

H. Major research and public service activities

OCC is not required to submit to the National Science Foundation their R&D Expenditures form #411 as we do not receive any federal, state or local funding to specifically support R&D activities, nor are any institutional funds budgeted or expensed for this purpose.

In the various Ocean County College academic schools, faculty members have displayed their scholarship and creativity in local, regional, national, and even international venues. These successes serve to prominently highlight the reputation of Ocean County College as a center of excellence in education, scholarship, and creative work.

School of Language and the Arts

In the School of Language and the Arts, several of our faculty members have published impressive scholarly and creative work. In July 2010, Dr. Ali Botein-Furrevig published her book, *Heart of the Stranger: A Portrait of Lakewood's Orthodox Community*. The book is a combination of scholarship, interviews, commentary, and personal experience during the two year research process. Ali also continues to serve as Scholar Honoraria at the Manchester Library's *Shalom Book and Film Club* and speaks throughout Ocean and Monmouth Counties on Yiddish culture. Dr. Botein-Furrevig spearheaded the college's Holocaust Remembrance Week program which included arranging guest lecturers, holocaust survivors, student readings, films, a religious memorial service and a student play on genocide.

In April 2010, Dr. Katja Hawlitschka of the English Department presented a paper on quality television at the NEMLA (Northeast Modern Language Association) conference and had a paper accepted for the PAMLA (Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association) conference on the representation of Islam in contemporary popular literature in the West.

Dr. Sandra Brown served as a Contributing Editor for *TYCA Nor'easter: Newsletter of TYCA Northeast*, Fall 2009, Vol. 12, #1.

Heidi Sheridan helped students to create, organize, design, and print the Literary Magazine, *Seascope* and presented a paper at the national conference of The Association of Writers and Writing Programs on how to teach creative writing students to incorporate stage directions into their plays.

Professor Lynn Kramer Siracusa actively served on both the Native American History Month Committee and the Poetry Festival Committee. She is currently working as a member of the Retention Alert Team to retain at-risk students.

Jennifer Dellner presented for the International Conference, "2000 years of Solitude: Exile after Ovid," 3 September 2009 in Durham, UK. In October, she presented "At Play in the Fields of Academia: Bachelard, Iser, and Interdisciplinarity" for the Association for Integrative Studies Conference, Tuscaloosa.

Jayanti Tamm completed *God Lived in Queens*, a work of creative nonfiction that will be published in *Forgotten Borough*, a new book by SUNY Press in February 2011. On September

2009, Jayanti was invited to speak on the art of the memoir for the Book Festival at both George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College. She spoke on American cults at the International Cultic Studies Association's conference in Denver, CO, March 2010.

The Dean of the School, Dr. Maysa Hayward, visited Cairo University in July 2010 in order to begin the process of drafting an articulation agreement between OCC and Cairo University.

Dr. David Bordelon set up a project titled "Random Acts of Poetry" as part of the college's celebration of National Poetry Month (April), for the purpose of reading poetry on campus.

During June, July and August 2010 music faculty member Karin Gargone directed the Ocean Grove Auditorium choral/orchestral performance of Giacomo Rossini's sacred masterwork *Stabat Mater*. She also served as the piano accompanist for the Monmouth Civic Chorus's "Summer Choral Workshop" on August 4th, which featured J.S. Bach's monumental *B-Minor Mass*. Professor Gargone will accompany guitarist Keith Calmes in his performance of the Guitar Concerto by Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos.

Advisor Gary Shaffer worked intensively to improve the college newspaper, *The Viking News*, by introducing a new format and design. New outreach efforts boosted readership and led to increased student involvement.

School of Social Science and Human Services

In the School of Social Science and Human Services, faculty members provided extra-curricular support to students by assisting with history outings and trips to the United States Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C.

Through the efforts of Professor Bradford Young, three political clubs have been formed or reactivated. As a result, the OCC Republicans, the OCC Democrats and Independents, and Students Learning about Politics have experienced a resurgence in membership. Professor Young also provided OCC with insights into political issues by sponsoring and moderating a debate on medical marijuana and by coordinating a question and answer session with Lt. Gubernatorial candidate Frank Esposito. Professor Young was also the voice of OCC as a political specialist when he participated on local radio station, 92.7 WOBN's election night broadcast. In addition, Professor Young directed the New Jersey College Republican State Convention at the college and assisted in Congressman John Adler's visit to OCC.

Phi Beta Lambda (PBL), the business club, competed at the state competition in the spring of 2010 and won over 20 awards while PBL's advisor, Professor Kathy Dillon, was named advisor of the year. The Gold Seal of Merit for which two and four-year colleges and universities compete was awarded to OCC for both its community involvement and its high membership. Members of the business faculty engaged in community fundraising events which resulted in the donation of over \$5,000.00 and many hours of volunteer service to organizations such as the Children's Specialized Hospital, Oceans of Love, the Veteran's Administration, the YMCA, the Barnegat Bay Estuary, and 21-Plus Challenged Adults.

Members of the nursing discipline have mentored several graduate students who are working towards their Masters degrees in nursing education (MSN). OCC nursing professors attended educational programs in topics which included High Fidelity Simulation, Dermatologic Conditions, Aging, Cancer, and Mental Health Nursing.

Many of the teaching staff sought professional development through their memberships in professional organizations and by attending the NJEA Conference in Atlantic City. Additionally, Professor Lynn Kenneally attended the Garden State Paralegal Conference and, as the Honors Coordinator, attended the National Collegiate Honors Conference in Washington, D.C. As a Guest of NASA, Professor Kenneally presented to science educators at the Faculty Institute at NASA's Earth and Space Science Education (FINESSE) Conference in Baltimore, MD. Furthermore, Prof. Kenneally was chosen as a guest of the National Endowment for the Humanities and attended a week-long *We the People* Seminar in Brooklyn, NY.

From the anthropology discipline, Professor Christine Kitchin attended the annual meeting of the Society for Anthropology in Community Colleges entitled, "Sustainable Teaching in the 21st Century," in San Francisco, CA. She also led sixteen anthropology students and community members on a travel seminar to the American Southwest to experience Indian Reservations and archaeological sites.

In the education discipline, Dr. Alfred Longo has continued in the capacity of a scorer for the School Leaders Licensure Exam for the Educational Testing Service (ETS).

A representative of the psychology discipline, Dr. Kathy McCormick has worked towards creating educational opportunities for our students as Scholarship Chair of Soroptimist International of the Toms River Area. In addition, she is a peer reviewer for *Psychology of Women Quarterly* (APA Publication) and a master reviewer for *Quality Matters* (QM).

A member of our business discipline, Dr. Virginia Reilly, is also a QM Master Reviewer who served on the National Training Initiative. This program looks to qualify instructors to teach online and provides them with opportunities to improve their online course designs. Dr. Reilly serves as Chair of QM for New Jersey and conducts national online course reviews. She also participated in a stock market simulation about the American economic system and the global economy (the NJ Stock Market Challenge Workshop). As a result of her involvement in Project SCREEN (Senior Citizens and Retiree Empowerment Education Network), Dr. Reilly was selected as one of only 300 nationally to receive a scholarship designed to train non-profit counselors to deliver effective financial literacy to seniors.

Community service, in the form of a toy drive for the *Yoga and U Charity*, resulted in the provision of over 500 toys to students of the Hugh J. Boyd Elementary School in Toms River. This was accomplished through the efforts of Professor Maria Flynn, who also led the Sociology Club in their participation in the *Defeat ALS Walk* in Seaside Heights.

Dr. Alfred Atanda collected and shipped educational materials to Ghana and Nigeria to help sustain educational efforts in Africa.

Members provided service to the college through presentations during 2010 celebrations of Women's History Month, American Indian Heritage Read-In Day, Constitution Day, and Black History Month.

School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology

The School of Mathematics, Science and Technology sponsored a continuous food drive to supply canned goods to various local food banks.

Members of the Engineering department in cooperation with the Office of School Relations held the annual robotics and cardboard canoe race competition for the Vocational-Technical schools in the area. A new competition was started called "Wearable Electronics."

Members of the Science department joined forces with Georgian Court University in celebrating National Chemistry Week. Chemistry Club Advisor Prof. Maria Tamburro organized the event through the Toms River Branch of the Ocean County Library. Students from both schools volunteered their time and talents in stations that offered hands-on chemistry to visitors and community members. The target audience was K-12 public school students. This event was featured in the *American Chemical Society Journal of Chemical News and Engineering*.

The OCC Chemistry Club has been recognized as a Student Affiliate Chapter of the American Chemical Society, students and faculty were featured in a video challenge, "*I Am a Proud Chemist*". The film won a \$1,500 prize and was featured at the ACS's National Meeting.

Speaking on topics pertaining to distance learning, Dr. Jim Brown, Maria Tamburro and Christine Spencer presented at various conventions and seminars.