	3	2	1
Lacey	91	6	0	6	7	1
Manchester	73	13	4	13	22	2
New Egypt	35	6	0	6	3	1
Point Beach	3	2	0	2	1	1
Toms River East	53	4	2	4	10	1
Toms River North	65	9	3	9	10	1
Toms River South	40	6	1	6	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>13</b>

**Dr. Henry Jackson, College Lecturer II, Academic Skills, will provide a brief presentation on the College Readiness Now program at Monday's meeting.**

### **Student Affairs**

- **The New Jersey Council of County Colleges led teams of students, presidents, and trustees from the 19 New Jersey community colleges to the Statehouse in Trenton on Monday, March 14. Student Lobbying Day gave students the opportunity to meet one-on-one and talk with New Jersey legislators. In addition, the students visited and observed Senate and Assembly general sessions.**

**Students who attended Student Lobbying Day with Ms. Jennifer Fazio, Director of Student Life, were: Daniel Moran, Elizabeth Reyes, Samantha Toll, Evan Castle, Andrew Artiles, Leticia Adames, and Steven Jones. Ms. Fazio will be accompanied by Student Government President Daniel Moran and Students Learning about Politics President Evan Castle at the Board meeting on Monday to discuss Student Lobbying Day.**

- **Student Planning**

**The Advising Office completed a student survey to gauge use of and satisfaction with Student Planning, with much appreciated assistance from Mr. Rob Marchie, College Lecturer II of History; Ms. Erica Carboy, College Lecturer II of English; Mr. Chris Bottomley, College Lecturer II of Business; Mr. Jason Ghibesi, College Lecturer II of Political Science and History; and Ms. Lynn Kraemer-Siracusa, Assistant Professor of English. The Advising Office will be using this feedback as it continues to monitor and improve Student Planning.**

**In total, 358 students were surveyed. The results of the survey follow:**

- **Question: Have you viewed the My Progress screen on Student Planning to determine the courses you need to take? Yes: 80% (288 students), No: 20% (70 students)**
- **Question: Have you used Student Planning to search and/or register for courses? Yes: 78% (280 students), No: 22% (78 students)**
- **Question: Have you used Student Planning to plan courses for future semesters? Yes: 56% (201 students), No: 44% (157 students)**
- **Question: Did you find Student Planning easy to understand and use?**
  - Yes, I thought it was very easy to understand and use: 45% (161 students)**
  - Somewhat, I was able to figure it out, but it took some time: 37% (132 students)**
  - No, I thought it was very confusing: 3% (10 students)**

**I haven't used Student Planning: 15% (55 students)**

➤ **Proactive Advising**

The Advising Office reached out to **first-time, full-time students** who **registered late** for the **Spring 2016 semester**. Because these students **missed Orientation**, they missed some **important information** given to the **majority** of **new students**. The Office **contacted** these **students** to ask if they are **encountering** any **problems** or have any **questions** and to schedule **advising appointments** as needed.

In total, the Office personally **contacted 32 students**. An advisor **spoke** on the **phone** with **11 students (34%)** and left a **voicemail** and/or **email** for **17 students (53%)**. **Four students (13%)** are **no longer enrolled** this **spring**.

➤ **Transfer Programming**

College representatives are eager to meet with OCC students to **discuss transfer**. This semester, the **Advising Office** hosted **visits** from the following **universities**: **Rowan, Rider, Wilmington, William Paterson, Seton Hall, Valley Forge, Penn State (Harrisburg Campus), and Kean's Online Division**.

The **Advising Office** also hosted a number of **Instant Decision Days (IDD)** in **February** and **March**. The **college representatives** were happy with **OCC's students**, and the **representatives** were interested in **returning** for other **future events**.

- **NJIT – Eight students attended and all were accepted.**
- **William Paterson University – Five students attended; four students were accepted, and one was able to discuss his major before applying.**
- **Seton Hall University – Three students attended and all were accepted.**
- **Rowan University – Nine students attended; seven students were accepted, and two students requested information about the college programs for the future.**
- **Stockton University – Thirty-five students attended and all were accepted; Stockton also participated in an IDD at the Southern Education Center – Ten students applied and all ten were accepted.**
- **Montclair State University – Sixteen students attended and all were accepted.**

**Additional colleges** will be joining us in **March**, including **Fairleigh Dickinson University** and **Monmouth University**. **OCC students benefit** from the ability to **speak** with university **admissions representatives** individually, and the **admission process** is often **quick** and **easy**.

**Finance and Administration**

➤ **Eastern Association of College and University Business Officers Workshop**

**Ms. Sara Winchester, Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration**, attended the annual **Eastern Association of College and University Business Officers workshop** in **Boston** on **March 10 and 11**. **Ms. Winchester**, along with **Mr. Manal A. Mescha**,



**Director of Accounting at Sussex County Community College**, presented a session entitled, “**Building Win/Win e-Learning Partnerships.**” The session focused on the relationship between OCC and Sussex in which Sussex uses OCC’s master courses and technology. The session was well received and corresponded with the conference theme of using collaboration and creativity to increase revenue.

➤ **New Jersey Council of County Colleges’ Presidents Meeting**

On March 7, Ms. Winchester and I attended the New Jersey Council of County Colleges’ Presidents meeting held at Essex County College to discuss the Ellucian Cloud project. The Presidents in attendance were receptive to the concept of a sector-wide Data Governance Committee, which would determine the scope of the future cloud system. The discussion with the community college Presidents will continue at the May meeting at which representatives from Ellucian will describe the project in greater detail.

➤ **Ocean County Vocational-Technical School Performing Arts Academy**

Discussions about possibly relocating the Ocean County Vocational-Technical School Performing Arts Academy (PAA) to the OCC campus have continued to advance. Ms. Winchester and I met with officials from the Ocean County Vocational-Technical School and the Ocean County Freeholders to develop a potential funding model that includes contributions from the State, Ocean County, the College, and private donors. The funding will support a high school building that will house the PAA as an Early College Program. All parties are excited about the concept of Early College that would allow PAA high school students to graduate with a high school diploma and an associate degree at the same time. I will keep you informed as the discussions progress.

➤ **College Relations**

➤ On Monday, Mr. Ralph Bertini, Television Production Director/Producer of Ocean TV 20, will show a short video that is currently playing in Lacey High School. Lacey has been the College’s test site for this pilot program; as we produce more informational spots, they will be distributed to all Ocean County high schools. The intent is to have the spots played during morning announcements or on municipal channels, which Lacey does. As an added bonus, the video is played before and after the school’s athletic broadcasts when parents are likely to be watching. The link to the video on YouTube is <https://youtu.be/wIg2f-BhTrQ>.

➤ Nineteen Donovan Catholic High School students participated in a video workshop conducted by Mr. Lee Kobus, College Lecturer II of Humanities and Fine Arts. The students were taught the basics of the new ADOBE video editing software, took a tour of the TV Studio, and visited the Larson Student Center. The students received OCC welcome bags, and all 19 students completed contact cards. Both Lacey and Donovan Catholic high schools have requested future workshops, which will be held in the TV Studio where the students will learn TV studio lighting techniques.

- **Work continues on the Ocean County Prosecutor's anti-drug media campaign.** Auditions to appear in the TV spots were held on **March 7 and 8** in the **Black Box Theatre** with **Lecturer II Paul Chalakani's** theatre classes. The students gained **valuable experience** in a **real world situation**. **Representatives** from the **Ocean County Prosecutor's Office** were **present**, and approximately **20 students** auditioned. The **first message** delivers **insight** into the **growing heroin addiction problem** in **Ocean County**. When completed, the **spots** will **air** on **Ocean TV 20**, the **Prosecutor's website**, **Facebook**, and **high school TV channels**. In addition, a **TV station ID** was **produced** with **Mr. Joe Coronato**, **Ocean County Prosecutor**, and is currently **running** on **Ocean TV 20**. The **process** will **continue** with various **law enforcement**, **EMT**, and **fire department members**.
- From **March 7 to 11**, the **Ellucian grants team** was **welcomed** on **campus** for a **week** of **strategic planning** with a **focus** on **grants development** by **STEM faculty**. The **deliverables** from this **visit** will be presented to the **President's Leadership Team (PLT)** with specific **funding recommendations** for various **departments** and **schools** that **align** with **PLT's approved funding priorities**. To support the College's efforts to **increase grants research** and **submissions**, the **Grants Office** **updated** the **procedures** appended to the **OCC Grants Policy** and established a **Grants Development and Management Handbook** for **college-wide reference**. These **documents** will be included on the **Staff and Faculty Intranet Portal Grants Information** webpages.
- On **March 23**, **OCC** held the **Sixth Annual Senior Living Expo**. This event was **sponsored** by **Community Medical Center Barnabas Heath**, **AAA Mid-Atlantic**, **New Jersey Natural Gas**, and **Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey**. The event **showcased** over **70 community vendors** from various **industries** across the county and attracted **600 attendees**. Various **OCC departments**, such as **Continuing and Professional Education**, the **Grunin Center**, **Planetarium**, and **Human Resources** were also **actively involved** and featured at the event to **engage** with a **large representation** of the **Ocean County community** and to **share information** about the **diverse opportunities, events, and activities** available at **Ocean County College**.
- **Facilities**

For the last few years, the **Facilities Management Team** has held an **annual All-Staff meeting**. This year's meeting was held on **March 16** and included all **facilities, mail services, and C&W Services (formally DTZ Custodial Services) staff**. The meeting engages the staff to become **more involved** and gives them a **feeling** of **acknowledgement** for the **work** they **accomplish** for the **campus**.

**Mr. Matthew Kennedy**, **Assistant Vice President of Facilities Management and Construction**, opened the discussion on the **topic** of **"Professional Development."** **Meaningful** and **challenging tools** will be implemented to build a **clear understanding** of **objectives** and **expectations** as well as to provide **feedback** between the **employees** and their **supervisors** for a more **harmonious environment**.

➤ **Human Resources**

- The **I-9** process for new employees has been **migrated** to an **electronic, paperless** format. The **I-9** form verifies the **identity** and **authorization** of **individuals** hired for employment. **Ms. Jackie D'Amore, Human Resources Specialist**, and **Ms. Linda Pagnotta, Confidential Human Resources Technician**, have received **training** from **Equifax** to **initiate electronic transmittal** of **I-9** forms to **Human Resources**. This **training** has also been **undertaken** by **Human Resources staff**, and an **internal procedure** has been **developed**. On **February 26**, the **I-9** link to the **Equifax** site was **added** to the **New Employee Toolkit** on the **HR Ocean Connect** site. **Auditing** will **continue** for the **next two months** to ensure that **entries** are **accurate** and any **outstanding issues** are **resolved**.
- A **luncheon** honoring the **recipients** of the **President's Awards for Excellence** was held in the **Larson Student Center** on **March 18**. The **awardees**, **Mr. Ralph Bertini, Ms. Mary Lancaster, Director of Financial Reporting**, and **Ms. Pat Chirco, Assistant Buyer**, were treated to **pizza** and **cake** with the **President's Leadership Team**. This event is in keeping with the **new strategic plan**, specifically **Strategy Five: Create a Challenging, Supportive Work Environment**, and it was **well received** by all.

➤ **Continuing and Professional Education**

- **New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD)** has issued **Guidelines for Reporting of Credentialed Programs**. **Ms. Pat Fenn, Assistant Vice President of Continuing and Professional Education and Workforce Development**, is working with the **New Jersey LWD** to ensure that **OCC** will be **compliant** with the **new legislation** governing **participant reporting requirements**, which will be **effective July 1**. **New Jersey CPE Directors** are actively **monitoring** and **participating** in this endeavor.
- **Continuing and Professional Education allied health programs** are continuing to provide **professional development opportunities** and **contact hours** required for **maintaining credentials and licenses**. **Health care professionals** who **benefit** include **nurses, massage therapists, home health aides, social workers, and yoga instructors**.
- **Mr. Michael Forcella, Manager of Business Engagement**, continues to be actively involved in the **Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JBMDL) programs**, which allows for the **dissemination** of **Customized Training/Workforce Development materials** and provides the opportunity to **strengthen relationships**. **Ms. Fenn** and **Mr. Forcella** met with **Ms. Judie Marranco, Chief Education and Training Officer at JBMDL**, to **leverage OCC's offerings** to **military staff** and **dependents**.

**Customized Training** continues to work with **McDonald's Corporate** in servicing its **franchises** with **English as a Second Language (ESL) training** through the **New Jersey Business and Industry Association/Coalition 19 Grant**. Other opportunities are continually pursued to **expand** our **relationship** beyond the grant funding limits to

**increase revenue.** In addition, **Customized Training** continues to offer the **Ready-to-Work Workshops** for **unemployed workers** through the **grant** and **Coalition 19**.

- **Camps/Youth/Community Programs catalogs** have arrived and are being **distributed** throughout **campus** and to **realtors' offices, local businesses, and past program participants**. **Ms. Kerry Holzschuh, Part-Time Camp and Youth Coordinator,** attended **marketing training** hosted by **Black Rocket Productions** that featured methods to create a **successful and profitable Kids' Camp program**.
- **The Jay and Linda Grunin Center for the Arts**
  - **Highlights from March performances :**
    - **De Temps Antan, March 4, 2016:** This **successful concert** was made possible with a **grant** from **Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation** and the **Quebec Consulate** from **New York City**. The **Director of Cultural Services Jean-Pierre Dion** provided **Quebec beer, cheese, and chocolate** at a **pre-show reception**. At this reception, many **leaders in Ocean County and Toms River** were able to **connect** with **Mr. Dion** to talk about **future collaborations**. **Patrons** who attended the **performance** were treated to **French-Canadian Celtic music**. **Ms. Heather Garrett** from the **Salvation Army** stated that many of the **seniors** from her **organization** were **extremely impressed** with the **performance**.
    - **Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus, March 5, 2016:** Bringing in the **Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus** provided the opportunity to reach a **broader community audience** with this **diverse programming**. The **performance** was **well received**, and the **wide repertoire** for this program kept everyone **engaged**.
    - **Rave On, March 19, 2016:** This **group** attracted **all ages** to its **performance**; it was a **show for all generations**, giving **grandparents** the opportunity to **share music** of their **youth** with their **grandchildren**. Many students who have studied **Rock history** were interested in this **performance**.
    - **Aaron Neville, March 18, 2016:** A total of **358 persons** attended this **wonderful concert**. **Mr. Neville** shared **stories** of his **childhood** intermixed with the **songs** that shaped his **musical tastes**. **Mr. Neville** spoke highly of the **professionalism** of the **Grunin Center staff** and the **overwhelming response** from the **audience**.
  - **Upcoming events include:**

➤ <b>ABT Studio</b>	<b>April 1</b>	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>
➤ <b>I am Ireland</b>	<b>April 8</b>	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>
➤ <b>Salut Salon</b>	<b>April 16</b>	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>
➤ <b>Switchback</b>	<b>April 21</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.</b>

- The College issued a **Request for Proposals** for a **ticketing system** to be used by both the **Grunin Center for the Arts** and the **Planetarium** to **replace the current ticketing system** that is **not meeting the needs** of either venue. A committee consisting of **Theatre, Planetarium, Accounting, and Purchasing staff** discussed and **analyzed the proposals** and their **options**. The committee is recommending **PatronManager**, which is a **Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system, backed by Salesforce**, as well as a **ticketing system**. The system will provide an **enhanced user experience**, allowing **patrons** to view **available seats on one easy-to-read map** and to **check-out** all on **one screen**. The system will also allow patrons to easily **join the mailing list** and share a **link to the ticketing site through social media** so they can **invite their friends** to **meet** them at the **shows**.

In addition, **PatronManager** will allow staff to **sell group tickets, promote related events, offer multi-tiered memberships and packages** (turn transactions into relationships), and **perform segmented marketing and fundraising**. Staff will also be able to **create customized reports and marketing messages**.

#### ➤ **Information Technology**

- The **Office of Information Technology** is establishing a **governance process** to manage the method by which **OIT projects and tasks** are **requested, reviewed, approved, prioritized, and reported** in **four categories, Administration, Academics, Reporting, and Web Services**. The **implementation** of the reporting request **governance committee** is off to a **good start** under the **leadership** of **Ms. Alexa Beshara, Executive Director of Institutional Planning, Effectiveness, and Compliance**.
- **Great progress** has been achieved on the **Learning Management System (LMS) CANVAS implementation**. **Integration** has been **completed** between the **Colleague ERP system and CANVAS**. All course sections and associated **enrollment data** are now **downloaded automatically** and run **four times a day**. The **single sign-on configuration** has been **completed** so **all users** are able to **connect directly to CANVAS** from **Ocean Connect**. **OIT is leading the training efforts** for **face-to-face faculty**, with a **self-paced online training course** being developed. In addition, a **website** dedicated to **CANVAS support topics** is being created that will be available for both **faculty and students**.

**OIT** is working with **Professor of Mathematics Vicki McMillian** to add **enhancements** to the **existing home-grown attendance tool**, with the **goal** of making the **tool** as **functional** as possible for **faculty and students**.

- On **Wednesday, March 16**, the **OIT team** participated with **Ellucian employees** in a **day-long team building workshop** led by **Ms. Chrissy Coley, an Ellucian consultant**. The **workshop** was **well received** by all.

## ➤ Purchasing

- The **Purchasing Department** oversaw the following **Request for Proposal** processes over the last **two months**:
  - **Bookstore Operations**
  - **Marketing Services for e-Learning and On Campus**
  - **Student Recruitment and Retention Services**
  - **Ticketing System for the Grunin Center for the Arts and Planetarium**

All of the processes were conducted in an **open** and **inclusive manner**, ensuring that **many College departments** were **represented** and varying **points of view** were **considered**. **Representatives** from **Purchasing** and **Accounting** were **included** to ensure that the **processes** were **conducted properly** and that the **financial ramifications** were **carefully analyzed**. **Recommendations** for **contract awards** are included on **Monday's Business and Finance agenda**.

## ➤ **Joint Purchasing Consortium**

OCC has continued to play a **lead role** in the **sector-wide Joint Purchasing Consortium (JPC)**. A **pilot program** is **underway** whereby OCC will **coordinate procurements** on **behalf** of the **JPC** and be **reimbursed** for **hours worked**. This **arrangement** is intended to **assist** the **JPC** in **increasing** the **number of joint procurements**. OCC will enjoy **significant savings** through the **consortium process**.

## Town Hall Meeting

A **Town Hall meeting** was held in the **Larson Student Center** on **March 1**. **Chairman Van Thulin, Mrs. Linda Novak, Mr. Jerry Dasti, Mr. Steve Leone, and Mr. Mordechai Grubin** represented the **Board of Trustees** and led a **lively discussion** with **faculty, staff, and students**. I was particularly **pleased** to note the **number of faculty** who **attended** and **contributed** to the **congenial dialogue**. The **Student Center** proved to be the **perfect backdrop** for this type of **relaxed gathering**.

The **participants** **appreciated** the opportunity to **interact informally** with the **trustees**, and there was **general consensus** that the **Town Hall meetings** should **continue** on a **regular basis**. I look forward to the **participation** of all **Board members** as schedules permit.

## Ocean County College Board of School Estimate

The **Ocean County College Board of School Estimate meeting** is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 30, at 3:15 p.m.** in the **Ocean County Administration Building**. The **Ocean County College FY 2017 budget** will be presented for **approval** as will **resolutions for Chapter 12 Capital Renovation and Renewal funding** toward the **construction** of a new **Health Sciences Building** at **Ocean County College**.

The **Board** is comprised of **three freeholders** and **two trustees**. This year's Board of School Estimate **members** are **Freeholders John P. Kelly, Director; Gerry P. Little, Deputy Director; John C. Bartlett, Jr., OCC Liaison; Board Chair Van Thulin; and Board Treasurer Jerry Dasti. Board Secretary Stephan Leone** serves as the **Secretary** of the **Board of School Estimate**.