



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AGENDA**

**AUGUST 22, 2024
3:30 p.m.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**

- II. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING**

- III. **SWEARING-IN BY MR. JACK SAHRADNIK OF MS. SUSAN NAPLES, WHO WAS APPOINTED AS INTERIM OCEAN COUNTY EXECUTIVE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS AND WILL SERVE ON THE OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

- IV. **ROLL CALL**

- V. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

- VI. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JULY 11 AND 25 and AUGUST 15, 2024, BOARD OF TRUSTEES CLOSED SESSIONS AND PUBLIC MEETINGS** ***Bd. Action***

- VII. **PRESENTATIONS/COMMENDATIONS**

Recommend approval of a proclamation honoring Patrick Dispoto, a 1990 Ocean County College graduate, who lost his life on June 23, 2024, trying to save others from an oncoming thunderstorm ***Bd. Action***

VIII. **PUBLIC COMMENTS (prior to committee reports)**

IX. **COMMITTEES**

A. **Finance Committee**

(Mr. Frank Dupignac, Chairperson)

(Ms. Sara Winchester, Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration)

1. **Recommend approval of business/finance actions as presented (Exhibit A)**

Bd. Action

B. **Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Committee**

(Mrs. Joanne Pehlivanian, Chairperson)

(Dr. Eileen Garcia, Vice President of Academic Affairs)

1. **Recommend approval of bylaw, policy, and curriculum actions as presented (Exhibit B)**

Bd. Action

C. **Buildings and Grounds Committee**

(Mrs. Linda Novak, Chairperson)

(Mr. James Calamia, Assistant Vice President of Facilities)

1. **Recommend approval of buildings and grounds items as presented (Exhibit C)**

Bd. Action

D. **Personnel Committee**

(Mr. Stephan Leone, Chairperson)

(Ms. Sara Winchester, Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration)

1. **Recommend approval of personnel actions as presented**

Bd. Action

X. **MISCELLANEOUS**

- A. **Recommend adoption of a resolution providing for a closed meeting to be held on Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. 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** **Bd. Action**

XI. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

XII. **NEXT MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Committee
(as needed) | Time: 1:30 p.m.
Place: Conference Room A&B and via Webex |
| 2. Finance Committee | Time: 1:30 p.m.
Place: Conference Center and via Webex |
| 3. Buildings and Grounds Committee | Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Center and via Webex |
| 4. Personnel Committee | Time: 2:30 p.m.
Place: Conference Room A&B and via Webex |

5. Entire Board

Time: 3:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Center and
via Webex
Purpose: Caucus Meeting—Personnel,
Pending Litigation, and
Collective Bargaining

6. Entire Board

Time: 3:30 p.m.
Place: Conference Center and
via Webex
Purpose: **Regular Public Monthly Meeting**

XIII. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

XIV. **ADJOURNMENT**

This agenda includes all items that are known at this time.



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Special Meeting**

**Minutes
July 11, 2024**

A meeting/retreat of the Ocean County College Board of Trustees was called to order at 12:04 p.m. on Thursday, July 11, 2024, by Mr. Jerry Dasti, Chair, in Room 102 of the Conference Center on the College campus and via Webex.

Call to Order

The announcement of public meeting was made by Ms. Connie Bello in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975. Notice of this meeting was publicized through a resolution adopted at the November 2023 reorganization meeting and distributed as required by law. In addition, a notice was distributed on July 3, 2024, indicating that this meeting would be held via Webex, as provided for by New Jersey Public Law 2020, Chapter 11, approved on March 20, 2020, for public bodies to conduct meetings by electronic means.

Public Meeting
Announcement

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those in attendance were Mr. Dasti, Mrs. Linda Novak, Mr. Stephan Leone, Mr. Robert Fall, Ms. DiAnne Gove, Mrs. Joanne Pehlivanian, Mr. Joseph Teichman, Mr. Steven Zabarsky, Ms. Cheyenne Severin, Mr. Jack Sahradnik, Commissioner Virginia Haines, Ms. Sara Winchester, Dr. Pamela Monaco, and Ms. Connie Bello.

Attendance

The following items were discussed:

Discussion Items

- Dr. Monaco officially shared with the trustees that the Middle States Commission on Higher Education took action on June 27, 2024, “to reaffirm accreditation because the institution is now in compliance with Standard VII (Governance, Leadership, and Administration).” Many people throughout the College worked very hard during the past year on the Monitoring Report submitted to the Commission. Dr. Monaco expressed deep appreciation to all who worked on the report and particularly thanked Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth, OCC’s Accreditation Liaison Officer, and the members of the Core Team for their excellent work.
- Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth, Executive Director of Institutional Planning, Effectiveness, and Compliance, provided a brief history of the Board’s self-assessment process since it was initiated in 2016. All nine current trustees participated in this year’s assessment.

The New Hampshire Center for Non-Profits recommends that all items with a 65 percent or higher rating from the trustees of “strongly agree” or “agree” be identified as strengths. All but two of the 60 statements received 65 percent or more. Dr. Beshara-Blauth reviewed the statements that received 75 percent of “agree” or “strongly agree” responses from the trustees.

The New Hampshire Center defines questions receiving 30 percent or more responses in the “disagree” and “strongly disagree” categories as areas for potential development. One statement relating to leadership preparation was lower than last year.

Because of the high level of satisfaction by Board members in the “agree” or “strongly agree” categories, statements receiving two or more “disagree” or “strongly disagree” responses, as well as those receiving responses of “don’t know,” were discussed by the Board. Dr. Beshara-Blauth recommended that the trustees have follow-up discussions related to these “outlier” statements and responses.

As Dr. Beshara-Blauth presented the results of the assessment, trustees discussed some of the reasons they responded as they did. It was requested that several of the statements be reviewed before next year’s assessment to eliminate any misunderstanding about them. The trustees expressed their commitment to this evaluation process.

Mr. Dasti requested comments or inquiries from members of the public before moving to a closed session, and none were received.

Public Comments

At 12:25 p.m., a resolution was introduced and unanimously adopted by the trustees to move into a closed session to discuss personnel issues. It was estimated that the closed session would be no longer than ninety minutes, after which the public meeting would resume and adjourn.

Resolution Adopted for Closed Meeting

At 2:42 p.m., the public meeting resumed. The next meeting of the Board was announced to be Thursday, July 25, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. in the Conference Center, Building 10, and via Webex.

Public Meeting Resumed

With no further comments from the Board members or the public, the public meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Stephan R. Leone
Secretary

Connie Bello
Assistant to the President and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Meeting

Minutes

July 25, 2024

<p>The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Ocean County College Board of Trustees was called to order at 3:34 p.m. on Thursday, July 25, 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 November 9, 2023, and July 22, 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>Mr. Sahradnik administered the trustee oath of office to Ms. Cheyenne Severin, who was selected by the Student Life Committee to serve as the student/alumni representative on the Board of Trustees from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. The trustees welcomed Ms. Severin to the Board.</p>	Swearing-In of Ms. Cheyenne Severin
<p>Those in attendance were Mr. Dasti, Mrs. Linda Novak, Mr. Frank Dupignac, Mr. Stephan Leone, Mr. Robert Fall, Ms. DiAnne Gove, Mr. Steven Zabarsky, Ms. Cheyenne Severin, Mr. Jack Sahradnik, Dr. Pamela Monaco, Executive Vice President Sara Winchester, Vice President Eileen Garcia, Vice President Gerald Racioppi, Ms. Donna Rosinski-Kauz, Director of Library Services and College Senate Chair, and Mrs. Connie Bello.</p>	Attendance
<p>The minutes of the June 25, 2024, Board of Trustees closed session and public meetings were approved by roll call vote, with an abstention from Mr. Zabarsky.</p>	Minutes Approved
<p>Mr. Thomas Gialanella, Educational Partnerships Associate, provided a report on the activities with Ocean County High Schools and Superintendents. Together with Dr. Sheenah Hartigan, Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Services, and Dr. Meredith Riddle, Dean of Educational Resources, Mr. Gialanella informed the Trustees the College now speaks with K-12 partners with one voice. Mr. Gialanella also attends the Superintendents' Roundtable meetings and hosts County Curriculum monthly meetings. Outreach is underway with each of OCC's embedded high school programs in order to explain OCC's new leadership and processes.</p>	Presentations

Mr. Gialanella explained professional development offerings continue to be provided to our K-12 partners, which are tailored to the needs of each school. In addition, OCC hosts several events on campus, including an Advanced Placement Seminar for AP teachers, the Teacher of the Year full-day program for all county schools, county Guidance Counselor meetings, and a series of workshops on school policies and regulations.

The trustees thanked Mr. Gialanella for the update.

Upon a request for public comments by Mr. Dasti, there were no comments from the public prior to the committee reports.

Public Comments

Finance Committee

Mr. Dupignac shared there have been no changes to the College portfolios since the last report. An update will be provided following the next Investment Committee meeting. He presented the Finance Agenda, which was approved unanimously as amended with the removal of Exhibit A-4, for automatic door maintenance, replacement, and repair services.

Income/Expenditures Accepted

➤ The statement of income and expenditures as of June 30, 2024, was accepted.

➤ The following contracts were awarded:

Contracts Awarded

➤ A maximum of \$200,000 to Marketsmith, Inc., Whippany, New Jersey, for an eleven-month contract with a second-year contract option for media placement agency services from August 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at Ocean County College.

➤ A maximum of \$131,070 to High Energy Electrical Testing, a RESA Power Company, Farmingdale, New Jersey, for labor and materials involved in performing inspections and testing of main switchgear and pad-mounted transformers of the primary electrical system at Ocean County College.

➤ A maximum of \$325,000 to Colliers Engineering and Design, Inc., Holmdel, New Jersey, for professional architectural and engineering consulting services for an update of the Ocean County College Facilities Master Plan.

➤ Resolutions were adopted to award the following contracts:

Resolutions Adopted for Contract Awards

➤ A maximum of \$44,840.92 to Pitt Bull Secure Technologies, Inc., Johnstown, Pennsylvania, for the purchase of the ViewSonic ViewBoard interactive displays and related equipment through the Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission (MOESC) Cooperative Contract for the OCVTS Pre-Nursing program at Ocean County College.

- A maximum of \$230,000 to the following vendors for a one-year contract for offset printing and signage services from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at Ocean County College:
 - \$40,000 to Gangi Graphics, Brick, New Jersey
 - \$25,000 to Hawk Graphics, Inc., Mount Freedom, New Jersey
 - \$55,000 to PIP Printing, Brick, New Jersey
 - \$35,000 to Prism Color Corporation, Moorestown, New Jersey
 - \$75,000 to Roelynn Litho, Inc., Lakewood, New Jersey
- A maximum of \$49,696.78 to Hyland, LLC, Lenexa, Kansas, for a one-year contract for the maintenance license renewal of Document Imaging/Image Now software from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, for use at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$38,552 to YSI, Inc., Yellow Springs, Ohio, for the purchase of environmental testing instruments and equipment for the existing water quality monitoring systems for use by the Barnegat Bay Partnership at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$75,000 to Geneva Worldwide, Inc., New York, New York, for a six-month contract for professional interpreting and captioning services for students with disabilities enrolled in the Fall 2024 semester on an as-needed basis from July 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$50,000 to Sign4U Interpreting Service, LLC, Glendora, New Jersey, for a six-month contract for professional interpreting and captioning services for students with disabilities enrolled in the Fall 2024 semester on an as-needed basis from July 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$20,606 to SHI International Corporation, Somerset, New Jersey, for a one-year contract for the renewal of AWS cloud services from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, through the NJEdge Microsoft Consortium at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$53,160 to Bloomberg Finance, LP, New York, New York, for a one-year contract renewal of electronic trading services from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, funded through the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act Grant for use at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$51,021.05 to Bahr and Sons Electrical Contractors, Inc., Bayville, New Jersey, for professional electrician services for the Ocean County College Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) Pre-Nursing labs in the Russell Building through the Ocean County Cooperative Contract at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$25,000 to Jostens, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, for a one-year contract for the purchase of award certificates, diplomas, and tassels from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, for students graduating winter 2024 and summer 2025 at Ocean County College.

- A maximum of \$22,947.84 to Bahr and Sons Electrical Contractors, Inc., Bayville, New Jersey, for the installation of surge protective devices to protect boilers and the Cooling, Heating, and Power Plant Building through the Ocean County Cooperative Contract at Ocean County College.
- A maximum of \$30,000 to NJEdge.NET, Newark, New Jersey, for an eleven-month contract for Virtual/Fractional Chief Information Security Officer Consultation Services at Ocean County College.
- The following qualified pool of vendors was identified for Ecological Engineering Related service providers for various projects at the Barnegat Bay Partnership from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, to be used on an as-needed basis at Ocean County College:
 - ACT Engineers, Inc., Robbinsville, New Jersey
 - AKRF, Inc., New York, New York
 - Biohabitats, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland
 - Davey Resource Group, Inc., Kent, Ohio
 - Matrix New World Engineering, Land Surveying and Landscape Architecture, PC, Florham Park, New Jersey
 - Paulus, Sokolowski, and Sartor, LLC, Warren, New Jersey
 - Princeton Hydro, LLC, Trenton, New Jersey
 - Rippled Waters Engineering, LLC, Milford, New Jersey
 - Sovereign Consulting, Inc., Robbinsville, New Jersey
 - Taylor Engineering, Inc., Jacksonville, Florida
- The following contracts were amended: Contracts Amended
 - An additional \$18,889, for a maximum total of \$102,825, to Timothy Peters Plumbing and Heating Company, Inc., Toms River, New Jersey, for labor and materials for the installation of a new sink-related plumbing services for the Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) Pre-Nursing program in the Russell Building at Ocean County College a part of the second-year contract option for professional plumbing services from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 (contract originally awarded at the June 27, 2024, Board meeting).
 - An additional \$9,942.75, for a maximum total of \$64,220.12, to Marlee Contractors, LLC, Hammonton, New Jersey, for expenditures that were not reported against the blanket purchase order before the closeout of the fiscal year as part of the replacement of a chiller power supply as part of the second-year contract option for professional boiler burner maintenance services from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, on an as-needed basis at Ocean County College (contract originally awarded at the March 16, 2023, Board meeting).
 - An additional \$947.38, for a maximum total of \$50,947.38, to Bahr and Sons Electrical Contractors, Inc., Bayville, New Jersey, for an emergency call involving a blown transformer in the Russell Building as part the professional electrician services from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, on an as-needed basis through the Ocean County Cooperative Contract at Ocean County College (contract originally awarded at the June 27, 2024, Board meeting).

- An additional \$53,000, for a maximum total of \$60,000, to Atlas Elevator, Inc., Barnegat, New Jersey, for additional elevator repair and maintenance services for the rest of the fiscal year through the Ocean County Cooperative Contract at Ocean County College (initial contract was under threshold and did not require Board approval).
- The Board rejected the bids for snow removal services at Ocean County College, received on July 10, 2024, in accordance with New Jersey Statute 18:A 18A-22a, as the lowest bid substantially exceeds the cost estimates for goods or services. Bid Proposal Rejected
- The Board accepted a \$165,930 grant award from Delta Dental of New Jersey Foundation For the SMILE Workforce Grant to secure a significantly upgraded learning environment for Dental Assistant Certificate students for Fall 2024 and beyond to enhance and expand programming. Project Director: Mr. Christopher Brittain, Operations Manager, Workforce and Professional Education. Project Period: July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2027. Grant Accepted
- The Board accepted a \$94,020 grant award from the New Jersey Business and Industry Association (NJBIA) and New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program, Inc., (NJMEP) for the New Jersey Manufacturing Skills Initiative and Industrial Hygiene/Hazardous Materials Management Program to provide funding to learners toward the Academic and Workforce Industrial Hygiene certificate (\$6,268 each for 15 students). Project Director: Mr. Lincoln Simmons, College Lecturer, Biology. Project Period: July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. Grant Accepted
- The Board accepted a \$50,000 grant award from the Lumina Foundation for the Instagram Challenge to support the execution of the College’s marketing and digital outreach strategy. Project Director: Ms. Maureen Conlon, Associate Director of Web Service. Project Period: July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. Grant Accepted
- The Board accepted a \$38,317.11 grant award from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for the 2023 Teams Engaging Affiliated Museums and Informal Institutions (TEAMIIANCHOR) for the Robert J. Novins Planetarium to implement Families on Campus Using Science (FOCUS) as a one-year project that will serve middle school students (grades 5-8) and their siblings across grades K-12 to increase their exposure to, and interest in, STEM subjects and to encourage traditionally underrepresented students to pursue STEM education and careers. Project Director: Ms. Cara Muscio, Associate Director of the Planetarium. Project Period: July 1, 2024, through May 31, 2026. Grant Accepted
- The Board accepted a \$2,800 grant award from the Performing Arts Global Exchange to fund Las Guaracheras visit to the Grunin Center at Ocean County College for three performances and two engagement activities over two days: one ticketed evening public performance, one “pop-up” performance in the Student Center, one school matinee performance with engagement activity, and one student workshop. Project Director: Ms. Jaclyn Wood, Assistant Director, Grunin Center, Education and Community Engagement. Project Period: February 25, 2025, through March 28, 2025. Grant Accepted

Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Committee

Dr. Garcia presented the Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Agenda, including a new 3+1 in Accounting with Stockton University, which was approved unanimously by roll call vote:

- The following items, as accepted by the College Senate at its meeting on July 18, 2024, were approved unanimously upon roll call vote:
 - New Program Options
 - Associate in Science Degree in Advanced and Continuous Studies – Option in Business – Accounting
 - Associate in Science Degree in Advanced and Continuous Studies – Option in Business Administration
 - Associate in Science Degree in Advanced and Continuous Studies – Option in Business Administration – Management
 - Associate in Science Degree in Advanced and Continuous Studies – Option in Business Administration – Marketing
 - Revised Program
 - Associate in Applied Science Degree in Computer Science/Informational Technology
 - Revised Program Option
 - Associate in Applied Science Degree in Computer Science/Informational Technology– Option in Cybersecurity
 - Revised Certificate of Completion
 - Certificate of Completion in Information Technology
 - New Courses
 - ACCT 340, Intermediate Accounting II: Computer Applications
 - ACCT 350, Cost Accounting with Computer Applications
 - BUSN 350, Introduction to Financial Management
 - BUSN 380, Advanced Operations Management
 - CSIT 212, Systems Analysis

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Mrs. Novak introduced Mr. James Calamia, Assistant Vice President, Facilities, who provided an update on several ongoing projects, including the Library Renovation, New Administration Building, Russell Building/VOTEC Renovation, Energy Savings Pilot Program, and the new Entrance Signage. The Buildings and Grounds Report for July 25, 2024, was then unanimously accepted upon roll call vote.

Building/Grounds Committee Report Accepted

Personnel Committee

Mr. Leone presented the Personnel Report, which includes the recommendation of a tentative remote work policy for full-time administrators, hourly employees, and College Lecturers, for one day per week, at the supervisor’s approval, provided all offices have adequate coverage. The policy will be reviewed at the end of the fall semester. Mr. Leone also commended Ms. Winchester on the negotiation of the 2024-2029 Adjunct Faculty Association Agreement.

Personnel Report
Approved

The Personnel Report was then approved upon roll call vote with an abstention by Mr. Leone on the Adjunct Faculty Association Agreement.

Miscellaneous

Upon unanimous roll call vote, a resolution was adopted to provide for a closed meeting to be held on August 22, 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
August 22, 2024

The following meetings were scheduled:

Meetings
Scheduled

Thursday, August 22, 2024	1:30 p.m.	Finance Committee
	1:30 p.m.	Bylaw, Policy, and Curriculum Committee (As Needed)
	2:00 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

Dr. Monaco introduced Dr. Racioppi, who presented the enrollment update, sharing that the Financial Aid office received word that FAFSA processing has begun with all 617 student records processed. Fall enrollment continues to lag, in part due to a drop of 299 students for non-payment yesterday. As of today, 98 of these students have re-registered.

Dr. Racioppi shared information on the national headlines dedicated to the decline in young men pursuing college degrees. Dr. Racioppi then shared the current enrollment to OCC by Ocean County high school. In response to Mr. Leone’s inquiry, Dr. Racioppi explained high school enrollments are showing larger declines while experiencing an increasing Hispanic population.

Dr. Sheenah Hartigan and Dr. Kathleen Mohr, Executive Director of Enrollment Services, provided an update on results of outreach by the Success Team, sharing how success coaching positively impact student achievement in terms of student persistence. Each semester the four success coaches combine to make, on average, 10,000 text messages, phone calls, and emails. Shared retention increased for the first time this fall 2.7% for full-time students and 3.9% for part-time students.

Ms. Donna Rosinski-Kauz, College Senate Chair, shared the Senate Bylaw Revision Committee currently meets twice a week revising Bylaws. The draft is being finalized in order to be shared with Trustees prior to seeking approval.

Ms. Patti Martino, Executive Secretary to the President, Kean Ocean, thanked Dr. Monaco and her team for meeting with members of Kean University to discuss improving collaboration in order to attract more students to the campus. She then provided the following Kean Ocean update:

- Mia Weiser and Mohamed Omar. OCC alumni, co-authored “Exploring Recess Policies and Practices in Middle Schools: A School Leadership Perspective,” in the Journal of Teaching in Physical Education, under the supervision of Kean Ocean faculty Dr. Edward Olsen and Dr. KT Kim.
- Amy Johnson, OCC alumna and current Kean Environmental Science student, has been selected to give an oral presentation at the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association’s National Coastal Conference, “Wrangling the Waves of Change: Adapting to Coastal Dynamics,” August 26 to 29, 2024, in Galveston, Texas, chosen from 170 abstracts.
- Five Camp Abilities coaches this year are OCC alumni: Michael Auriemma, Liana DeAngelis, Yasmin Espinosa, Michael Monetti, and Margaret Scheiderman.
- Kean Ocean will hold the next advisement/registration/orientation session on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Kean Ocean Advisors continue to be provided with pertinent OCC scheduling information and welcome an OCC representative to these sessions.

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

- The Fall semester scholarship application period remains open through August 14, 2024. All returning and prospective Ocean County resident students with a minimum 2.0 GPA are encouraged to apply.
- The Foundation Art Collection was gifted an entire portfolio of photographer Francesco Scavullo, which includes original images taken of Cher, Sting, Dianna Ross, and Luciano Pavarotti. Mr. Malagiere thanked Rocco LiCalsi, Kean Ocean alum, for the gift.

Upcoming events include:

- Viking 5K and Fun Run, Sunday, September 8, 2024, on the Campus Mall
- Annual SUP the River, Saturday, September 14, 2024, at the Toms River Yacht Club
- 23rd Annual Golf Classic, Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at Pine Barrens Golf Club

Mr. Malagiere shared the Fall 2024 Blauvelt Lecture Series upcoming events, which include:

- Dan Buettner, September 17, 2024
- Stephanie Ramos, September 25, 2024
- Emiliana Simon-Thomas, October 9, 2024
- Viet Thanh Nguyen, November 6, 2024

President's Report

Dr. Monaco shared the following highlights from the President's Report:

President's Report

- Dr. Monaco met with Dr. David Stout, President of Brookdale Community College, to discuss various opportunities for OCC and Brookdale to work collaboratively.
- On Monday, July 29, 2024, Dr. Monaco will lead a team that includes Dr. Konopka, Dr. Garcia, Dr. Hartigan, Mr. Jonathan Molinaro, Dean of Humanities, Dr. Samantha Glassford, Assistant Dean of Humanities, and Ms. Veronica Guevara-Lovgren, Executive Director of Student Services, to learn about their efforts in serving a population of students whose first language is not English.
- Ms. Susan Naples has been appointed Interim Ocean County Superintendent; she will be sworn in at the August 22, 2024, Board meeting.
- Dr. Monaco commended Ms. Cara Muscio, Associate Director of the Planetarium, for her efforts to secure the NASA Team II Anchor Grant to provide STEM programming to underserved middle school students and their families and to enhance the Planetarium's reputation as a science hub in the community.
- Ms. Muscio recently met with NJ Space Grant and University constituents to discuss piloting a program to put Space Grant-funded college interns at planetariums to learn about informal education careers in astronomy and space science.
- The Nursing faculty selected the book, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down: A Hmong Child, Her American Doctors, and the Collision of Two Cultures*, by Anne Fadiman as the summer read for Nursing students. This book focuses on the interactions between a Hmong family and the American healthcare system that clashes immensely with their cultural beliefs. The information presented in the book will be incorporated throughout the curriculum as students discuss nursing practice, professionalism, ethics, patient care, teamwork, and diversity and inclusion within the healthcare system.
- Dr. Monaco commended the Repertory Theatre Company's production of *All Shook Up*, which opened to rave reviews. A last-minute understudy was needed due to a cast illness last weekend, who stepped in performing wonderfully with two days of rehearsal.

Mr. Dasti commended the President's Report for its detail each month and invites all to read in full.

Upon a request for public comments, Ms. Heidi Sheridan, Executive and Artistic Director of the Grunin Center, shared tickets are on sale for the 2024-25 season at the Grunin Center and the Planetarium. Ms. Sheridan also commended Ms. Cara Muscio for her work on the NASA Grant. Public Comments

Mr. Zabarsky commended the continued partnership with Kean Ocean, which has offered his son wonderful opportunities since receiving his Associate Degree at Ocean County College.

With no further comments from the Board members or the public, the meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Stephan R. Leone
Secretary

Jodi Heitmann
Special Assistant, Operations
Office of the President



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Special Meeting**

**Minutes
August 15, 2024**

A meeting/retreat of the Ocean County College Board of Trustees was called to order at 1:03 p.m. on Thursday, August 15, 2024, by Mr. Jerry Dasti, Chair, in Room 102 of the Conference Center on the College campus and via Webex.

Call to Order

The announcement of public meeting was made by Ms. Connie Bello in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975. This special meeting was announced on August 1, 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.

Public Meeting
Announcement

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those in attendance were Mr. Dasti, Mrs. Linda Novak, Mr. Stephan Leone, Mr. Robert Fall, Ms. DiAnne Gove, Mrs. Joanne Pehlivanian, Ms. Cheyenne Severin. Also in attendance were Mr. Mathew Thompson, Commissioner Virginia Haines, Vice President Jerry Racioppi, Vice President Joseph Konopka, Dr. Pamela Monaco, and Ms. Connie Bello. Special guests were Mr. Michael Citta, Superintendent of Toms River Regional Schools; Dr. Thomas Farrell, Superintendent of Brick Schools; Ms. Nicole Pormilli, Superintendent of Jackson Schools; Ms. Susan Naples, Interim Executive Superintendent of Ocean County Schools; and Mr. Thomas Gialanella, Educational Partnerships Associate.

Attendance

Mr. Dasti and Dr. Monaco welcomed the superintendents to the Board meeting and introductions were made. Dr. Monaco thanked Mr. Gialanella for his assistance in coordinating this meeting and noted the goal was to learn from the superintendents the demographic changes they are experiencing within their school districts and to explore ways in which the College and the school districts can work closer together to meet the needs of the Ocean County community.

The superintendents shared that there has been a significant paradigm shift in their districts in the past several years. The number of English Language Learners (ELL) has dramatically increased in Brick Township schools from 90 four years ago to over 690 this year. The very significant decrease in state and federal funding to public schools is especially burdensome given that it costs three to four times the average per-student cost to ensure that ELL students receive the resources they need to succeed.

Many challenges need to be addressed to serve ELL students, the first of which is to break the stigma about community colleges, as many parents are unfamiliar with two-year colleges and need to be made aware of the many benefits available to their children and themselves. It is imperative that more emphasis be placed on identifying ways to reach the parents, especially before the students leave high school. Significant other challenges are having the ability to correctly determine the level of instruction the students require; employing bilingual instructors who can create a welcoming and supportive environment in the classrooms; and assisting the students with funding college through scholarships, grants, and work programs.

It is also extremely important to recognize the responsibilities of these students. Many live in transient environments or multi-family and foster-family homes. They are very often responsible for younger siblings because their parents work, they are working part- or full-time jobs, and they do not begin their homework until after midnight.

It was suggested that a committee be formed to continue brainstorming to develop creative solutions to promote student and parent interest in college. Some of the suggestions were:

- Share data as needed
- Discuss joint recruitment efforts
- Offer college work programs
- Partner with local Chambers of Commerce
- Offer professional development for high school and College instructors and employees
- Lobby the Governor for additional Title III and state funding for ELL students
- Determine with Commissioner Ginny Haines how the County can support these efforts
- Bring events for parents and students to campus, such as OCC Hispanic Heritage Day
- Reach out to high schools with more exciting programs to unite the school and College communities

Mr. Citta, Dr. Farrell, and Ms. Pormilli thanked the trustees for inviting them to meet. The superintendents and the trustees are united in their desire to collaborate in any way to alleviate the burden on ELL students. The public schools and the College share the goal of preparing these students for productive adult lives.

The superintendents noted that Mr. Gialanella attends all of the County superintendents' monthly meetings, so he has kept them apprised of OCC's programs and projects. They have enjoyed his expertise as a former superintendent and as a College administrator.

Mr. Dasti requested comments or inquiries from members of the public before moving to a closed session, and none were received.

Public Comments

At 2:00 p.m., a resolution was introduced and unanimously adopted by the trustees to move into a closed session to discuss personnel issues. It was estimated that the closed session would be no longer than ninety minutes, after which the public meeting would resume and adjourn.

Resolution Adopted
for Closed Meeting

At 2:45 p.m., the public meeting resumed. The next meeting of the Board was announced to be Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. in the Conference Center, Building 10, and via Webex.

Public Meeting Resumed

With no further comments from the Board members or the public, the public meeting adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Stephan R. Leone
Secretary

Connie Bello
Assistant to the President and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees