



SIGNALS

FALL 1995

VOLUME 1 NO 2

Must not face any more than this!

Financial Aid options added

Thomas Edison recently added another option for educational financing in its continuing commitment to explore ways that students can obtain financial assistance to pursue a degree.

The College, in cooperation with CoreStates Bank of Delaware, will make available to Thomas Edison students a variety of programs to help meet the cost of education. Each CoreStates

plan offers competitive interest rates with flexible repayment schedules specifically designed for students.

Loan amounts can vary from \$1,000 to

CONTINUED P. 4

FACULTY PROFILE:

Dr. Dominick Iorio

Celebrating ten years of distance learning

Dr. Dominick Iorio, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Rider University, was recently recognized for his 10 years of service as a faculty mentor in the DIAL program.

generally superb. They are diligent and very responsive," Professor Iorio has found. He serves as a faculty mentor for "The Religious Quest" and "Contemporary Ethics."

Despite the fact that the courses are considered "distance learning," Professor Iorio sees a camaraderie develop among his students who are linked through the computer into a simulated

Despite the fact that the courses are

CONTINUED P. 3

"Thomas Edison students are very highly motivated and the quality of their work is generally superb."

Reflecting upon his work with Thomas Edison students, Dr. Iorio has nothing but high praise for them and for the distance learning program.

"Thomas Edison students are very highly motivated and the quality of their work is



Linda Solis

Dr. Dominick Iorio (center), is presented with an award honoring him for 10 years of service as a faculty mentor in the DIAL program. Professor Iorio is dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Rider University and also teaches at Rider. He is pictured with Dr. Jerry Ice (left), vice president and provost at Thomas Edison and Thomas Edison President, Dr. George A. Pruitt.

Registers Early!

WINTER '96 REGISTRATION
Oct. 30-Dec. 1, 1995

LATE REGISTRATION
(\$50 fee)
Dec. 4-8, 1995

WINTER SEMESTER BEGINS
Jan. 1, 1996



Letter from the Director

Looking back over the long, hot summer...it doesn't even seem that long, although it certainly was hot! I hope that you were able to find some time for "R&R" along with your other summer activities.

Over the summer, I was excited to hear that Jonathan Weiner, who authored the original version of the "Earth Science" course in the Guided Study program, was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Science writing for his work, "The Beak of the Finch." The work details the extraordinary investigation of two Princeton University scientists as they record "evolution in the making" on the Galapagos Islands. Thus, the subtitle, "A Story of Evolution in Our Time."

I thought some of you would enjoy knowing that you had "turned pages with," if not "brushed shoulders with," a Pulitzer Prize winner. In addition to being involved with our program, Jonathan is a good friend, and I am delighted with his success.

The DIAL staff is dedicated to providing you with the best service and worked very hard this summer on some changes that we feel will provide you, the student, with better service. Many of you know by now that we have instituted a new shipping procedure. If you registered for a fall semester course, you paid for course materials (course manual, media components) at the time of registration. You had only to order textbooks and study guides from one of our textbook suppliers. This change accomplishes a number of goals. First, it gives you the freedom to decide which bookstore you would like to use. Second, it streamlines our own operations by eliminating the need for DIAL to ship a large volume of video and audio tapes to an off-site bookstore for distribution. And third, it is one step toward our overall goal of providing you with the convenience of "one stop shopping."

As with any new enterprise, there are always a few bugs—especially when computer software is involved. These have been worked out and we anticipate a very smooth flow of information from registration to order processing. We are dedicated to providing you with only the best of service.

William J. Seaton
Director

Electronics Engineering Course Has Prerequisites

Information on Electronic Instrumentation and Control (CLELT246), which appears on page 63 of the current DIAL Course Registration Bulletin, incorrectly states that there are no prerequisites for the course. Students who take this course should make a note that there are, in fact, three prerequisites: Electric Circuits, Electronic Devices and Digital Electronics.

Course Updates

← "Educating Able Learners" (GSEDU387) is now available with videotapes and is no longer limited to students who have access to CTN, as noted in the DIAL Course Registration Bulletin.

← "Major Philosophers: From Socrates to Sartre" is now offered both as a Guided Study course (GSPHI376) and as an On-Line Computer Classroom course (OLPHI376).



Linda Solitis

Welcome

Kenya Kornegay, who joined the DIAL staff as a Clerk Typist.

SIGNALS is published three times a year by the DIAL office at Thomas Edison State College. Readers are invited to send questions, comments, story ideas and letters to the SIGNALS editor at the address below. Articles may be reprinted without permission; however, it is requested that DIAL be credited, and that a copy of the publication in which the article appears be sent to:

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STUDENT
PROFILE

Byrne

"I have gained exactly what I wanted from this course "Constitutional Issues"...a deeper understanding and appreciation for our Constitution and the circumstances around its inception and later interpretations. This will prove to be a real asset if I am accepted into law school."

These comments were written by Thomas Edison student Bill Byrne in a thank-you note to his mentor, Professor Joseph Ellis. Well, the story has a happy ending, because not only has Bill completed all the requirements for graduation, he has been accepted into law school. Bill will attend the New England School of Law in Boston, which offers a four-year evening program.

Bill, who has been a professional pilot for 25 years, recently completed requirements for his BSAST degree at Thomas Edison by taking several Guided Study courses. Before moving home to Massachusetts recently, he was an air captain with Aloha Island Air in Hawaii. Bill was awarded additional credits for his pilot's license. He hopes to specialize in aviation law upon completion of



Recent graduate Bill Byrne credits the DIAL program and Thomas Edison with helping him reach his next goal—acceptance into law school.

law school. "If it were not for the educational options offered at Thomas Edison, I would not have been able to complete my bachelor's degree and consequently would not have been accepted into law school," Bill feels. Congratulations, Bill!

New Payment Option For Books



Students have two additional payment options when ordering textbooks through Specialty Books. American Express and Discover can also be used in addition to Visa and Master Card. This information is not noted in the current DIAL Course Registration Bulletin.

Iorio.....FROM P.1

classroom. His course, "The Religious Quest," includes six conference questions for students to comment upon and exchange ideas. In one case he recalls that a single question generated 57 responses.

"Students 'on-line' tend to write more," Professor Iorio has observed. "And if you have something to add to the discussion at 5 a.m., you can do it. There is more interaction among students. I think because they share their experiences and ideas, they learn more from one another. Everyone has the chance to respond to a question." Students who recently took a class together but had never met developed such a

camaraderie over the computer that they made plans to meet for a summer picnic.

Professor Iorio earned his doctorate at Fordham University. In addition to serving as the dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Rider, he also teaches philosophy and has a special interest in Oriental Philosophy, which he also teaches. "Different students learn in different ways. I enjoy the teaching in the classroom at Rider and seeing the students respond on questions on the spot, but I am also fully supportive of distance learning and enjoy working with the Thomas Edison students."





THOMAS
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DISTANCE & INDEPENDENT ADULT LEARNING

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Thomas Edison student receives Ferguson Memorial Scholarship

Ricky A. Hummel, who recently graduated with his B.A. degree from Thomas Edison, was awarded the Lisa Ferguson Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500. The availability of the scholarship was announced in a previous issue of SIGNALS.

The scholarship is awarded annually by the International University Consortium (IUC). DIAL is a member

of IUC, making it possible for our students who have taken courses offered by IUC to be eligible. Funds for the scholarship were donated by Ms. Nancy Ferguson in memory of her daughter, Lisa, who died from Hodgkin's disease at the age of 21. Candidates for the award must demonstrate financial need and academic merit, and have completed at least two IUC distance learning courses.

Thomas Edison students have been awarded this scholarship in previous years as well. Applications are accepted in the spring. More information will be included in upcoming issues of SIGNALS. Congratulations Ricky! ●

Options....FROM P.1

\$15,000, based on individual needs. Applicants can choose a repayment schedule of up to five years. There are no need-based qualifications or complex application forms. Additionally, there is no application fee and no penalty for prepayment. For a brochure or more information, or to apply by telephone, call CoreStates at its toll-free number, 1-800-292-8752. ●

