



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Regular Meeting

### Minutes

**April 25, 2024**

<p>The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Ocean County College Board of Trustees was called to order at 11:06 a.m. on Thursday, March 28, 2024, by Mr. Jerry Dasti, Chair, in room 102 of the Conference Center on the College campus and via Webex.</p>	Call to Order
<p>The announcement of public meeting was made by Mrs. Connie Bello in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975. This meeting was announced on April 18, 2024, as required by the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, by providing adequate notice to the Asbury Park Press, the Atlantic City Press, the Ocean County Clerk, and the College community. The notice indicated this meeting would also be held via Webex, as per New Jersey Public Law 2020, Chapter 11, approved on March 20, 2020, for public bodies to conduct meetings by electronic means.</p>	Public Meeting Announcement
<p>Those in attendance were Mr. Dasti, Mrs. Linda Novak, Mr. Stephan Leone, Mr. Frank Dupignac, Mr. Robert Fall, Ms. DiAnne Gove, Mr. Joseph Teichman, Mr. Steven Zabarsky, Mr. Jack Sahradnik, Dr. Pamela Monaco, Executive Vice President Sara Winchester, Vice President Eileen Garcia, Vice President Joseph Konopka, Vice President Gerald Racioppi, Ms. Donna Rosinski-Kauz, Director of Library Services and College Senate Chair, and Mrs. Connie Bello. Also in attendance was Commissioner Virginia Haines.</p>	Attendance
<p>A resolution was introduced and adopted upon unanimous roll call vote to move into a closed meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel action, collective bargaining, and pending and anticipated litigation, the results of which will be released to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.</p>	Resolution Adopted for Closed Meeting
<p>At 11:09 a.m., the trustees moved to a closed session; at 12:02 p.m., the closed session ended, and the public meeting resumed with the absence of Mr. Dupignac. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.</p>	Public Meeting Resumed
<p>Mr. Sahradnik administered the trustee oath of office to Ms. DiAnne C. Gove, who was appointed by the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders to serve the remainder of the term of Mr. Carl Van Thulin, who resigned from the Board in December 2023, through December 19, 2024. The trustees welcomed Ms. Gove to the Board.</p>	Swearing-In of Ms. DiAnne C. Gove

The minutes of the March 28, 2024, Board of Trustees closed session and public meetings were approved by roll call vote with an abstention from Ms. Gove.

Minutes Approved

Dr. Monaco introduced Dr. Joseph Konopka and Dr. Meredith Riddle, Assistant Dean, e-Learning, who shared with the Trustees details on the application submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education for OCC to offer the Alternate Route Educator Preparation Program, an alternative pathway to teacher education. Megan Scheffler and Liam Cox, two New Jersey teachers who completed OCC's 50-hour pre-service teaching program, shared their positive experiences from the program and under the direction of Dr. Carol D'Zio.

Presentations

Mr. Kenneth Michalek, College Lecturer II, Computer Science, introduced the OCC Computer Science students currently working with Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL) on a software internship program with the JB MDL Spark Innovation Lab; Marco Ferreira, Max Kripinski, Chris Mata, Victoria Collazo, Evan Hilla, and Peter (Phuc) Nguyen shared a presentation on the project, and mentioned Skylar Wianecki, who also worked on the program, but was unable to attend.

Upon a request for public comments by Mr. Dasti, Dr. Ali Botein-Furrevig, Director of the Center for Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Education, shared a prepared statement prior to the committee reports. She commented on the renewal of her employment contract as Director of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Education Center; her presentations on behalf of the Center; a new process for reviewing the content of her presentations in advance to ensure it is fair and balanced; and the obstacles she has met over the past three semesters preventing her from pursuing her initiatives. Dr. Botein-Furrevig continued that she is being specifically targeted by Ms. Donna Rosinski-Kauz, Director of Library Services and her supervisor, and Dr. Pamela Monaco, President, because she is Jewish and because of the topics she discusses, which she characterized as anti-Jewish, anti-Israel, and a violation of her academic freedom and her right to free speech. A copy of Dr. Botein-Furrevig's statement is attached to these minutes.

Public Comments

#### Finance Committee

In the absence of Mr. Dupignac, Ms. Winchester presented the Finance Agenda, which was approved unanimously as submitted.

- The statement of income and expenditures as of March 31, 2024, was accepted.
- The following contracts were awarded:
  - A maximum of \$30,036.06 to Watermark Insights, LLC, Austin, Texas, for the first year of a two-year contract for a course evaluation software system from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026, at Ocean County College.
  - A maximum of \$119,448 to Integrated Systems and Services, Inc., Eatontown, New Jersey, for the second-year contract option for inspection, repair, maintenance, and related activities for the Electronic Access Control and Video Surveillance Systems from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, for use by the Security Department at Ocean County College.

Income/Expenditures Accepted

Contracts Awarded

- A maximum of \$104,280 to Allied Fire and Safety Equipment Company, Inc., Neptune, New Jersey, for the second-year contract option for maintenance and repair services of fire prevention and fire control equipment from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at Ocean County College.
  - A maximum of \$26,780 to SEE Projects, LLC, Brooklyn, New York, for the design of a web portal for monitoring environmental projects in the Barnegat Bay Watershed through the federal award titled “Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)” at Ocean County College.
  - A maximum of \$346,775 to BKP Architects, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for professional architectural and engineering design services for the Novins Planetarium renovation project at Ocean County College.
  - A maximum of \$298,450 to Forge Signworks, LLC, Farmingdale, New Jersey, for the purchase and installation of a replacement electronic sign and technology upgrade for the sign software for use at Ocean County College.
  - Resolutions were adopted to award the following contracts:
    - A maximum of \$120,000 to Amazon Services, LLC, Seattle, Washington, for a one-year contract for the purchase of online marketplace products from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, through the Omnia Partners Cooperative Purchasing Program for various departments at Ocean County College.
    - A maximum of \$30,000 to Scientific Boiler Water Conditioning Company, Inc., Linden, New Jersey, for a one-year contract for water treatment services from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at Ocean County College.
    - A maximum of \$45,972.80 to Collegenet, Inc., Portland, Oregon, for a one-year renewal of the annual licensing fee for the 25Live Software System from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at Ocean County College.
    - A maximum of \$60,000 to Home Depot U.S.A., Inc., Atlanta, Georgia, for a one-year contract for the purchase of miscellaneous supplies, tools, materials, and custodial items through the Omnia Partners Cooperative Purchasing Program from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, on an as-needed basis at Ocean County College.
    - A maximum of \$18,000 to Cintas Corporation No. 2, Mason, Ohio, for a one-year contract for the rental of floor mats for campus building entrances from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, on an as-needed basis through the Omnia Partners Cooperative Purchasing Program at Ocean County College.
    - A maximum of \$110,000 to Office Depot, Inc., Boca Raton, Florida, for a one-year contract for the purchase of office supplies from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, through the Omnia Partners Cooperative Purchasing Program for use at Ocean County College.
- Resolutions Adopted for Contract Awards

- A maximum of \$58,793.04 to Krueger International, Inc., Green Bay, Wisconsin, for the purchase and installation of classroom furniture in the Instructional Building through the Education Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Cooperative Contract at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$82,842 to Ellucian Company, L.P., Fairfax, Virginia, for a one-year subscription renewal of the Recruit SaaS software for the recruitment of prospective students and MT Synoptix financial reporting software from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$60,000 to B&H Photo Video Pro Audio, Inc., New York, New York, for a one-year contract for the purchase of audio video equipment and peripherals on an as-needed basis from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, through the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (HCESC) Cooperative Contract for use at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$40,000 to CDW Government, Inc., Vernon Hills, Illinois, for a one-year contract for the purchase of audio visual equipment on an as-needed basis from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Cooperative Contract for use at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$60,000 to Apple Computer, Inc., Atlanta, Georgia, for a one-year contract for the purchase of Apple computers and accessories on an as-needed basis from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, through the PEPPM Cooperative Purchasing Contract for use at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$30,000 to Penn Jersey Paper Company (part of BradyPLUS), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for a one-year contract for the purchase of campus-wide custodial paper products on an as-needed basis from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, through the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA) at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$75,000 to Core Mechanical, Inc., Pennsauken, New Jersey, for a one-year contract for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) maintenance services on an as-needed basis from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$22,453.78 to SHI International Corporation, Somerset, New Jersey, for a one-year renewal of the campus-wide digital signage software subscription license from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, through the NJEdge.NET Consortium at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$22,907.96 to Aspire Technology Partners, LLC, Eatontown, New Jersey, for the purchase of various Cisco equipment to support the transition to a new telecommunications service provider through the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA) at Ocean County College.

- To identify a qualified pool of consultants for professional mechanical, electrical, and plumbing and building envelope commissioning services from April 25, 2024, through April 24, 2025, at Ocean County College.
- The following contracts were amended:
  - An additional \$22,032.50, for a maximum total of \$62,032.50, to Bahr and Sons Electrical Contractors, Inc., Bayville, New Jersey, for additional electrician services for the remainder of the fiscal year at Ocean County College (contract originally awarded at the March 16, 2023, Board meeting).
  - An additional \$10,000, for a maximum total of \$38,000, to FM Generator, Inc., Canton, Massachusetts, for additional generator preventative and maintenance services for the remainder of the fiscal year at Ocean County College (contract originally awarded at the June 29, 2023, Board meeting).
  - An additional \$5,000, for a maximum total of \$25,819, to Jay Hill Repairs, Fairfield, New Jersey, for anticipated additional appliance repairs at Ocean County College (contract originally awarded at the December 7, 2023, Board meeting).
  - An additional \$16,058.81, for a maximum total of \$29,222.67, to Aspire Technology Partners, LLC, Eatontown, New Jersey, for the purchase of additional audio and visual equipment for the Conference Center at Ocean County College (initial contract was under threshold and did not require Board approval).

Contracts Amended

Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Committee

Dr. Garcia presented the Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Agenda, which was approved upon unanimous roll call vote, as recommended by the Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Committee:

- The following items, as accepted by the College Senate at its meetings on April 4, and 18, 2024, were approved unanimously upon roll call vote:
  - Revised Policy
    - Policy #5156, Students, Academic Standards, Unsatisfactory Academic Progress
  - Revised Courses
    - MATH 191, Precalculus I
    - MATH 192, Precalculus II

College Senate Items Approved

Revised Policy

Revised Courses

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Mrs. Novak introduced Mr. James Calamia, Assistant Vice President of Facilities, who provided an update on the Grunin Center Lobby Extension, Library Renovation, and New Administration Building projects. The Buildings and Grounds Report for April 25, 2024, was then unanimously accepted as amended upon roll call vote.

Building/Grounds Committee Report Accepted

Personnel Committee

Before presenting the Personnel Report, Mr. Stephan Leone, Chair of the Personnel Committee and Secretary of the Board, responded to Dr. Ali Botein-Furrevig’s statement. He did not appreciate her comments, he supports Dr. Monaco, and he does not feel she is anti-Semitic in any way. He noted that Dr. Botein-Furrevig may have had objections regarding her employment, but she was wrong and he was disappointed that she brought her accusations to the Board as they raised serious concerns beyond the issue of her employment contract. He stressed that he stands behind President Monaco, as does the entire Board. Mr. Fall and Mr. Dasti responded that they agreed with everything Mr. Leone said.

In today’s agenda, there is a recommendation from the Board grievance committee with respect to Professor Tamm’s grievance. The grievance committee affirms the decision of the President and the Vice President to deny the grievance.

A number of recommendations are included in the Personnel report regarding the reorganization and the nonrenewal of contracts. The Board has reviewed all of the recommendations and recommends their approval. It is noted that today’s Personnel report excludes any action on Dr. Ali Botein-Furrevig.

Mr. Leone then presented the Personnel Report, which was unanimously accepted as amended upon roll call vote.

Personnel Report Approved

Miscellaneous

Upon unanimous roll call vote, a resolution was adopted to provide for a closed meeting to be held on May 30, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., for the purpose of discussing personnel action, collective bargaining, and pending and anticipated litigation.

Resolution Adopted for a Closed Meeting May 30, 2024

The following meetings were scheduled:

Meetings Scheduled

- Thursday, May 30, 2024**
- 2:00 p.m. Finance Committee
- 2:00 p.m. Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Committee (As Needed)
- 2:30 p.m. Buildings and Grounds Committee
- 2:30 p.m. Personnel Committee
- 3:00 p.m. Closed Session
- 3:30 p.m. Regular Public Monthly Meeting

President’s Report

Dr. Monaco introduced Dr. Samantha Glassford, Assistant Dean of Arts and Humanities, who was recently awarded an Ed.D. in Education Leadership from Rowan University. Dr. Glassford shared the purpose of her dissertation, “Making Sense of English Placement and its Effect on Emergent Multilingual Students at an Emerging HSI: A Critical Discourse Analysis.” A report on the results of her study and issues that are being addressed by a committee on campus will be shared at an upcoming retreat.

President’s Report

Dr. Monaco introduced a recommendation to adopt a resolution proclaiming May 2024 as Displaced Homemakers Awareness Month at Ocean County College. The resolution was adopted upon unanimous roll call vote. Dr. Monaco shared a presentation by Ms. Carmen Mora, Coordinator, Community and Displaced Homemakers Program, on the Displaced Homemaker's Program will take place at the May 30, 2024, Board meeting.

Resolution  
Adopted to  
Proclaim May  
2024 as Displaced  
Homemakers  
Awareness Month

Dr. Monaco thanked the trustees and campus community for accommodating an earlier meeting time for today's meeting in order to allow her to attend the New Jersey Community College Scholars celebration. Dr. Monaco then shared the following:

- On Monday, April 15, 2024, students Hunter Mantz, Cheyenne Severin, Eileen Morrison, and Sabrina Gleason, in addition to Director of Student Life Jen Fazio and Assistant Director of Student Life Michelle Youngs attended the New Jersey Community College Trenton Legislative Day at the Trenton Statehouse, organized by the New Jersey Council of County Colleges (NJCCC). OCC students, along with delegations from several other community colleges, met with 30 legislative members to discuss the importance of community colleges and to request restoration of the \$20 million in operating aid to the colleges. The Asbury Park Press interviewed veteran student Hunter Mantz about his experiences at OCC.
- On May 3, 2024, piano students will present their final recital of the Spring Semester at 12:00 noon in the Bosendorfer room.
- Dr. Monaco thanked all who participated in the very successful Conversation with the Trustees event on April 24, 2024. The items brought forward will be prioritized by the President's Cabinet and a report will be provided at a future meeting.
- Dr. Monaco visited Kean University at the invitation of Dr. Lamont Repollet, President, where the importance of the Kean/OCC partnership was discussed. Dr. Monaco was also invited by Dr. Repollet to attend the Kean University Commencement on May 16, 2024, as a member of the platform party.

Dr. Konopka shared Workforce and Professional Education hosted a career fair where local employers had the opportunity to discuss job opportunities, providing students exposure to different career paths.

Dr. Garcia referred to the President's Report, which reports on the great work by faculty and students this month.

Dr. Racioppi presented the enrollment update, sharing FY 2024 enrollment is currently ahead 1.3% in headcount and unduplicated students and 1.95% in credits registered. Summer 2024 enrollment is ahead by 6.82% for students and 6.32% for credits. Fall 2024 enrollment has begun and is currently behind in students and credits, likely due to the FAFSA delays mentioned at previous Board of Trustee meetings and the modified process for enrolling new students. Dr. Racioppi thanked Institutional Research and the IT department for providing the information for this report.

Dr. Monaco introduced Dr. Jessica Adams, Dean of Kean Ocean, who shared Camp Abilities, the educational sports camp, will return this summer at the New Jersey Field of Dreams in Toms River. Dr. Adams invited OCC faculty, staff, and student volunteers to join in this wonderful event.

Dr. Adams thanked all who participated in Kean Ocean Research Day on April 15, 2024, and again expressed appreciation to Dr. Stan Hales, Director, Barnegat Bay Partnership, and Mr. Lincoln Simmons, College Lecturer, Biology, for their time, effort, and contributions towards this event.

Lastly, Dr. Adams reported 42 Kean Ocean students were referred back to OCC to complete OCC requirements.

Ms. Donna Rosinski-Kauz, College Senate Chair, shared the Senate Bylaw Revision Committee continues to revise Bylaws utilizing inclusive language. They will be shared with Trustees prior to seeking approval in August.

Mr. Ken Malagiere, Executive Director, OCC Foundation, reported the following:

- The Graduating Award applications for students who graduated in December 2023 and this spring are being reviewed by the Student Life Committee.
- The Fall semester scholarship application period will open May 30, 2024, and remain open through August 14, 2024.
- The Foundation's Fund Distribution Committee will review all applications and votes on funding decisions are expected at the May and June meetings.
- The Perry-Applegate Decoy Collection is scheduled for installation in the main lobby of the Conference Center in early May as part of the Foundation Art Collection.
- This year's Annual Summer Scholarship Celebration will be held on Friday, June 28, 2024, and has currently raised \$90,000. Honorees will be the Citta Foundation, Ms. Ilene Cohen, Executive Director of Athletics, and Mr. Lincoln Simmons.
- The New Jersey Symphony will visit OCC on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, for the annual Concert under the Stars.
- Planning continues on both the Grunin Center Lobby expansion and the Novins Planetarium gathering space and science center.

With no further comments from the Board members or the public, the meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Stephan R. Leone  
Secretary

Jodi Heitmann  
Special Assistant, Operations  
Office of the President