

FALL 2004

Invention

THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE NEWS MAGAZINE



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Security Challenge

Answering the Call to Service
Alumna Finds Gold in the
Intelligence Field

Alumnus Has Front Row Seat
to the Growth of Terrorism

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Cover Photo:
Thomas Edison State College alumna Lori Hennon-Bell, '00, deputy superintendent of the Homeland Security Branch of the New Jersey State Police is the highest ranking female officer in the force. Photo by Jaime Escarpeta.

Invention is published by Thomas Edison State College

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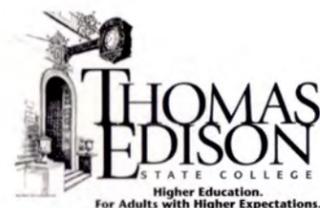
Thomas Edison State College hosts 6th Annual New Jersey Urban Mayors Conference



Meeting the Homeland Security Challenge



Alumna Finds Gold in the Intelligence Field



A Message from the President



Dear Alumni, Students and Friends,

Noted British scholar Paul Wilkinson, professor of international relations and chairman of the Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence at the University of St. Andrews, made an interesting statement when he said, "Fighting terrorism is like being a goalkeeper. You can make a hundred brilliant saves but the only shot that people will remember is the one that gets past you."

In this issue of *Invention*, we are profiling several Thomas Edison State College alumni who are leaders in the homeland security field. They are among many who have answered the call to serve. We are proud of the work they are doing and hope their stories will broaden your knowledge of the challenges and issues associated with guarding the safety of our country.

Alumna Lori Hennon-Bell is the deputy superintendent of the Homeland Security Branch of the New Jersey State Police. As the highest ranking female in the force, Lt. Col. Hennon-Bell is responsible for all the specialized units that are the first responders in the case of an attack. The Homeland Security Branch was formed as a result of the Sept. 11 attacks and Hennon-Bell describes the work of the

branch and how fighting terrorism has changed in the post-Sept. 11 era.

After a 20-year career with the FBI, alumnus David Cid settled in Oklahoma City and established his own security consulting business. An expert on counterterrorism, Cid had been involved in the investigation of several high profile cases during his career. His insights on the evolution of terrorism include a unique perspective on the development of the al-Qaida network.

A Navy veteran specializing in explosives disposal, alumnus Charles Schulz has a resume that includes underwater demolition and freefall parachuting. His experience caught the attention of the Secret Service, where he has been working since 1987. He shares with us his thoughts on civil service and how the country needs qualified individuals to step up to the plate to assist an aging workforce of counterterrorism and security specialists.

Alumna Marilyn Peterson has watched the explosive growth of her profession during the post-Sept. 11 era. As one of the nation's top intelligence analysts, Peterson is one of New Jersey's most influential intelligence policy analysts. The story of her rise from stay-at-home mother to advisor to the U.S. Justice Department is inspirational.

We now live in a society that must protect itself from terrorism. The College is proud of all who ensure our safety and we are particularly pleased to highlight the work of our alumni laboring in the homeland security field. As Wilkinson knows, their job performance is measured in hits and high-visibility misses. We applaud their efforts and hope you will enjoy reading about them in this issue of *Invention*.

Sincerely,

Dr. George A. Pruitt
President

COLLEGE NEWS

THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO URBAN ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS

Thomas Edison State College has awarded 10 full scholarships to urban assistant librarians to be used for completion of baccalaureate degrees. The scholarships are made possible through the award of \$80,000 in federal grant funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

In addition to the scholarships offered through Thomas Edison State College, IMLS grant funds totaling \$497,388 will provide for nine master's degrees in library science and one doctorate in library science through Rutgers University's Library and Information Science program. The three-year grant funds a partnership between Thomas Edison State College, the New Jersey State Library and Rutgers University to create a more diverse workforce in New Jersey's urban libraries.

IMLS Grant Program recipients who have been awarded scholarships to complete their baccalaureate degrees at Thomas Edison State College are Tonya Badillo, Long Branch, N.J.; Desmond Brown, Lakewood, N.J.; Doshia Brown, Trenton, N.J.; Gayenell Burch, Collingswood, N.J.; Michael A. Cadena, Union City, N.J.; Jean Carter, Jersey City, N.J.; Donita Jackson, New Brunswick, N.J.; Emily Neary, Toms River, N.J.; Malakia Oglesby, Neptune, N.J.; and Sharon Shrieves-Ward, Trenton, N.J.

Celebrating the awarding of more than \$1 million in federal grant funding are (from left) Michael Scheiring, vice president and treasurer, Thomas Edison State College; Mary Chute, deputy director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services; Renee Swartz, chair, New Jersey State Library Advisory Council; Rep. E. Scott Garrett; and Norma Blake, state librarian.

"It is a great honor to have been selected as one of only 10 recipients in the entire state of New Jersey," said Cadena, who works in the Union City Public Library. "Not only will I be able to continue my education without the expenses, but I will also be able to continue helping my community in Union City."

Badillo who works at the Long Branch Free Public Library noted, "I'm truly honored to have been given this grant, which offers me the chance to obtain my bachelor's degree. My goal is to obtain my master's degree and become a librarian so that I may aid in bridging the cultural and digital divisions that exist today. I will work hard to ensure that all people enjoy equal access to the amazing resources our libraries offer."

The recipients in the scholarship program have agreed to continue to work in New Jersey's urban libraries or library education for at least two years after completion of their education and to respond to annual surveys regarding their career progress.

"Through this partnership, the state of New Jersey will be able to prepare students with the skills and knowledge needed for careers as librarians and future library leaders in underserved urban communities," said Dr. Maxine E. Lentz, vice provost for Academic Partnerships & Outreach. "It has been developed to serve as a national model to recruit and educate a multiethnic workforce for the 21st century. As the grant stated, 'The need for a new generation of librarians is great; the need for a multiethnic workforce for urban libraries is greater.'"

THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE TO HOST 32ND ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT

Thomas Edison State College's 32nd Annual Commencement will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, 2004, in the Patriots Theater of the historic Soldiers and Sailors' War Memorial in Trenton, N.J. At this year's Commencement, the College is conferring 1,788 degrees to graduates—from across the United States and throughout the world—who have completed Thomas Edison State College degrees. Approximately 250 graduates are expected to travel to Trenton to march in this year's Commencement processional.

Kenneth A. Shaw, chancellor emeritus of Syracuse University, will present the Commencement address and receive a Doctor of Humane Letters *honoris causa*. A distinguished leader in higher education for more than 30 years, Shaw has served as vice president and dean of Towson State University, chancellor of the Southern Illinois System and president of the University of Wisconsin System. Shaw has been recognized for his accomplishments through such honors as the Theodore Hesburgh Award and the CEO Leadership

Award bestowed by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

Those interested in lodging accommodations during the Commencement weekend may contact the Trenton Marriott at Lafayette Yard hotel. Located adjacent to the Soldiers and Sailors' War Memorial, the hotel is offering a special discount rate of \$90 per night to those attending Commencement ceremonies the weekend of Oct. 15-17. For more information, call the hotel's toll free number at (800) 228-9290. Please mention that you will be attending the Thomas Edison State College Commencement.

A featured event of the weekend will be the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association's second annual New Graduate and Alumni Reception on Friday, Oct. 15, in the Mercer Room of the Trenton Marriott at Lafayette Yard from 7-9 p.m. The Alumni Association invites all graduates and alumni to the reception, which will feature a cash bar and light hors d'oeuvres.

The Alumni Association and the Office of Alumni Affairs are again holding the traditional "Putting Him/Her Through" (PHT) Banquet. Often it is the family, friends and co-workers who encourage the graduates to stop at nothing to achieve their dreams. This is an opportunity for alumni to honor their support system while they were working toward their degrees. The banquet will begin one half-hour after Commencement ends and will be held in The George Washington Ballroom of the Soldiers and Sailors' War Memorial.

For more information about the reception and the banquet, please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at (609) 984-1588 ext. 2089 or via e-mail at alumni@tesc.edu.

COLLEGE NEWS

DR. GEORGE PRUITT ELECTED TO STATE BOARD

Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, was recently elected to a two-year term as president of the New Jersey Presidents' Council. The 50-member Council consists of representatives of the state's public and private universities, colleges and community colleges. The Council makes recommendations to state government on such higher education issues as new programs, regional alliances, budget and student aid levels, licensure and the statewide higher education master plan.

Pruitt, elected to the new post by peers on the Council's 15-member executive board, assumed his duties on July 1. Serving with Pruitt on the board are Dr. Edward J. Yaw, president, County College of Morris, who was elected vice chair; Sister Rosemary Jeffries, president, Georgian Court College, who will serve as board secretary; and Richard L. McCormick, president, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, who will serve as board treasurer.

THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE HOSTS 6TH ANNUAL NEW JERSEY URBAN MAYORS CONFERENCE

Thomas Edison State College hosted the 6th Annual Conference of New Jersey Urban Mayors, Superintendents and School Board Presidents on May 26, 2004. Keynote speakers for this year's conference were Laurie M. Rich, assistant secretary for Intergovernmental and Interagency Affairs, U.S. Department of Education, for the morning address, and Dr. William L. Librera, commissioner, N.J. Department of Education, for the luncheon address. Other participants included Tom Jannarone, director of Urban Affairs for the New Jersey Association of School Administrators; Edwina M. Lee, executive director of the New Jersey School Board Association; and Douglas H. Palmer, mayor of Trenton and president of the New Jersey Urban Mayors' Association.

As assistant secretary for Intergovernmental and Interagency Affairs for the U.S. Department of Education, Rich advises the U.S. secretary of education on education and other legislative matters pending before state and local governments. Her keynote presentation focused on the improvements in education quality as a result of the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act. Rich reinforced the president's position of higher standards, increased accountability and teacher training. She discussed efforts being undertaken around the nation that illustrate the effectiveness of No Child Left Behind. Extensive and engaging dialogue emerged from the question and answer period as participants inquired about the adaptability of No Child Left Behind to urban settings in New Jersey and how/if its policies are an asset or a hindrance. Overall, Rich's remarks increased awareness and insight into the No Child Left Behind policy and ideology.



From left: Fritz Edelstein, senior advisor, U.S. Conference of Mayors; Dr. Joseph Youngblood II, executive director, The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy at Thomas Edison State College; Laurie M. Rich, assistant secretary for Intergovernmental and Interagency Affairs, U.S. Department of Education; and Douglas H. Palmer, mayor of Trenton, N.J. recently attended the 6th Annual Conference of New Jersey Urban Mayors, Superintendents and School Board Presidents at Thomas Edison State College in Trenton, N.J.

Librera brings more than 30 years of educational experience as a teacher, principal and superintendent to his position as New Jersey's 27th commissioner of education. His experience has spanned preschool education to higher education. Librera's remarks focused on Abbott-related issues and concerns regarding the Abbott budget submittal process. He opened the door for a new collaborative effort between the New Jersey Urban Mayors' Association, the New Jersey School Boards Association, the New Jersey Urban Superintendents Association and the New Jersey Department of Education to

begin to remedy some of the issues regarding the budget process. Librera spoke candidly and passionately about Frances Abbott and his dedication to seeing all students in the state of New Jersey succeed.

The conference included a program introduction by Dr. Joseph Youngblood II, executive director of The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy, and a welcome address by Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College. Remarks were made by Mayor Palmer, Jannarone and Lee.

David White, urban field services representative, New Jersey School Boards Association, moderated a panel discussion on the topic of "Reclaiming Our Seats at the Table: An Introspective Look at the Role and Involvement of Abbott School Boards in the Abbott Debate." Panelists included Joyce M. Kersey, Trenton Board of Education; Austin Gumbs, Perth Amboy Board of Education; and Roderick L. Pianelli, Phillipsburg Board of Education.

The conference, sponsored by Thomas Edison State College, attracted 43 mayors, superintendents and school board presidents from urban cities throughout New Jersey.



Meeting the Homeland Security Challenge

Throughout her 24-year career at the New Jersey State Police (NJSP), Lori Hennon-Bell has successfully met each and every professional challenge that has been placed before her.

Originally assigned to road stations, she served as a rank and file trooper, overcoming the discrimination of co-workers who doubted her ability to "cut it" in the NJSP's male-dominated military culture. While rising through the ranks and juggling family responsibilities, Hennon-Bell completed her college education, earning a Bachelor of Science in Human Services degree in administration of justice in 2000 at Thomas Edison State College. She also received a graduate degree at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison, N.J.

In September 2002, Hennon-Bell was assigned as the deputy superintendent of Administration where she was responsible for overseeing the NJSP budget in excess of \$300 million and a combined civilian and enlisted staff of 1,026. Promoted to lieutenant colonel, the mother of two was, and still is, the highest ranking female officer in the force.



The landscape of law enforcement changed with Sept. 11, and as a result, the 43-year-old received what was perhaps her biggest professional challenge. In February 2004, a new Homeland Security Branch was created within the NJSP. Col. Joseph R. Fuentes, NJSP superintendent, along with the state's governor, James E. McGreevey, named Hennon-Bell to lead the new initiative. This command is comprised of more than 550 troopers and another 500 civilian employees. It serves as the state's front line prevention and response arm in combating terrorism.

"The Sept. 11 hijackings put terrorism on everybody's radar screen," said Hennon-Bell. "We had to take a hard look at how we did things in the past and put together elements that were not previously working together." Hennon-Bell explained that the branch developed its own mission statement and built the functionality from there.

Alumna Lori Hennon-Bell, '00, was named deputy superintendent of the newly created Homeland Security Branch of the New Jersey State Police (NJSP). Hennon-Bell, who holds the rank of lieutenant colonel, is the NJSP's highest ranking female officer.



From left: Chris Periera, Hennon-Bell, Gene Mazur and Matt Fitzgerald gather for a demonstration of the NJSP hazardous materials equipment. Mazur is holding a portable chemical agent detector, which uses sound acoustic waves to detect chemical substances. Periera, Mazur and Fitzgerald are members of the NJSP HAZ-MAT team.

"What we needed to do was break down silos," she said. "Within the state police, we had the intelligence network, but it was still set apart from the operations center." According to Hennon-Bell, the shift in emphasis was a global change in how the NJSP did business. "We need to be consistently informed of threats," she said. "So we created a branch where intelligence meets operations." This new shift is a big change in law enforcement, which has traditionally been "reactive" in its response to terrorism issues. "Now we're the torch runners," said Hennon-Bell. Under Hennon-Bell's direction, key units across the state such as SWAT teams, bomb squads and HAZ-MAT teams were brought in under the homeland security umbrella. Situated in high profile areas throughout the state, they can be deployed at a moment's notice or, because they fall under the homeland security command, these specialized units can be instantaneously sent to other areas of need without the bureaucratic tangle that once was commonplace.

In organizing the new Homeland Security Branch, Hennon-Bell took a hard look at the resources available. "In going through the last Orange Alert, we analyzed our available funding and our resources and re-evaluated how we did



Det. Sgt. Dwayne Jones of the NJSP Bomb Unit stands next to a state-of-the-art Lexan suit. The \$15,000 suit, which is worn during bomb disposal, weighs 85 pounds.

business," she said. Utilizing her training as a state certified public manager, Hennon-Bell determined that the new branch needed to "be strategic, yet random." Noting that the climate is going to be volatile until the 2004 elections, Hennon-Bell has directed that the state's resources be placed in highly strategic locations. "This has been a big challenge," admitted Hennon-Bell. "We can't be everywhere 24-7 and staff all the needs of the state's critical infrastructure at once. What we're doing to keep the criminals off guard is rotating our assets so that they see we're out there, but they may not see all we're doing out there. We have to keep them guessing."

In addition, Hennon-Bell built bridges between agencies to maximize resources throughout the state. "Now we are cooperating with state and federal partners so that we're all on the same page with all our resources," she said. Resources are now placed depending on the need and the circumstances. "We realized that not every town needed a K-9 response unit," said Hennon-Bell. "So we reached out to our counterparts who already had the equipment and training in place and those resources are called upon when needed."



From left: Trooper Robert Crutchley, Hennon-Bell and Trooper Christian Dreyer survey equipment used by the SWAT Teams assigned to the Homeland Security Branch.



Hennon-Bell inspects "Andros," a remote controlled law enforcement robot. The 550-pound robot is used during bomb disposal, SWAT team support and HAZ-MAT operations.

Hennon-Bell is not only working in cooperation with other state and local agencies; international governments are sharing information with the NJSP as well. In June, the NJSP hosted members of the Israeli government to train more than 500 officers on how to spot and deal with suicide bombers. The five visiting government officials were treated to a display of the state-of-the-art equipment that the Homeland Security Branch has at its disposal, including a Mobile Explosion Containment (MEC) unit, only one of four in the world. The chamber, which sits atop an 18-wheel tractor-trailer unit, cost the state \$1.2 million when it was purchased back in 1995. It has stood at the ready for several high-profile events, including the Salt Lake City Olympics and the World Bank Summit in Washington, D.C.

A large part of the work in creating the new Homeland Security Branch involved reassessing the risks to the state's infrastructure. After the Sept. 11 attacks, law enforcement had to re-evaluate the dangers posed by terrorists. Up until that point, no one had considered the use of a passenger airliner as a weapon of mass destruction. As one of the nation's most densely populous states, no one would argue that New Jersey has numerous targets of opportunity, and state officials have not forgotten that the terrorist cells that plotted the Sept. 11 hijackings had connections in the state.

"We had to look at our bridges, our tunnels, rail lines and nuclear power industry," said Hennon-Bell, noting that New Jersey also has significant marine, aviation and transportation risks. "We have a large number of undercover detectives working these areas," she added. "We are also working with the trucking industry to spot suspicious vehicles and increase the number of routine checks."

Hennon-Bell stresses that the Homeland Security Branch is not just about countering international terrorism. "We are trained to respond and mitigate anything that hinders the health and safety of the public—whether it be crime, narcotics, gangs and even natural disasters," she said. "The plan is in place and we're ready."

ANSWERING THE CALL TO SERVICE

When Charles Schulz was a boy growing up in Jersey City, N.J., little did he dream he would describe his adult life as "a roller coaster ride." As an underwater explosives demolition expert who is also good at free-fall parachuting, Schulz's life has been filled with significant ups and downs. A 17-year veteran of the Secret Service, Schulz has served his country all of his adult life.

The 44-year-old alumnus of Thomas Edison State College joined the U.S. Navy after graduating from high school. During his eight years in the military, he became an expert in explosive ordnance disposal. "The Navy also taught me how to jump out of airplanes," said Schulz.

In 1987, Schulz applied to the Secret Service. "They were looking for people with my unique skill set and they brought me on," he said. Although there is a requirement for a college degree for acceptance into



In many cases, Schulz said, the culture and ways of operating are evolving to meet the new challenges. "In many respects, we are learning as we go," he said. "People need to understand that we've never gone through anything like this before." "We still have a big job ahead," said Schulz,

who notes that governmental agencies like the Secret Service are facing a dearth of qualified personnel. "We have two cultures here at the Secret Service—the seasoned professionals are getting ready to retire and there aren't enough new people coming in."

Schulz and his colleagues would like to see more high-quality individuals seek out careers in public service. "The Secret Service, is only accepting two out of every 10 applicants," he said. "I know that it takes a certain disposition and philosophy to work in this field. Not everyone is well suited to work here." Noting that agencies like the Secret Service will not lower their standards of acceptance, Schulz encourages those who may be thinking of serving their country to go ahead and apply. "The younger generation needs to take up the mantle of public service." Schulz, who is married and a resident of Northern Virginia, is the father of three sons. The eldest is following in his father's footsteps and is serving in the U.S. Navy.

The security needs of the country have changed radically, and Schulz warns that things are going to get worse before they get better. "For every guy with sunglasses you see walking next to the limousine, there are 80 individuals who have worked to make it happen," he said. "This demonstrates the huge logistical need to get the job done. This is why we need dedicated people to get involved."

the Secret Service, Schulz said that this was waived in his case. The idea, said Schulz, was that he would earn his baccalaureate degree at a later time. Like most students at Thomas Edison State College, Schulz had to balance work and family responsibilities. For security reasons, he declined to give specifics on his role at the Secret Service, but a heavy travel schedule made it impossible for him to attend classes in a traditional setting. "I did an online search and found Thomas Edison State College," said Schulz, who graduated in June 2004 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology. He has been accepted to graduate school at both The Johns Hopkins University and American University but has yet to decide at which school he will pursue a master in public administration degree this fall.

FOR EVERY GUY WITH SUNGLASSES YOU SEE WALKING NEXT TO THE LIMOUSINE, THERE ARE 80 INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE WORKED TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.



Photos courtesy of the U.S. Secret Service.



ALUMNA FINDS GOLD IN THE INTELLIGENCE FIELD

PETERSON IS THE GOVERNMENT'S "GO-TO" PERSON IN TERMS OF UPDATING RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT.

How does a stay-at-home mom in Hopewell, N.J., end up being one of the top intelligence analysts for the New Jersey state division of criminal justice and policy expert for the U.S. attorney general? Just ask Marilyn Peterson, who credits her love for writing, a keen sense of logic and a couple of lucky breaks as the principal reasons for her success in an unusual field.

Peterson, who graduated from Thomas Edison State College in 1991 with a Bachelor of Science in Human Services degree, volunteered with the League for Women Voters during the 1970s, when she was the primary caregiver for her young son. "I had attended Temple University in the 60s," she said. "But I never finished my degree before I married." As a volunteer, Peterson learned that she loved to write. During the next 12 years, Peterson moved nine times as her husband advanced his career. When the couple later divorced, Peterson found herself a single mother with no college degree and only her volunteer service to list on her resume. "I was barely able to make ends meet," she recalled.

"That's when I started writing," Peterson said from her office at the N.J. Division of Criminal Justice where she holds the title of management improvement specialist. In the early days of her career, Peterson found work as a freelance journalist, making \$8 an article writing for the *Chestnut Hill Local*, a weekly newspaper in the Philadelphia area. "I wrote about local government and did an investigative series on the South Eastern Pennsylvania Transit Authority (SEPTA), which got a lot of attention from people in Harrisburg," she said.

In 1980, Peterson got a break that would jump-start her career as an intelligence analyst. Her freelance writing caught the attention of the Pennsylvania Crime Commission. Although she had not earned her college degree at that time, she was approached to do some consulting work. After three months, she was hired full time as the special assistant for communications.

After 24 years in the field, Peterson has worked gang and narcotics cases. She has sleuthed through bank records in search of money laundering, and she has become one of the nation's experts on organized crime.

After completing her degree at Thomas Edison State College, Peterson went on to earn a Master of Arts degree in education at Seton Hall University in 1994. The author of several books, Peterson's "Applications in Criminal Analysis" continues to be the leading text on the topic in use by colleges and universities. Her writings are used by the Drug Enforcement Agency and FBI to school agents on information gathering and analysis techniques. Peterson is the government's "go-to" person in terms of updating research methodology and policy development.

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, Peterson has experienced what she calls "a huge shift" in the intelligence field. After decades of working quietly in the background, Peterson said "Intelligence has suddenly come to the fore." With the rush of increased activity, Peterson finds that the intelligence community has had to change its rules of operation. "One big issue we have found is the need to balance the needs of government with respect to information that is gathered with the people's right to privacy."

Peterson has participated on several intelligence policy formation task forces at both the state and national levels. In 2003, she participated in the Global Intelligence Working Group to develop the National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan. Representing the intelligence analysis sector, Peterson and others came up with 28 recommendations on the gathering and handling of information obtained during intelligence operations. The group's recommendations were approved by U.S. Attorney Gen. John Ashcroft in March 2004.

"There are different needs on the state and national levels in how you handle intelligence matters," said the 57-year-old who now resides in Lawrence, N.J. As a result of Peterson's work with the Global Intelligence Working Group, comprehensive guidelines have been implemented that coordinate the efforts of all intelligence gathering entities in the U.S. "Before now, there hasn't been a coordinated effort to determine how intelligence information is used," said Peterson. "With these new guidelines, we're all on the same page and can share information with other agencies knowing they'll abide by the same rules." According to Peterson, before Sept. 11, it was nearly impossible for agencies to communicate with each other and share data. "The new guidelines increase our ability to share information and allow us to communicate more freely."

AT THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, PETERSON IS CURRENTLY WORKING TO DEVELOP INTELLIGENCE-LED POLICY THAT WILL STRENGTHEN THE STATE'S ABILITY TO TRAIN PEOPLE IN THE INTELLIGENCE FIELD AND ALSO STRENGTHEN THE STATE'S ABILITY TO FIGHT CRIME AND TERRORISM

At the Division of Criminal Justice, Peterson is currently working to develop intelligence-led policy that will strengthen the state's ability to train people in the intelligence field and also strengthen the state's ability to fight crime and terrorism. "Our colleges and universities need degree and certificate programs that provide knowledge of intelligence analysis," she said. Like many areas in the homeland security field, Peterson reports the demand for a workforce skilled in her area of expertise has significantly increased. "We are finding that former journalists with history and social science degrees are well-suited for this kind of work," she said. Among the skill sets that are desirable, said Peterson, are excellent writing skills, the ability to think logically and tenacious problem solving. "It also helps to be computer literate," said Peterson, who recalls the days when all work was done on 3-by-5 cards.

Throughout the years, Peterson has been lauded for her work in the field. She was honored in 1996 with a lifetime achievement award by the Society of Certified Criminal Analysts, has received several service awards from the International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts and received a Citation for Exceptional Service in the Public Interest from the FBI in August 2000.

When she is not mining intelligence data or developing intelligence policy, Peterson likes to stay at home and watch television, curl up with a good mystery novel, work on complicated crossword puzzles, work in the garden or walk her dog. It should come as no surprise that her favorite show on television is "The Sopranos."

ALUMNUS HAS FRONT ROW SEAT TO THE GROWTH OF TERRORISM

The first time most Americans had heard the name Osama bin Laden came after the Sept. 11 attacks. In the wake of the smoke and rubble of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the average American woke up to find that international terrorism had finally hit U.S. soil. For many in this country, this came as a shock and a surprise. For Thomas Edison State College alumnus David Cid, the inevitable day had come.

"We've known about bin Laden for years," said Cid, who retired after a 20-year career with the FBI where he served as a terrorism and counterintelligence specialist. "His name came up in connection with the Philippine Air crash and the bombing of the USS Cole," he said. According to Cid, while the FBI and other members of the intelligence community knew about bin Laden and other terrorist cell network activities, the rules and chain of command restrictions in place at the time made it impossible for information sharing. "We couldn't even talk to each other," lamented Cid. "It was absurd."

Cid is one of the few terrorism experts whose lengthy career path in the intelligence community provided a front row seat to the growth in international terrorism. A Vietnam veteran, Cid has experience as a principal investigator for some of the FBI's most high profile cases. This gives him a unique historical perspective on the genesis of terrorism.

"When I started out in the FBI's Newark field office, international

terrorism was viewed as 'extremism,'" said Cid, who is now president of an international security consulting company. "Terrorism was an afterthought and not seen as a national security issue. The government viewed it as a law enforcement issue." Cid described that a typical response by the U.S. government would have been to send in the FBI to investigate bombings. As a member of the FBI's international crisis response team, Cid traveled overseas to investigate the bombings of the U.S. Embassy in Tanzania and the Khobar Tower bombings in Saudi Arabia. "The process was just not working," said Cid.

Cid relates a slow shift in emphasis from "chasing bank robbers" to "focusing on terrorism." He also pursued some of the nation's most notorious spies. Assigned to the FBI's National Security Division in Washington, D.C., Cid investigated the John Walker and Aldrich Ames espionage cases.

While serving in the FBI's Minneapolis office in 1993, Cid supervised the first successful prosecution under the Biological Weapons Anti-Terrorism Act of 1989. He also investigated the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Building in Oklahoma City. In both cases, the perpetrators were home-grown anti-government extremists. But, according to Cid, the tide turned after Sept. 11.

"Things have changed in a dramatic way," said Cid. "Before the hijackings, the agency had 26 intelligence analysts; today there



A Vietnam veteran, Cid has experience as a principal investigator for some of the FBI's most high profile cases. This gives him a unique historical perspective on the genesis of terrorism.

are more than 900." According to Cid, even the communication restraints that had long held back agencies have been lifted, a change he credits to the passage of the USA PATRIOT Act in 2001.

"Now we have the political will to use all the resources available to us," said Cid. "The willingness to use the military has been the biggest change and, as a result, we have not experienced terrorism in this country in two and a half years." Often frustrated as an investigator on foreign soil, Cid feels that a military response is more effective in matters of terrorism than sending in the FBI. "You can send in a militia to deal with a foreign threat; you can't send in the FBI," he said. "This strategy has proven

to be most effective, particularly in Afghanistan."

According to Cid, who recently returned from speaking at an international conference on terrorism in the Czech Republic, homeland security will be "the central national security concern for the next 10 years." International terror cells continue to be active worldwide. Cid was disappointed by the reaction in Spain to the train bombings in Madrid and the resulting influence on that country's national elections. "What happened in Spain only encourages the terrorists," said Cid. "If we give up, they'll win." Cid points to the lessons learned by the Irish during the last half century. "It took the Irish 50 years to catch on," he said. "If the

people decide the terrorists won't have their way, then the terrorists will just give up and go away."

Cid is certain that there will be more terrorism. "Terrorists have gotten more complicated in their methods," he said. "We're not sure if they will continue with complex tactical operations or will shift to suicide bombings." Whatever the future may bring, Cid feels the new tools given to counterterrorism experts and the shift in attitude by the government have significantly increased the country's preparedness for another attack. "The battle against terrorism won't be resolved in our generation, but perhaps will be in the next."



AGENT FOR POLICY CHANGE

With the immense popularity and acceptance of distance education that today's students enjoy, it is hard to imagine a time when its legitimacy was called into question. David Cid faced such challenges more than two decades ago. Thanks to his tenacity and advocacy efforts, Cid managed to change government policy.

After Cid was honorably discharged following his tour of duty in Vietnam, he returned home to begin his education at age 21. He attended Villa Maria College in Buffalo, N.Y., where he earned an associate degree in 1975. Afterward, he went to work when his GI benefits ran out. His goal to complete his baccalaureate degree kept him going to classes. Along the way, he attended several institutions, including Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C.

"I had not stayed in one place very long and had quite a few credits from different places," he said. "I wanted to get my four-year degree as efficiently as possible. Then I heard about Thomas Edison State College." Cid enrolled, transferred in his credits and completed his Bachelor of Arts degree requirements in

1980. "I immediately applied to the FBI," he said.

To Cid's surprise, the FBI originally turned him down. "They told me that my degree had to be from a 'traditional' school and Thomas Edison State College was not on their list," he said. "I felt that was fundamentally unfair."

After six months of appeals to the FBI's director of personnel and "many, many letters" later, Cid was successful in getting the policy changed. He was accepted into the FBI in 1981.

Cid retired from the FBI after two decades of service. At the time, he was working out of the bureau's Oklahoma City office. "We had moved several times during my career, and I promised my teenage children that there would be no more moves," he said. Today, Cid is president of Salus International, a security consulting firm that provides crisis management and counterterrorism services to hospitals, the military and Fortune 500 companies. An adjunct professor at the University of Oklahoma, Cid was appointed to the board of directors of the Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism by Gov. Frank Keating. He and his wife Karen are the parents of an 18-year-old son and a 15-year-old daughter.

“Applause, Applause”

Christopher J. Agans **'02 BSBA Organizational Management**

Christopher J. Agans received an MBA from Centenary College in Hackettstown, N.J.

Lt. Col. Deborah G. Allen **'92 BSBA Human Resources Management**

Lt. Col. Deborah G. Allen has been promoted to battalion commander in the New Jersey Army National Guard.

Ray Blanco **'86 BA Humanities**

In June 2004, Ray Blanco, the president of Edge Entertainment, won the Democratic Party primary election for the office of Councilman-At-Large. The election was held for a citywide seat in Plainfield, NJ.

Wesley T. Carter **'79 BA Social Science/History**

After graduation from Thomas Edison State College, Wesley T. Carter earned a commission in the U.S. Air Force. Carter, who was injured overseas during the Gulf War and medically retired with the rank of major, now resides in Oregon.

David B. Castro **'99 BSBA**

David B. Castro graduated from Thomas Edison State College in 1999. He is currently president of Merlin's Pest Control located in Rockaway, N.J., and has been installed as president of the New Jersey Pest Management Association.



Laure A. Dekis **'01 ASM**

In 2001, Laure A. Dekis graduated from Thomas Edison State College, with an Associate in Science in Management degree. Dekis has recently been promoted to marketing director for Care4You. Dekis stated that “Thomas Edison State College provides a feasible way to pursue educational dreams while employed full time.”

Suzanne E. Falcone **'91 BSBA**

Suzanne E. Falcone received an MS in management from the College of St. Elizabeth in Morristown, N.J., on May 15, 2004.

Ondina Jeffers **'82 BA Social Sciences/History**

Ondina Jeffers has been honored by the United Federation of Teachers for her outstanding contribution to community service.

Elizabeth S. LeBlanc **'99 BA Liberal Studies**

Elizabeth S. LeBlanc graduated from Penn State Dickinson School of Law in Carlisle, Pa., in May 2004. While attending law school, LeBlanc participated in the Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, where her team won the regional second place memorial.

Daniel Loss **'00 BA Chemistry**

Daniel Loss was promoted to auditor I/coach at TEVA Pharmaceuticals USA in North Wales, Pa. He has been employed with TEVA for two years. On Jan. 28, 2004, Loss and his wife Jennifer celebrated the birth of their son Nathan Jacob.

Salvatore M. Mazza **'01 BSAST**

Salvatore M. Mazza is currently employed with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Technical Center at the Atlantic City Airport. He is currently working on a project that supports the Airspace Analysis and Modeling Group of the FAA.

James McGrath **'93 BSAST**

James McGrath has received certification as a Project Manager Professional from the Project Management Institute, Inc.

Mark Murranko **'93 BSBA**

Mark Murranko is employed as a New Jersey State Trooper in the State House Complex Security Unit and is in his third year of law school at Rutgers Camden.

Ellen C. Newman **'03 BA Liberal Studies**

In March 2003, Ellen C. Newman graduated from Thomas Edison State College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal studies. Newman is currently employed at Ramapo College of New Jersey in Mahwah, N.J., as the dean of the School of Administration and Business.

Steven Paden **'02 BSBA**

Steve Paden graduated from Thomas Edison State College in September 2002. Paden has been accepted into the MBA program at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va.

Mary K. Parslow **'91 BSBS**

Mary “Kathy” Parslow has received her PhD in health and nutrition.

Eon J. Ramnarine **'02 BA Computer Science**

In May 2004, Eon J. Ramnarine was promoted to systems specialist in the area of Global Information Services at Tellabs Operations.

Lea Bayers Rapp **'89 BA Journalism**

The Garden State Journalist Association awarded Lea Bayers Rapp first place for a public relations campaign.

Cheryl Schuck **'03 BSBS**

Cheryl Schuck graduated from Thomas Edison State College in December 2003. Schuck has begun working on a graduate degree in human services and criminal justice through Concordia University in St. Paul, Minn.

John Vernon Shepard **'03 BA Liberal Studies**

John Vernon Shepard married the former Christine Anne Craven on Nov. 22, 2003. Shepard is currently a student of commercial piloting at American Flyers in Pompano Beach, Fla.

Jeffrey L. Steffin **'00 BA Foreign Language**

In 2000, Jeff Steffin graduated from Thomas Edison State College with a BA in foreign language. Steffin has recently been admitted into the master's program in translation and interpretation at the Monterey Institute of International Studies in Monterey, Calif.

Edward L. Ward **'03 BSAST**

Edward L. Ward has been accepted into the School of Business at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Wash.

Kenneth Williams Sr. **'02 BA Political Science**

Kenneth Williams Sr. is pursuing a Master of Arts in Political Science at Long Island University in New York.

James L. Wright Jr. **'97 BA Social Science/History**

On March 20, 2004, James L. Wright Jr. married the former Marie Lynn Case of Colorado Springs, Colo.