

# THE LIFE & LEGACY

A Newsletter for the Ocean County College Foundation  
Vol. I: No. 1 • June 2023

## A MESSAGE FROM THE OCC FOUNDATION

Summer has begun at the Jersey Shore and another school year is in the history books here at Ocean County College, culminating in that most wondrous day in a student's life: Commencement! That unique celebration of both past and present – of acknowledging endings, but also embracing new beginnings.

For nearly six decades, the OCC Foundation has had the privilege of supporting the students of Ocean County College and assisting them in reaching this moment. As we reflect on these decades of service, we too look forward to the bright future ahead, just as we remember with gratitude the many supporters who have partnered with us along the way.

That's why, in honor of our ongoing Legacy Campaign, we are excited to bring you our new Life & Legacy newsletter, chock full of memories and recognition of those who have made an extraordinary impact at Ocean County College. In each issue, we will celebrate the milestones and contributions of some of our biggest supporters. Fittingly, this special inaugural edition is dedicated to remembering Senator William T. Hering, one of OCC's founding fathers and a long-standing, vital supporter of higher education in New Jersey.

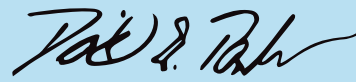
This year, as we celebrate the extraordinary legacy of Dr. Jon H. Larson and welcome with anticipation our new president, Dr. Pamela Monaco, we stand ready to embrace the next wave of change. But change does not come as a single moment. Like Commencement, it consists of both past and present—a steady tide that carries us forward even as we honor and revere the people and moments that delivered us to this point.

“

I believe the Ocean County College Foundation's Legacy Campaign is the perfect vehicle to make a transformational gift that will help ensure the success of our future leaders. It is my hope that you, too will partner with the Ocean County College Foundation in this endeavor to reach our goal of \$25 million for the students of OCC. ”

- David C. Wintrode,  
Campaign Chair

I hope you enjoy looking back at the many things we've accomplished together. On behalf of the Ocean County College Foundation, thank you all for being a part of our family of supporters, whose contributions help make OCC an institution of regional and national distinction. We look forward to your continued participation as we work together to serve the students of Ocean County College for many years to come.



David G. Paulus,  
OCC Foundation Board Chair

## LEGACY CAMPAIGN “BY THE NUMBERS”

Together we have raised \$2.5M in pledges toward our \$25M campaign goal. Thank you for your support!



# WILLIAM T. HIERING'S LEGACY

NJ Senator William T. ("Bill") Hiering was an attorney, legislator, a strong advocate for higher education, and a long-standing friend and supporter of Ocean County College.

A lifelong resident of Ocean County, Sen. Hiering served in the Navy during WWII and established a long and distinguished law career before becoming a politician in the late '50s. During his years in the state legislature, first in the General Assembly and then in the Senate, Hiering championed numerous programs in the education field, and in 1962, he introduced the New Jersey County College Act, which authorized the formation of county colleges throughout the state. Backed by his vigorous support, Ocean County College became the first community college in New Jersey to establish operations.

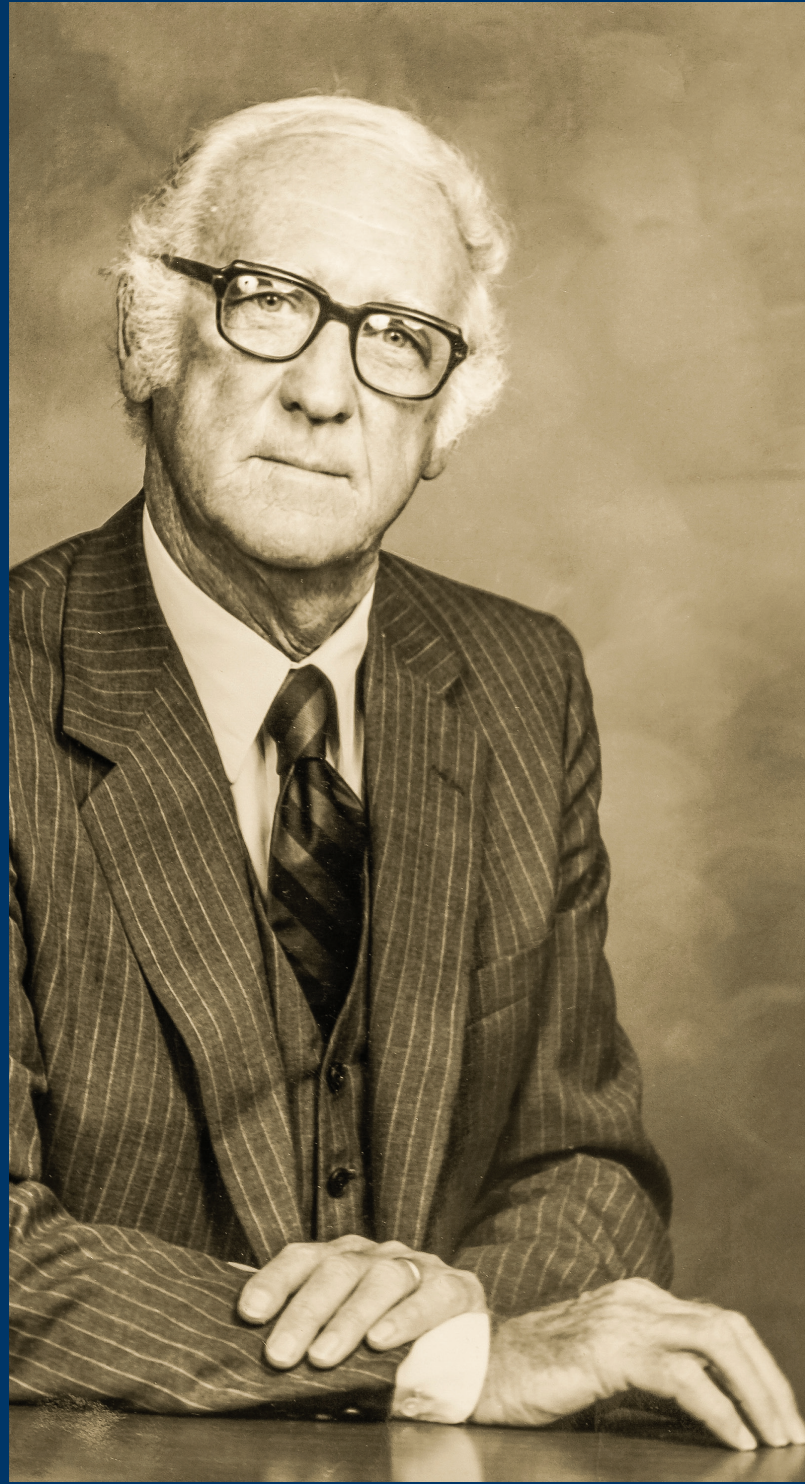
Sen. Hiering remained a staunch and unwavering ally of Ocean County College for more than 40 years. Elected to the OCC Foundation in 1973, he served on the Executive Committee as well as the Financial Aid and Membership committees during his tenure. From 1984 to 1995, he and his wife Barbara hosted the Foundation's annual Garden Party at their home, raising over \$2.5 million for student scholarships and special projects. That annual event is a tradition that continues to this day.

Sen. Hiering was also a member of OCC's Board of Trustees for 25 years, serving as vice chair from 1983 to 1986 and as chair from 1986 until his passing in 2005. He has been honored by numerous organizations, including the Association of Community Colleges and the NJEA, for pioneering county colleges in New Jersey and for his decades of civic service. He was recognized as the OCC Foundation's Humanitarian of the Year in 1985 and again in 2004, and received a Distinguished Service Medal from OCC for his outstanding contributions to higher education in Ocean County.

**"Our motto was affordability and accessibility, with a pledge to keep student tuition as low as possible."**

*- Senator William T. Hiering*

In 2001, a new instructional building constructed on Ocean County College's main campus was christened the William T. Hiering Science Building in honor of Bill's inestimable impact on OCC and his advocacy on behalf of all New Jersey students—past, present and future.



County College Act is passed in NJ

1962



OCC becomes NJ's first county college

1964




Hiering elected to OCC Foundation Board

1973



Hiering appointed to OCC Board of Trustees

1980



William T. Hiering Science Building opens

2000

# THEN & NOW

The annual Scholarship Celebration, hosted by Bill and Barbara Hiering at their home for more than a decade, is now held each June on OCC's campus mall, raising more than **\$200,000** each year in support of the students of Ocean County. For more information about the Scholarship Celebration, visit [go.ocean.edu/gala](http://go.ocean.edu/gala).

"The Scholarship Celebration remains one of Ocean County's signature and stand-out charitable events. We hope to continue this tradition for years to come."

- OCC Foundation Executive Director Ken Malagiere



OCC Trustees circa 1965 and OCC Chair 2022, David G. Paulus



Joseph Buckelew, Joseph Citta, William Hiering



Joseph Citta, Barbara Hiering, William Hiering



“ The OCC Foundation provides a crucial component that buoys our many students, giving them access to higher education, and in doing so, nurturing their aspirations. ”

- OCC President Jon H. Larson

# SAVE THE DATE!

## BLAUVELT SPEAKER SERIES



### LIDIA BASTIANICH

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

6:00 p.m. - IN PERSON

Lidia Matticchio Bastianich is an Emmy Award-winning public television host, best-selling cookbook author, successful restaurateur, and owner of a flourishing food and entertainment business.



### STACY SCHIFF

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

11:00 a.m. - IN PERSON

Pulitzer Prize-winning and No. 1 best-selling author Stacy Schiff uses brilliant storytelling to bring to life some of history's most enigmatic individuals. Part of the Visiting Writers Reading Series.



Photo Credit: Elena Seibert

### JOHN LEGUIZAMO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

6:00 p.m. - IN PERSON

Emmy Award winner John Leguizamo talks about his passion for education, his struggles against racism and poverty, the characters he's encountered and the lessons he's learned.

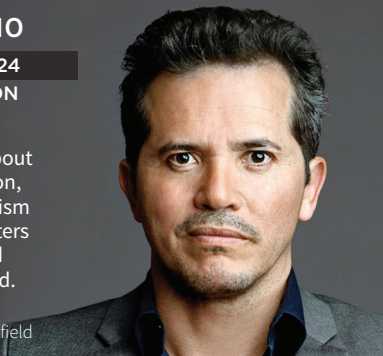


Photo Credit: Timothy Greenfield

