



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 **February 24, 2022, Board Meeting**

DATE: February 18, 2022

Academic Affairs

- The **Adjunct and Lecturer Institutes** took place **January 19, 2022**, and were **successfully offered remotely**. The **Adjunct Institute** had **57 adjuncts** in attendance, and the **Lecturer Institute** had **72 participants**. Although a **majority** of the **workshops** were the **same** in the **morning** and **evening** for **both groups**, some **workshops** were **specifically designed** for and **offered to adjuncts**. In total, **eight unique workshops** were offered across **both institutes**, with **three concurrent workshops** taking place at **any given time**.

The **most highly attended workshop** at each **institute** was a **panel discussion** from **Hyflex power users** and their **students** about their **experiences** using the **technology** this past **Fall semester**. Other **workshop topics** included **utilizing library resources** for **course development**, using **GoReact** in **Canvas**, **Canvas collaborations** for **concurrent, culturally-responsive assignments**, **Canvas and WebEx basics**, the **START model**, and the **adjunct mentoring program**. Based on **feedback** from **survey responses**, **hands-on training** will be offered for using **Hyflex equipment** in the **classroom**, as well as offering **support/training sessions** on using **Canvas**.

➤ Tutoring Center

- The **Tutoring Center** held **pre-semester training** in **January**, welcoming **13 new peer tutors** to the **team**. They will assist with a **wide variety of content**, including **math, science, writing, and American Sign Language**. **Peer tutors** strengthen the **tutoring schedule** by **expanding available tutoring hours**. Additionally, the **professional** and **peer tutors** are **trained** on the new **Hyflex technology**, which is integrated into **all areas** of the **Center**, and have **increased access** to **writing workshops, drop-in tutoring events, and group tutoring sessions**.
- In response to **instructor requests** for **supplemental support** for their **students**, the **Tutoring Center** has **formalized a process** for **instructors** to request **group tutoring sessions** or **in-class support** for their **classes**. **Instructors** can access the **request form** through the **Faculty and Staff Portal**.

- **Professional writing tutor, Dr. Mary-Beth Brophy**, represented **OCC** as part of the “**Theory and Praxis: Digital Pedagogies in the (Virtual) Classroom**” **three-day working group** at the **2022 Modern Language Association convention**. The focus of her **presentation** was an **in-progress writing center project** to create a **flexible guided path** through the process of **researching and writing an academic essay** that meets the **needs of the broadest spectrum of students**.

- **Center for Academic Success**
 - The **Grants Office** and **Center for Academic Success** are **partnering** with **Lakewood High School** for the **Upward Bound grant**. The **grant proposal** was **submitted on January 31, 2022**.
 - The **Center for Academic Success**, in **collaboration** with the **Engineering Department**, hosted **70 Pt. Pleasant Beach High School engineering students** on **February 4, 2022**. **Students** spent the **day** at **OCC** learning about **aeronautic, civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering**. **Volunteers** from the **Lakehurst NavAir division** assisted by **discussing with the students** the various **types of engineering pathways**.
 - **Toms River Regional Schools, Ocean County College, and Georgian Court University** are exploring a **Teacher Education Pathway program**. **Students** would take **courses at all three locations** with the **goal of obtaining a Teacher Education degree** with a **guaranteed teaching job** within the **Toms River School District** upon **degree completion**.
 - **College Lecturer II in Biology Lincoln Simmons and Dr. Henry Jackson, Executive Director of Academic Success**, are participating in a **key informant interview** with **Rutgers University**. **Rutgers** has received a **National Science Foundation grant** and would like to include **OCC** as a **community college partner**.
 - This year’s **College Readiness Now grant** will provide **students** with **access to an introductory course** from one of the **OCC certificate/degree programs**. For the **Spring 2022 semester**, the **College Readiness Now VIII grant** will cover **tuition for 22 Lacey students** taking **Environmental Sustainability** and **22 students** taking **Introduction to Robotics** at **Lakewood High School**. Also being **funded** is a **Hyflex MATH 158, Algebraic Modeling, course** offered on **OCC’s campus** with **eight College Readiness Now students** attending **remotely** while **sitting in a classroom** at **Lacey Township High School**.
 - **Discussion** is **underway** with **Donovan Catholic High School** about becoming an **additional location high school academy**. Working with **Perkins-funded high schools** in the **development and implementation of career academy pathways**, each **Perkins-funded program** needs to offer **nine credits of OCC coursework**. **Assistant Director of Assessment James Marshall** is working with the **Center** on **general education assessment** this **Spring semester** for a course in **written communications and information literacy**, which will include **English and history courses**.

- **School of Arts and Humanities**
 - **Assistant Professor of Humanities Lisa Cecere** was **interviewed** to be part of a **documentary film** on **Peter Callas, a renowned anagama wood-fire ceramicist**. **Ms. Cecere** was asked to **discuss his work** from a **design point of view** in **comparison to Japanese wood-fired ceramics**. The **film**, which also **features the artist’s assistant and former OCC student Jon Hem**, will **debut at the American Museum of Ceramic Art in Pomona, California, next month**. **Following that debut, the film** will be shown on the **NJ ARTS program on PBS**.

- **Several School faculty and lecturers presented at the Adjunct and Lecturer Institutes:**
 - **College Lecturer II in History Justin Pfeifer** presented at the **January Adjunct Institute**. His **presentation** highlighted the **importance** of the **Adjunct Mentoring Program** and particularly the **self-assessment piece** as a **mechanism** for **positive professional development** and **skill building** at **OCC**. Using his **experience** as an **adjunct faculty member**, **Mr. Pfeifer** emphasized the **vital role** that **College Lecturers** played in **mentoring** him in the **program**, which **contributed** to his **current success** as a **College Lecturer**.
 - **Dr. Jennifer Dellner, Professor of English, College Lecturer II in English Christine Cryan, and College Lecturer II in History Robert Marchie**, presented at the **Institutes**. In addition, two **OCC students, Gabriela Garcia and Kylie Smith**, also **presented** at the **session** on **“Hyflex Experiences from Teacher and Student Perspectives.”** This **moderated student and faculty panel** provided an **opportunity** for **feedback** from both **faculty** and **students** on their recent **experiences** with **Hyflex technology** during the **Fall semester**, as well as their **ideas** for how **future best practices** can be **developed** and **shared**. This **session** also allowed **time** for the **audience** to pose **additional questions** to the **panelists**.
 - **College Lecturer II in English Samantha Glassford’s presentation** at the **Institutes** was titled, **“Canvas Collaborations for Concurrent, Culturally-Responsive Assignments.”** The **presentation** explored the **use** of the **collaborations tool** in **Canvas** to **engage face-to-face** and **remote students** in **discussion**. **Canvas Collaborations** include the use of **MS Office** or **Google docs** to create **shared documents** and **slides** among **students** in the **class**. The **activities** presented allow for **cultural responsiveness** in the **classroom** as **students design** and **guide** the **discussion**, with the **instructor** becoming the **facilitator** for **student-centered, in-class work**.
 - The **first project** of **2022** for the **Sigma Kappa Delta National English Honors Society** took place on **February 8, 2022**. The project, called **“How Do I Love Thee? – A Valentine’s Day Inspired Literary Reading by the OCC Chapter of SKD,”** featured **readings** of **stories** and **poems** that were **recorded** at the **OCC TV studio** and **broadcast** across **Ocean County** on **cable TV**. **Associate Professor of English Jayanti Tamm** and **Professor of English David Bordelon** serve as **advisors** to this **honor society**.
 - On **February 9, 2022**, the **Social Justice Series** started its **2022 season** with ***Rhapsody in Black***. The **powerful performance** was **written** and **performed** by **LeLand Gantt** and explored **Gantt’s personal journey** to **understand** and eventually **transcend racism** in **America**.
 - On **February 18, 2022**, **College Lecturer II in English Jason Molloy** hosted a **screening** and **discussion** of the film, ***The Big Short***, as part of the **Social Justice Series**.
- **School of Business and Social Sciences**
 - Through the **efforts** of **Dr. Margaret Maghan, College Lecturer II in Social Work**, two **networking events** were **offered** for **students**. The **first event**, **“Match Day 2022,”** took place **February 2, 2022**, and **matched students** majoring in **social work** with over **seven external practicum partners** in the **community**. The **second event**, **“A Conversation on Mental Health and Policing,”** took place **February 10, 2022**, at the **Grunin Center**. In this event, **students** viewed the **PBS documentary “Bedlam,”** which focuses on **criminal justice** and **mental health**. Afterward, a brief **discussion** took place with **retired Toms River police officer** and **OCC’s**

Campus Security Training Officer Wayne Reed, as well as Principal Parole Coordinator Philomene Jean-Baptiste from the New Jersey State Parole Board.

- **The Hospitality, Recreation, and Tourism Management (HRTM) program will run and operate the Grab & Go Café in the lobby of the Gateway Building, which has been closed since 2019. Students working in the café will participate in a credit-based apprenticeship, APPR-151-HRTM, which allows them to earn college credits while getting paid for their industry-related working hours. This apprenticeship course and job opportunity promote learning in the area of how to run a food and beverage establishment and improve customer service skills. The café will open the third or fourth week of February, with hours Monday through Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m.**
- **The Fall 2021 semester marked a successful return to the business lab on campus. Bloomberg Certification was achieved by 18 students during the semester, bringing the total certifications since the lab began to 148 students. Additionally, College Lecturer II in Business Ibrahim Moustafa's management classes utilized the lab to study companies and their financial performance. Business Studies College Lecturer II Sean Bips also took his marketing students to the lab to learn how the Bloomberg terminals could be used for research. Finally, all of College Lecturer II Katherine Toy's business students in economics became familiarized with using the lab through periodic visits and demonstrations.**
- **Ms. Patty Gianotti, College Lecturer II and Chair of the Addictions Counseling Program, attended a graduation ceremony for the inaugural cohort of the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office (OCPO) Michael Camillus Project. Also in attendance was Ms. Kim Veith, LCSW, LCADC, Adjunct Professor in the Social Work and Addictions Counseling programs and Director of Adult Clinical Services at Bright Harbor Healthcare (formerly Ocean Mental Health). The ceremony took place on January 19, 2022, at the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office and was hosted by Ms. Renee White, Supervising Assistant Prosecutor and founder of the project.**

The Michael Camillus Project was made possible through a partnership with OCC via grant funding through the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General's Operation Helping. Its aim is to provide education about substance abuse disorder to members of the Ocean County law enforcement community. The first OCPO cohort attended the program from the Spring 2021 through Fall 2021 semester. The response to the pilot was so positive that Assistant Prosecutor White was granted an extension of the funding by the Attorney General's Office, and a new cohort of OCPO students has been enrolled for the Spring 2022 semester.

- **Under the leadership of College Lecturer II in Student Success Stephanie Frattini and with the help of College Lecturer II in Political Science Jason Ghibesi, the Student Success Seminar will have new civics content incorporated within the themes of the course for the Fall 2022 semester. Inspired by "Citizen Power," a book by Harry S. Pozycki, the course will include constructive compromise, active listening, communication, critical thinking, information literacy/research, and community outreach/engagement with regard to civic discourse. Students will learn how to check the accuracy, credibility, and validity of information they read; propose an idea or introduce an issue in their community that they are passionate about; and create an action plan for the issue. After proposing solutions, they will communicate how to put the solutions into effect and receive feedback on their presentations that incorporates constructive compromise. If possible, students may put their action into practice within the community.**

➤ **School of Nursing and Health Sciences**

There are **303 students** enrolled in the **Nursing program** for the **Spring 2022 semester**.

- **OCC's 2021 Nursing licensure passing rate was 84%**. A total of **150 graduates** from **Fall 2020** and **Spring 2021** sat for the examination. Scores remain **above the national passing rate** for all **associate degree Nursing programs** and **all types of Nursing programs**.
- **Ms. Marian Austin** joined the **School of Nursing and Health Sciences** on **February 7, 2022**, in the position of **Academic Affairs Technician**. **Ms. Austin** received a **Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting** from **Rider University**. She is a **certified substitute teacher** and **paraprofessional**. Prior to joining OCC, she was the **Office Coordinator** at **Donovan Catholic High School** responsible for **coordinating various student services**, including **admission, recruitment, and scholarship funding**.
- **Seventy-five Nursing students** attended **Dr. Sanjay Gupta's** presentation, "**Chasing Life and Cheating Death**," at the **Grunin Center** on **February 2, 2022**. Prior to the presentation, **students** had the opportunity to **meet with Dr. Gupta** for a **question and answer session**. **Students** stated they **enjoyed the presentation**, especially the **question and answer session**, and were **thankful** for the opportunity to **attend the event**.

➤ **School of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)**

- **Dr. Sylvia Riviello, Dean of STEM**, and **Dr. Amir Sadrian, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs**, will present "**Lead...Learn...Innovate: Flex to the Future**" on **April 30, 2022**, at the **American Association of Community Colleges' annual convention, Community Colleges Take Center Stage**.
- **Dr. Riviello** will co-lead a team with **Dr. Joseph Konopka, Vice President of Academic Affairs**, and **Ms. Elizabeth Metzger, Director of Customized Training and Business Engagement**, on a **Center of Workforce Initiatives for NJ Pathways**. Their focus is **cybersecurity programming and software development**.
- The **Wednesdays with STEM series** will **continue this Spring semester**. Detailed **information regarding upcoming speakers** can be found on the **STEM events page** at **<https://www.ocean.edu/programs-and-courses/stem-events/>**.
- The **Jersey Shore Junior Science Symposium (JSJSS)** has **chosen the top 16 papers for competition** this year. **Ten students** will **compete in an oral PowerPoint presentation**, and **six** will **compete in a poster competition**. The **top five winners of the oral presentation** will **compete at the National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium** later this **Spring**. Once again, the **Paper Selection Committee reviewed over 50 papers** submitted. Each year's **research papers** progress into more and more **advanced concepts and experimentation**. The **finalists** this year represent a **wide array of categories**, from **environmental to medical to automated intelligence and machine learning**, which is becoming the **favorite among students**. The **event** will take place **virtually on March 25, 2022**. Additional **details** are on the **JSJSS webpage** at **<https://www.ocean.edu/programs-and-courses/jersey-shore-junior-science-symposium/>**.
- **Ms. Pam Bogdan, College Lecturer II in Engineering**, will be participating in **STEM Month in New Jersey**. To celebrate, the **National Association for Community Colleges Entrepreneurship** is hosting a **STEM Expo** on **March 25 and 26, 2022**. The **STEM Expo** will

introduce the community to OCC's vast array of programs and allow students and parents to explore unique, hands-on STEM projects firsthand.

Ms. Pam Bogdan has the following events scheduled during the month of February:

- Paper Airplane Competition on February 22, 2022
- Speed Mentoring and Resume Workshop on February 23, 2022
- Engineering Week Speaker's Panel: Engineering Career Readiness on February 24, 2022

- The School of STEM has created a group of power users. This core group of faculty and lecturers includes Ms. Pam Bogdan; Dr. Angel Camilo, College Lecturer II in Biology; Ms. Julia Kim, College Lecturer II in Mathematics; Mr. Marc LaBella, Associate Professor of Science; Ms. Vicki McMillian, Professor of Mathematics; Mr. Ken Michalek, College Lecturer II in Computer Science; and Mr. Sam Pinkava, College Lecturer II in Mathematics. The power users assist all faculty and lecturers with technology issues related to teaching remotely. Along with the power users, Dr. Angel Camilo is also working with Ms. Catherine Mancuso, Dean of Faculty Development and Learning Innovation, on a project that will provide two weekly sessions to assist with Canvas issues.

- Assistant Professor of Science Christine Pericone is forming a committee to review Honors by Contract submissions from Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 for awards for outstanding work. The committee will include two volunteers from each school; Dr. Toni Clay, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs; Mr. John Wallace, Library College Lecturer II; and Ms. Christine Pericone, Assistant Professor of Science. Award recipients will be announced at the OCC Awards Ceremony prior to graduation. The winners will showcase their works at the Spring Honors by Contract program scheduled for May 4, 2022, at 12:30 p.m. on the fifth floor of the Gateway Building.

Finance and Administration

The School Employee's Health Benefits Program (SEHBP) Commission approved a contribution "holiday" for February 2022 applicable to all participating school districts and colleges, including Ocean County College. Therefore, there will be no employee SEHBP healthcare premium deductions for the month of February 2022. Deductions will resume the first pay of March.

➤ **Fiscal Year 2023 Budget**

We are delighted to confirm that there will be no tuition increase in Fall 2022, expanding accessibility and affordability for students. The budget continues to support the OCC Strategic Plan and is consistent with the Five-Year Financial Plan. The FY 2023 budget will be on Thursday's agenda for approval.

➤ **Workforce and Professional Education and Grants Administration**

➤ **New Health Professions Programs**

- The Workforce and Professional Education department received approval for the Certified Home Health Aide program by the Division of Consumer Affairs, Board of Nursing. The course consists of a 76-hour certification program and includes CPR. The Certified Home Health Aide course will be offered for the first time in April. It is a very cost-effective way for students to quickly train and enter the healthcare field.

- On February 17, 2022, a virtual graduation was held for the second cohort of Community Health Worker Apprentices. This fully remote program is offered in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Health. The cohort consisted of 27 students who participated in the training program from September 2021 to February 2022. Students will continue on to 2,000 hours of on-the-job training with their employers, and some students will work towards an Associate in Science degree in Social Work at OCC after receiving up to nine credits from successful completion of their competency exams.

- Career and College Preparation for At-Risk Youth

Since October, the Ocean County Achievement Center has enrolled 24 new participants and engaged 26 students with follow-up services. During that time, 23 students enrolled and completed the Exploration of Career Pathways and Entrepreneurship Program, and 16 students completed a Cybersafe Awareness program. In addition, a few participants have opted in to a weekly mentorship program to help them set and achieve goals, regardless of the barriers they may experience. In addition, three completers enrolled in vocational school programs for Fall 2021, three students enrolled at Ocean County College in the Fall, and one student registered for the Spring semester as a new OCC student.

- Adult Education, English Language Learning, and Civics

In December, 356 students registered for English Language Learning and High School Equivalency (previously GED) classes. In January, 22 courses were offered – 15 in English Language Learning and 7 in High School Equivalency. Classes meet at sites throughout the county, including Toms River (OCC main campus), Manahawkin (SEC), Lakewood Library, Point Pleasant Beach High School, and Brick High School, as well as remote synchronous classes.

- College Relations

The College Relations web team collaborated with the Library on a social media campaign for “Library Shelfie Day,” which highlighted the Library’s Government Documents Collection. The posts were viewed 2,424 times on Twitter and Facebook, and the photograph of OCC’s library team holding items from the collection was shared by the Federal Depository Library Program via email with their subscribers.

- Alumni

- On Thursday, Ms. Kim Malony, Alumni and Advancement Director, will present the new Alumni Campus Banners that will be displayed on OCC buildings and monoliths throughout campus. The nine alumni displayed on the banners are a diverse group of successful OCC graduates who have pursued a wide variety of areas of study and professional paths. For this project, College Relations graphic designers and Alumni staff worked together to arrange photoshoots and interviews while engaging and cultivating these alums, all of whom are proud of their OCC education. They attribute much of their success to OCC. The banners not only enhance the beauty of the campus but also serve as inspiration for current and future students who are pursuing degrees. OCC alumni continue to serve as the College’s most valuable brand ambassadors and promote the value of an OCC education throughout the community.

- The **100 Women Campaign** hosted an event on **Friday, February 4, 2022**, in the **Gateway Building**, and it was offered virtually as well. **Speakers** included **OCC alumna, Ms. Tara Chalakani (Nursing '04)**, who is **Deputy Chief Executive Officer** at **Preferred Behavioral Health Group**, and **Ms. Victoria Magliacane, Senior Vice President, Market Executive** at **Investors Bank**, as well as an **Integrative Health and Nutrition Coach** and **Owner of Lavender Lifestyles**. Both spoke about **social/emotional health, work/life balance**, and the **impact the global pandemic** has had on women.
- **Save the dates:**
 - The **Annual BlueClaws OCC Picnic** for **Students, Alumni, Faculty, and Staff** will take place on **Friday, August 5, 2022**. **Tickets** will be available for purchase online soon and will include **admission to the ballpark** for an evening game and a **buffet dinner**.
 - The **Annual SUP the River Paddle Board Race**, co-hosted by the **OCC Foundation** and the **Kiwanis Club of Toms River**, is scheduled for **Saturday, September 17, 2022**, at the **Toms River Yacht Club**. The race is **open to all OCC alumni and constituents** as well as **local community members**. All **proceeds** will support the **OCC Foundation** and **Kiwanis Club**. **Volunteer opportunities** are available for anyone interested in getting involved.
- **Grunin Center**
 - **Upcoming shows in March** at the **Grunin Center** include:
 - **Irish Comedy on March 3, 2022**
 - **Croce Plays Croce on March 4, 2022**
 - **Velocity (Irish music and dance) on March 8, 2022**
 - **Artrageous (family-friendly show) on March 11, 2022**
 - **Prima Studio Theatre Opening Celebration on March 19, 2022**
 - **2 p.m. - Free dance performances** by **OCC students** and **Carolyn Dorfman Dance (commissioned piece with music by Louis and Gia Prima)** in the **Prima Theatre**. **Tickets are limited**; contact **Ms. Shannon Mayers, Executive and Artistic Director for the Grunin Center**, for **VIP seats**.
 - **5 p.m. - VIP Reception** in the **Prima Theatre and Lobby**
 - **7 p.m. - Louis Prima Jr.**
- **Security**

In accordance with **New Jersey Public Law 2015, Chapter 220**, and **College Policy #2332, Reporting of On-Campus Criminal and Fire Events**, attached is the **monthly statistics report** of **crimes, fires, and other emergencies on campus** for the reporting period **January 22, 2022, through February 22, 2022**.

Student Affairs

➤ Advising

➤ Transfer Events

Transfer Coordinator Laura Wills has organized a series of **Instant Decision Days** for **Spring 2022**. These events give **OCC students** the opportunity to **meet** with an **admissions representative** and **waive the application fee**. **Students** almost always **receive an offer of admission** at the events. **Participating institutions** for **Spring** include **Stockton University, Rowan University, Drew University, William Paterson University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Monmouth University, Montclair University, Kean-Ocean, and New Jersey City University**.

Additional institutions, including **Georgian Court University, Penn State University, Southern New Hampshire University, and Thomas Edison State University**, will be on **campus** this **Spring** to **meet with OCC students** to discuss **topics** such as **admission, transfer credits, and scholarships**:

➤ NJ STARS

NJ STARS Coordinator Jennifer Kipp reports that **39 NJ STARS students** **graduated in December 2021**. **Spring 2022 NJ STARS enrollment** currently stands at **302 students**, with a few other **potential STARS students** awaiting **confirmation**.

In **Fall 2021**, over **400 alerts** were **raised** via **Advise CRM** for **NJ STARS students** who fell **below 80%** in **one or more** of their **courses**. **Students** received **email communications** informing them of the **status** of their **courses**. Through these communication, **students** were **encouraged** to **contact Advisor Diane DeFilippo** to discuss **academic resources** and **strategies**. **Students** who **continued** to have courses **below 80%** for an **extended period** of time received **phone calls** as well.

Students who had **more than one course below 80%**, **multiple times** during the **semester**, were also identified in **Advise CRM** as **“high alert.”** This status triggered additional **outreach** to discuss **academic plans** and ways in which they could **strive to achieve** their **goals** going forward. The **“high alert”** status was **informative**, in that it allowed for **targeted outreach** to **students** who needed **assistance** and a more **proactive approach**. There were **32 students** in **Fall 2021** who were indicated as **“high alert.”**

NJ STARS students who fell **below a grade point average of 3.0** in the **Fall 2021 semester** received **letters** informing them of their **academic status** and advising them to **contact the Advisor Diane DeFilippo** to discuss **academic resources** and **strategies**. These students also received **follow-up phone calls** regarding their status. **Discussions with students** focused on **academic plans, study strategies, time management, critical thinking, tutoring services, degree programs, and transfer plans**.

➤ Advise

Advising, the HUB, Academic Affairs, e-learning, and IT have collaborated to **implement Faculty CX**, which allows **instructors** to **raise alerts** for **students** throughout the **semester**. A **pilot group** of **instructors** is currently **utilizing** these alerts to **identify students** with **attendance**

issues, lack of participation, missed assignments, and low assessments. Automated communications are in place in addition to outreach from the Retention Team Coaches. Forty-one alerts were triggered from January 29 through February 7, 2022, for six faculty members. Of those alerts, 25 were attendance issues and 16 were for missed assignments.

An alert plan is also underway for the Spring semester, aimed at identifying and communicating with students with low course averages. The first alert was triggered on Monday, February 7, 2022, for 1,022 students with a course average below 70%. The Retention Team Coaches are evaluating these alerts and will reach out to students in order to assist them and connect them with campus resources. A similar plan is running during the First-Accelerated Term, with alerts and communication dates modified to align with the shorter accelerated term.

Alert and communication plans are also continuing for NJ STARS, Athletics, and Pre-Nursing, and a plan is designed to connect students in MATH 156, Introduction to Statistics, and ENGL 151/098, English I/Writing Skills Development, with tutoring services.

➤ **Athletics**

OCC sophomore Jordan Viggiano was named “Female Athlete of the Year” for Ocean County College by the Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) and the New Jersey Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (NJIAIW) at the 36th Annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day, celebrated virtually on February 2, 2022. Jordan, a two-sport OCC student-athlete who competes in Women’s Soccer and Women’s Basketball, earned both NJCAA All-Region XIX and All-Garden State Athletic Conference Team honors in her first year of Women’s Soccer and is currently nationally ranked in points-per-game and total points scored in Women’s Basketball. Jordan also excels academically, completing the Fall 2021 semester with a 4.0 GPA. Jordan is currently planning on participating in one of the Spring sports as well, so we may have a three-sport standout this year.

➤ **Office of Disability Services**

➤ The Office of Disability Services participated in several virtual training and networking opportunities hosted by the national Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD) and the NJ AHEAD chapter. Topics of discussion included best practices for student documentation, testing center accessibility and procedures, STEM accessibility, and universal design framework. Concepts discussed will be shared and applied throughout the campus community.

➤ Assistant Director of Disability Services Jamie Arasz Prioli conducted an overview of Disability Services for prospective students and family members from Pinelands Regional High School and the Jackson School District. A combined total of 54 participants joined the virtual events which were conducted over the course of two days. The overview included steps necessary for requesting accommodations at OCC and resources available during the college experience.

➤ **Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF)**

In 2021, the New Jersey State Legislature designated April as Educational Opportunity Fund month to bring awareness about the many EOF support services offered to its scholars. In April, OCC EOF staff and scholars will highlight the benefits and features of the state-funded program to the campus community.

In 1968, the Educational Opportunity Fund was established in the aftermath of the 1967 Newark, New Jersey, riots. Then-Senator Thomas Kean created legislation to provide affordability and accessibility to low-income individuals interested in pursuing a college education. Today the Educational Opportunity Fund provides outreach and academic support services at 28 public and 13 independent New Jersey institutions.

EOF@Ocean is a thriving program. It supports low-income, first-generation college students who are motivated and committed to completing their degree programs. While the program provides financial assistance, the greatest benefits are the services provided, which include monthly advising, academic coaching, and lifelong learning opportunities. EOF staff annually facilitate leadership programming to enhance and develop leadership skills for its scholars.

Summers are active in EOF@Ocean. First Experience is hosted to assist new EOF students in their transition to college. For returning students, summer offers an opportunity to prepare for their return to campus. EOF@Ocean serves as a community of learners and a network of support for students who are working towards the completion of associate degrees. Whether students continue their education at a senior institution or enter the workforce, the goal for EOF students is to aim high and finish strong.

Ocean County College is proud to announce the formation of Alpha Alpha Alpha Gamma Psi, only the second county college to form an honor society recognizing first generation students, faculty, and staff. A May induction ceremony is planned.

Each year the EOF Board of Directors and the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education recognize the highest achieving EOF students in the state. EOF is pleased to present:

- **Two Distinguished Scholars – cumulative grade point average of 4.0**
 - **Mattalyn McCaffrey**
 - **Hailey Sadowski**

- **Two Outstanding Scholars – cumulative grade point average of 3.5 to 3.99**
 - **Tori Benoit**
 - **Melissa Binoya**

- **One Academic Achievement Award – cumulative grade point average 3.2 to 3.49**
 - **Leticia Lacerda**

- **Outstanding Achievement Award (only one student may be nominated) – for the student who exemplifies the spirit and intent of EOF**
 - **Melissa Binoya**

Sincere congratulations are extended to these outstanding EOF students.

➤ **Southern Education Center**

- The video-connected (VC) immersive synchronous classrooms have now been instructionally operational for a full month. These rooms use an advanced technological system of large screen televisions, wireless microphones, and camera systems, with Webex connectivity to allow students to engage in classes simultaneously on the Toms River campus and the SEC. Additionally, the Workforce and Professional Education Department is conducting two

remote-learning High School Equivalency classes from the SEC. Currently in a **pilot model**, reports from **students** studying in the **VC course** have stated they would **continue** to **register** for **VC classes** from the SEC as the **time and money saved** in the **commute** from **Southern Ocean County** is **significant**.

As **registration** has started for **summer courses**, the **VC idea** will be further **utilized** to **assist students** in **registering** for, then **completing, course work** at the SEC. In planning for the **Fall 2022 semester**, **14 VC classes** have been **proposed**, which will give **southern county students** a wide **variety** of additional **class opportunities** as they work toward **degree completion**. The **staff** of the **OCC IT Department** are **recognized** and **commended** for their **attention** in assisting **faculty** and **lecturers** to use the **VC system** to provide **instruction**.

- **Ms. Kashonna Garcon** and **Ms. Toni Ann Di Pasquale**, both **SEC Academic Advisors**, virtually attended the **Rowan University 5th Annual First-Gen Symposium** on **February 2 and 3, 2022**.
- The **SEC Student Services Office staff** continues to **assist** the **main campus Academic Advising Offices** by handling the **Academic Advising email in-box**.
- The **SEC Canvas shell** continues to be used as a **message board** to **alert students** to the many services offered at the **College**. Recent **announcements** have been **posted** to alert students to **Tutoring Services**, the recent **NJ Virtual College Transfer Fair**, and **Career Services**. Since the **SEC's opening** for the **Spring semester**, there have been over **1,000 views** of the **announcements**. The **OCC App** is now also being **programmed** with **direct messages** to **students** on the **SEC tab**.
- The SEC has a **full-page ad** in the **Southern Ocean Chamber of Commerce 2022 Land and Sea publication**. The **College Relations team** has been very **helpful** in **publicizing** the opportunities available at the SEC to the **Long Beach Island** and **southern county communities**. The **ad** can be seen here: <http://www.evergreeneditions.com/publication/?m=35472&l=1>.
- The **SEC Food Pantry** has been **re-stocked** and is now **available** to **assist** any **students** who are experiencing **food insecurity**. **Appreciation** goes to **Ms. Katherine Moreno**, **Coordinator of Student Basic Needs**, and the **funding** provided to **re-establish** the **SEC Food Pantry** from the **Hunger-Free Campus Grant**.
- **Veterans and Military Resources Center**
 - **February** has been **engaging** and **innovative** for the **Veterans and Military Resources team**. The **Veterans Engaging Teachers and Students (VETS program)** started this **Spring semester** with **student veterans** interacting with **classes** on **campus** and at **Toms River High Schools**.

Eleven OCC faculty members and **lecturers** have requested **student veterans** to **engage** their **classes**, which provides the opportunity for **veteran students** to **reflect** on their **experiences** and for **non-military students** to hear **veterans' perspectives** as they **return to college**. The **veteran students** have been **invited** to visit **social work, English, business management, history, and sign language classes**.
 - The **VMRC Work-study Program** also began in **February**, with **four fellow military and veteran students** now **employed** at the **Center**. These **students** will **advocate** for **socioeconomic opportunities** in **event creation** and **production** as well as **brainstorm** with the **staff** to provide **mentorship** and **guidance** to **support** the **student veterans**. **Military and veteran students** can learn more about the **Work-Study program** by contacting **Mr. Ryan Luurtsema**, **Assistant**

Director of the Veterans and Military Resources Center, at rluurtsema@ocean.edu.

- **Veterans Program Assistant Rachelle Bertholf** has been working on developing workshops in partnership with Career Services Coordinator Kirsten Bollinger. Workshops include **Scholarship How-To, Resume and Cover Letter Translation, Chat and Chew** with Assistant Director Ryan Luurtsema.
- In early May, the VMRC will host an **inaugural, old-school Drive-In Movie Night** on campus. The **outdoor pop-up theatre** will be located in the **overflow area of Parking Lot #2**, with *Ghostbusters: Afterlife* being presented as the **first movie**.

All are welcome; admission is free and open to the public. The **parking lot will open at 5 p.m.**, and the **movie will begin at 6 p.m.** Refreshments will be provided from **5 to 7 p.m.** by a **food truck, Good Food=Good Mood**. If interested in attending, contact Ms. Rachelle Bertholf, at rachelle.bertholf@ocean.edu or **732.255.0400, ext. 2080**.

- With the **overwhelming success of Green Zone Training (GZT) in November 2021**, the VMRC hosted the **first Spring semester Green Zone Training on February 16, 2022**. GZT is an **on-campus training workshop** offered to **faculty, lecturers, and staff** by the VMRC team that provides a **military and veteran cultural understanding to increase proficiency and situational analysis** when interacting with the **military and veteran community**. Two more opportunities for the training will be offered this **Spring**:
 - **Wednesday, April 6, 2022, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** in Bartlett Hall, Room 203
 - **Friday, April 8, 2022, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** via Webex

e-Learning and Learning Enterprises

➤ **Academics**

The **e-Learning Department** continues to **plan the online course schedule to maximize efficiency and increase student enrollment**. The department completed a **comprehensive analysis of enrollment data** for the **last four academic years to develop the Spring 2022 schedule**. Following are the **results of the analysis**:

- The **course section offerings** are now **evenly distributed** among the **various sessions**, allowing **students to register** throughout the **academic semester**.
- The **number of courses** offered was **reduced from 315 to 268**, which is a **15% decrease in course sections** from 2021.
- The **number of registered credit hours** is **5.3% higher** than the **2021 Spring reporting totals**. These **numbers will fluctuate** until both the **Spring Quick Term** and **Spring Accelerated 2 Session** close.
- The **data** has shown an **improvement in average class size and total capacity**: the **average class size** in the **Spring 2021** and **Spring Accelerated 1 sessions** was **21 students**, and the **courses ran at 63% capacity**. In the **same sessions in Spring 2022**, the **average class size** is **27 students**, and the **courses are at 85% capacity**.

- **e-Learning** has **reduced** the **cancellation rate** from **22%** in **Spring 2021** to **less than 1%** in **Spring 2022**, a **97% decrease** in the **e-Learning cancellation rate**.
- Lastly, the **number of sections** running at the **reduced rate** (less than ten students at census) has **decreased** from **22%** in **2021** to **11%** in **2022**.

The **department** has taken the **same approach** with the **Summer 2022 schedule** and is **projecting** an **increase** in the **student registered hours** and **class size**.

➤ **e-Learning Professional Development Series**

➤ **Turnitin**

The **Spring 2022 Professional Development Series** began on **February 2, 2022**, with **training** on **Turnitin plagiarism software**. **e-Learning** partnered with **Turnitin representative Gabriella Singh, Product Growth Manager**, who led an **interactive activity** on **effectively using Turnitin** for **Canvas assignments**, **modifying Turnitin settings**, and **viewing the Similarity Report results** when **grading**. **Fourteen faculty and lecturers** attended the **training**.

➤ **Quality Matters Certification**

In **February 2022**, **e-Learning faculty, lecturers, and staff** completed **Quality Matters Applying the QM Rubric training**. **Quality Matters** is the **global organization** leading **quality assurance** in **online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments**. It provides a **scalable quality assurance system** for **online and blended learning** used **within and across organizations**. In this **training**, **e-Learning personnel** learned and mastered the **QM Higher Education Rubric**, which consisted of the following **eight standards**:

1. **Course Overview and Introduction**
2. **Learning Objectives** (Competencies)
3. **Assessment and Measurement**
4. **Instructional Materials**
5. **Learning Activities and Learner Interaction**
6. **Course Technology**
7. **Learner Support**
8. **Accessibility and Usability**

In **completing the training**, the **e-Learning staff** learned how to **enhance** the **quality of distance learning courses** using **QM and e-Learning standards** to create a **rich experience** for **OCC's students**.

➤ **Roundtable for Adjuncts**

The **e-Learning Roundtables for Adjuncts** began on **Thursday, February 17, 2022**. These **meetings** provide **online instructors** with **networking opportunities** and the chance to **discuss best online teaching practices**. In the **February session**, a **panel of OCC e-Learning experts** presented on how to **succeed in e-Learning**. The **Adjunct Roundtables** are held on the **third Thursday** of every **month**, except for **March** due to **OCC's Spring Break**. The **March Roundtable** will be held on **Thursday, March 31, 2022**, at **6 p.m.**

➤ **e-Learning Personnel**

Dr. Eugene de Silva, e-Learning College Lecturer II in Science, was awarded by the Advisory Council of the Open Textbook Collaborative (OTC) with a New Jersey higher education project funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The project aims to develop two OER Chemistry textbooks for Organic Chemistry I and Organic Chemistry II to reduce the overall cost for students enrolled at higher education institutions using traditional publisher course materials.

➤ **International Programs**

On February 6, 2022, Dr. Maysa Hayward, Associate Vice President of International Programs, traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with Dr. Essam Elkordi, President of Alalamein International University (AIU); Dr. Richard Helldobler, President of William Paterson University (WPU); and Dr. Guillermo De Veyga, Vice President for Strategic initiatives and University Relations at WPU. The purpose of the trip was for the three parties to discuss partnerships. The meeting took place in the Embassy of Egypt with Dr. Ali Masood, the Embassy's cultural attaché.

On February 25, 2022, Dr. Hayward will travel to Egypt with Dr. Antonio Tillis, Chancellor of Rutgers University Camden, and me to meet with Egyptian National University delegates to discuss potential partnerships with OCC projects in Egypt.

Upon my departure from Egypt, Dr. Hayward will remain and will resume her face-to-face efforts to recruit students. Dr. Hayward will attend the Egyptian EDUGATE college fair on March 14, 2022, and she will also visit potential Egyptian high schools to meet students and parents.

OCC's International team is currently preparing digital and physical marketing materials to assist Dr. Hayward in her endeavors in Egypt. The team consists of Dr. Howaida Wahby Eraky, Assistant Dean of e-Learning, International Programs; Ms. Lauren Remenyi, e-Learning College Lecturer II; and Ms. Marwa Khalifa, e-Learning Academic Administrator.

REQUIRED REPORTING STATISTICS

Board of Trustees Meeting *February 24, 2022*

The following has been prepared for presentation to the Ocean County College Board of Trustees, for its regular meeting. This report consists of all offenses defined as reportable crimes under the federal Jeanne Clery Act, fires, and other emergencies, which occurred on campus during the reporting period of *January 22 through February 22, 2022*

1.) A count and classification of all criminal incidents (defined as reportable crimes under the federal Jeanne Clery Act) which occurred on campus and which were recorded by campus security, campus security authority (CSA) or local police departments.			
DATE	CRIME	SUMMARY	STATUS
Occurred: Reported:		NOTHING TO REPORT	
Occurred: Reported:			
Occurred: Reported:			
2.) A list of campus alerts, threats or emergencies which occurred on campus			
DATE	ALERT/THREAT	SUMMARY	STATUS
Occurred: Reported:		NOTHING TO REPORT	
Occurred: Reported:			
Occurred: Reported:			
3.) A count and classification of all fire incidents which occurred on campus and which were recorded by campus security and local fire departments.			
DATE	FIRE INCIDENT	SUMMARY	STATUS
Occurred: Reported:		NOTHING TO REPORT	
Occurred: Reported:			

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Sydney Stroman
Assistant Director