

I. Major research and public service activities

As the major focus of their mission, community colleges are committed to teaching and learning. In keeping with this mission, Ocean County College faculty members dedicate their professional time to improving the classroom and laboratory learning experience. College faculty members worked individually and in teams on numerous curricular and instructional development projects. Many inactive or outdated courses were deleted from the curriculum, while numerous revisions were made to existing courses, particularly where the acquisition of computer and laboratory equipment facilitated incorporation of technological applications in the classroom. Along with the development of online courses, over two-dozen new courses were added to the curriculum in response to the developments in the disciplines, community needs, and the addition of new degree programs or options.

Although the faculty do not focus on major research programs, faculty accomplishments include numerous publications and presentations and participation in community organizations.

Acting Dean of **Health, Human Performance, Science and Engineering** Jim Brown serves as Chairperson of the Executive Board of the New Jersey Public Health Association and as a member of the Board of United Methodist Homes of New Jersey. Nursing Professor Mary Lou Gilbert serves as Secretary of the NJ Council of Associate Nursing Degree Programs. Professor Duane Grembowicz serves as Commissioner on the Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission and on the Cattus Island Advisory Council. Dr. Joe Adamo and Professor Eric Antonelli mentored a student scholar, Eugene F. Garritt, who presented a scientific paper for the science competition at NJIT. This paper won the biology competition. Mr. Paul Butler is a member of the Executive Board of the American Society for Engineering Education. Dr. Marcia Bradley works with the science curriculum in local schools. Professors Dennis Kalichstein and Neil Schiller are part of a research grant concerning hydrogen fuel cells as an alternative energy source.

The **Department of Mathematics** celebrated Math Awareness Month in April with lectures given by Professors Ted Gordon, Kaaren Finberg, William Rickert, and Deborah Maher. Professor Maryann Birdsall continued her affiliation with the Professional Engineering Society of New Jersey and helped coordinate their Math Counts Competition on our campus. She is advisor to the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Club, served on the Educational Opportunity Fund Advisory Board, participated in the Black History Month Read-A-Thon, and worked with the Suited for Success Program in Lakewood. Professor Kaaren Finberg presided at the keynote address at the NJ Mathematical Association of America fall 2006 meeting, and presided over the student contributed paper session at the Garden State Undergraduate Math Conference at Rowan University. Professor Ted Gordon continued in his role as mentor for several alternate route teachers, and offered several mathematical programs for high school teachers. Professor Henderson served as Chair of the Academic Standards Committee, and continued to serve on the Advisory Board to the Superintendent of Marlton (NJ) Schools. Professor Vicki McMillian was coordinator of the Honors Program and attended the National Collegiate Honors Council conference held in Philadelphia. Professor Michael Pezzimenti chaired the Instruction Committee, and developed several workshops on GEPA and HESPA testing for area high school teachers. As advisor to Phi Theta Kappa, Dr. William Rickert, attended the PTK Regional Convention held in Valley Forge, PA. At the national convention in Nashville, the chapter

received the Outstanding Chapter Award, presented to only twenty-five chapters internationally. Professor Yuan Xu served as advisor to the Math Club which achieved 6th place in the American Mathematical Association Two-Year College mathematics competition for the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Dean of **Business, Economics, and Computer Studies** Polk is a member of the Board of Directors of the Toms River/Ocean County Chamber of Commerce and Chairman of the Education Committee. He is also a member of the Georgian Court University Business Administration Advisory Committee. His colleague, Professor Edward Kissling, is a member of the N.J. Bar Association Committee on Paralegals. In the same department, Dr. Virginia Reilly is the state-wide faculty representative to the New Jersey Virtual Community College Consortium. She is a member of the National Council on Economic Education.

The Department of **Social Science, Education and Public Services** had a very successful year. With changing student needs, Joseph Kirchhofer, Coordinator of the Criminal Justice Program, continues to lead the expansion of a full degree program offered through E-Learning. John Horton, Coordinator of Fire Science worked on the completion of the Fire Science Program Review. Professor Richard Strada became the college representative on the Early Learning Council of County College.

Members of the department were very active in their professional role as participants at conferences and presenters at meetings of community organizations. Associate Professor Geraldine Ryder presented on the *Just War* at the meeting of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Professor Joan Rykiel was actively completing her book entitled, *In Harms Way, Psychology of War and Terrorism*. Professors Joseph Kirchhofer, Robert Austin and Benny Castillo participated in the American Criminal Justice Association National Conference during March. Professor Austin earned the First Place Award in professional Police Management. In addition to the Conference, Professor Castillo also presented and conducted *Defensive Tactics Awareness* for Lehman Brothers employees in Jersey City and New York City during April and May.

Professor Alfred Atanda continued follow studies of twins when he returned to Ghana for the summer. Professor Lavender presented *Toxic Co-Workers* workshop for Burlington County College in September as part of their professional development day. In November, he traveled to Dublin, Ireland, to present *Workplace Relations*. Professor Alfred Longo continued his professional involvement in the area of scoring School Leaders Licensing Examinations.

Professor Kathleen McCormick spent the year at many workshops including *Trauma and Special Populations* at the Ocean County Mental Health Board, *Counseling: A Cognitive-Behavioral Perspective at the NJ Community College Counselors' Association*, two (2) On-Line Workshops presented by Thompson Higher Education entitled *Emotional Intelligence* and *How Students Learn v. How Teachers Teach* and the *Native American Southwest Anthropology Seminar* from OCC.

Professor Lynn Kenneally utilized a sabbatical to earn a second Master's degree from the University of New England. Professors John Bartlett and Richard Strada delivered presentations on the *Meaning of the U.S. Constitution* as part of the annual Constitution Day celebration conducted by the Public Service Institute of OCC.

Professor Christine Kitchin developed and led the *Native American Southwest Anthropology Seminar* for students, faculty and the community as part of OCC's Life Long Learning program. In addition she presented *The Real Pocahontas and Colonial Politics* as part of Women's History Month at OCC. She also attended the National Collegiate Honor's Council Northeast Regional Conference in Philadelphia and the Annual Mid-Atlantic Archaeology Conference.

Joseph Kirchhofer, Robert Austin and Benny Castillo continued their active roles as advisors to Kappa Xi Sigma the campus chapter of the American Criminal Justice Association, Lamda Alpha Epsilon. Professor Lynn Kenneally and Dr. Alfred Longo inducted another group of education students in our chapter of the Pi Lamda Theta, the national Honor Society for Educators. Professor Castillo continued to advise the student Judo Club under in the Student Activities area.

The Department organized the annual Women's History Month Program which had over twenty presenters from the faculty over the month long celebration from various departments.

In the fall of 2006, the Department of **English and Literature** revived two former courses (British Literature I and British Literature II) and generated three new courses (Jewish and Holocaust Literature, Introduction to Drama, and a course linking Introduction to Literature with Music Appreciation). In October, the department initiated the Writers' Reading Series by inviting to campus the award-winning playwright, Lee Blessing, and the prominent novelist and memoirist, Da Chen. These readings were such a success with students that we've decided to make this series an annual autumnal event. Also in fall, the English Department was honored to have OCC's first Fulbright Scholar, Inez Abou-Youssef, who taught Arabic Literature in Translation for our department. We were also honored to have our first foreign-exchange professor from China, Wei Zhang, who taught developmental English courses for us. These two women enriched the international tenor of our department. In October, six members of our department attended the Two-Year College English Association Conference in Providence, Rhode Island, and also in October, Katja Hawlitschka delivered a paper on women's issues the film *Crash* at the Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture Conference in Baltimore. In November, Judith Angona, our English Coordinator, presented a paper on the uses of oral history in composition courses at the College Composition and Communication Conference (the 4C's) in Chicago.

Over the course of the 2006/2007 academic year, Dr. Maysa Hayward published a long article on the Arab novel in a volume of essays put out by SUNY Press, wrote another essay on Style in Translation for a forthcoming *Approaches . . .* text by the Modern Language Association, and contributed a chapter on Arabic Literature to a book published by the University of Edinburgh Press. Also, throughout the year, the English Department book club, headed by Dr. David Bordelon and Dr. Katja Hawlitschka met monthly to discuss books that focused on India. Meanwhile, Professor Jayanti Tamm had her book-length memoir accepted for publication by Random House.

In the spring of 2007, six members of the English Department gave presentations at Read-In Day in February for Black History Month—an event organized by Dr. Joaquin Rolon, Jr. Also, as a new advisor, Dr. Rolon participated in the national Phi Theta Kappa Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. In March, Dr. Katja Hawlitschka, Dr. Rolon, Dr. Hayward, and professors Angona, Botein, and Tamm all gave presentations during the annual Women's History Month, and later in

the spring, several members of the department participated in the Holocaust Memorial Program. Students in the Honors English course in the spring, taught by Professor Angona, worked as tutors with local high school English classes in a program called “The Write Connection”—now in its second year. In April, the department sponsored our seventh annual Poetry Festival featuring poet David Mura of Minneapolis. Organized by Dr. Sandra Brown, this was a particularly successful and rewarding festival. Also in April and May, Dr. Hawlitschka and Dr.

Bordelon finished their editing of *PEN* (our journal of OCC student writing) and sent it off to be printed, Dr. Mary Ellen Carr was awarded a sabbatical to participate in a year-long Mid-Career Fellowship at Princeton University, and the Departmental Search committee completed its work that resulted in hiring three new full-time faculty members in our department: Denise Kron, Dana Lauro, and Heidi Wilkinson.

Dean of **Humanities, Fine Arts, and Media Studies** reports that a new full-time faculty member – Kathleen Basilotto - has been selected for the Interpreter Training Program (ITP). The ITP has now graduated eighty seven individuals, most of them in the Certificate Program and a growing number of them in the new A.A.S. degree program. A graduate of the program – Amy Jones – will graduate, with honors, from Gallaudet University in January. In addition, three recent graduates have taken and passed the written portion of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) National Exam.

Dr. Elizabeth Brierley was nominated for Best Leading Actress for her performance in the Strand Theater’s production of *EPIC PROPORTIONS*. The play was directed by Professor Gary Shaffer. The nomination was for the Perry Award presented by the New Jersey Association of Community Theaters. Dr. Brierley is also an instructor in the Easter Seals’ “Real Life Choice” program. She meets with a challenged adult each week and assists them with life skills and job skills in the hope that they can eventually live in a group home and seek employment. Dr. Ljiljana Milojevic is an active member of the Delaware Valley Medieval Association (DVMA) and participated in organizing its program for 2007-08. She is also conducting “Learn Salsa” classes on campus every Tuesday in the OCC Gym. Dr. Miljevic will chair a panel at the annual International Congress on Medieval Studies to be held in May, 2008 at Western Michigan University. Professor John Morrison was named Best Director for his adaptation of *TOM JONES* and received the Dorset Theater Golden Leaf Award. He also directed *THE GLASS MENAGERIE* which won the Best production Award.

Professor Arthur Waldman directed the two major OCC theater events in 2006-07: *SCAPINO*, based on the Moliere play and *BROOKLYN BOY*, a contemporary examination of father-son relationships. Dr. Martin Novelli, Dean of the department, working with the Film Society of Algonquin Arts in Manasquan presented a three program on the American Musical in Fall, 2006 and a three film program honoring Peter Sellers in Spring, 2007. The department had two retirements in Spring, 2006: Dr. Howard Unger and Dr. Gert Niers.

In addition to their college commitments, Ocean County College faculty serve their state and community in positions such as the following: New Jersey 10th District Assemblyman; Southern Regional District Board of Education member; Vice President of the Eastern Community College Social Science Association; musician for the Monmouth County Symphony Orchestra; New Jersey

State Coordinator of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Achievement Awards in Writing; Vice Chairperson of the Ocean County Catholics Advisory Board; member of the Board of Directors of the Toms River-Ocean County Chamber of Commerce; Vice Chairperson of the Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission; Board Member of Community/Kimball Medical Center; Chair of the New Jersey section of the Mathematics Association of America; Executive Board member for the NJ Faculty Development Network; Board member for the Hispanic Association for Higher Education; Advisory Committee member for the Georgian Court College Business Administration Department; Advisory Board member for the Upper Darby School District; member of the Committee of the Association of Colleges and Research Librarians/NJ Library Association; Advisory Board member to Lakewood Head Start; Chairperson of the Resource Development Committee of Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity; member of the Nursing Research Committee at Community Medical Center; director of the OCC Center for Economic Education; member of Soroptomist International of Toms River; member of the Ocean County Advisory Committee on the status of women; NJEA Delegate Assembly Representative for Higher Education; representative to Ocean County Council of Education; and Foreign Policy Analyst for WOBM.

Dr. Judith Icklan, Executive Vice President, has initiated a variety of programs to address community needs for high quality, flexible, and responsive educational programs and services. The goal is to promote Ocean County College as the first choice for the education, training, and enrichment of all county residents.

Educational partnerships and programs are under continuous development to establish seamless pathways from secondary education through the baccalaureate degree. Emphasis is placed on strong relationships with all county high schools and the Ocean County Vocational Technical Schools and with four-year colleges and universities. Most noteworthy is the Kean University at Ocean County College partnership, which enables area residents to complete upper division courses required for certain Kean University undergraduate degree programs and specific graduate programs on the campus of OCC. Qualified students are able to complete the entire degree program at OCC. Current programs target high-need, high-demand programs and degrees, such as nursing, elementary and secondary education, special education, criminal justice, history, sociology, English, health and physical education, business management/accounting, and media and film.

Outreach activities to schools and teachers emanate from the Office of School Relations, which provides teacher professional development through workshops and advanced placement institutes. Professionals seeking career change avail themselves of the Alternate Route Teacher Certification Program, done in partnership with New Jersey City University. The Department of Continuing and Professional Education provides a wide variety of employment-related certifications in Allied Health, computer applications, and management fields. Summer activities include camps and enrichment experiences for children. Finally, the Fine Arts Center and the Academy for Lifelong Learning provide cultural or specialized programming for area residents.

The college also provides credit courses to students throughout the county through Off-Campus Programming and its extension site in southern Ocean County. In 2006-2007 a total of 2,983 students were served at 18 active off-site locations throughout the county, continuing to provide

our residents greater access to higher education.. Similarly, a duplicated count indicates that 6,000 residents of southern Ocean County took classes at the Southern Education Center.

Dr. Icklan has initiated OCC to engage in numerous outreach activities to meet the needs of schools, businesses, and various community constituents. Building of the Ocean County Vocational Technical School Academy of Marine and Environmental Science (MATES), a \$12 million facility on the OCC campus in Manahawkin, has been completed and its doors opened in to welcome students right on schedule in September. OCC continues to work with OCVTS/MATES to expand offerings to both MATES and OCC students living in the southern part of the county. MATES students will enter a program that is seamlessly articulated from ninth grade to an OCC associate degree and then to a baccalaureate degree at Richard Stockton College. OCC also continues to offer numerous opportunities for county residents to complete baccalaureate and graduate degrees through partnerships with Kean University, New Jersey City University, and Fairleigh Dickinson University, all of whom offer programs right on the OCC campus. School Relations continued three new institutes, all of which ran with excellent enrollments: Advanced Placement for Teachers, Reading for Elementary Children, and an SAT Review for High School Students. In the non-credit areas, the Department of Continuing and Professional Education administered the Teach Out of the Brick Computer Science Institute and began new initiatives with Community and Kimball Medical Centers and the Ocean County School Nurses Association to meet community needs. The Academy for Lifelong Learning with nearly 1500 members taking credit and non-credit courses offers dynamic programs for the 55 and over population in our area. Geared to enhance members' intellectual, physical and personal well being, the new partnerships with Algonquin Arts and Stafford Township Arts Center will be great cultural additions. Courses are also provided for Lucent Technologies and AT&T CWA workers in NJ, PA, and NYC, through the Alliance for Employee Growth and Development.