

SUMMER 2005

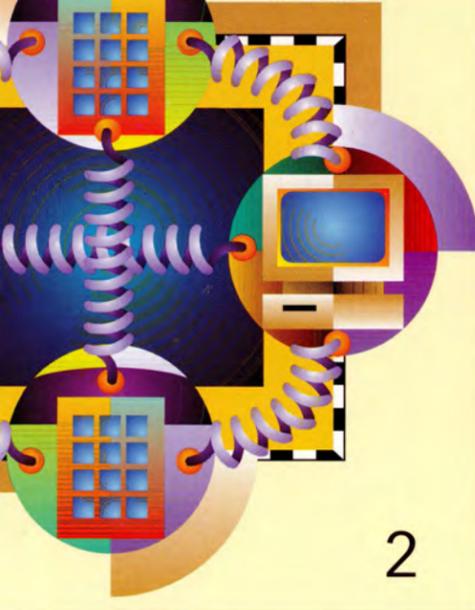
Invention

THE MAGAZINE OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE



IN THIS ISSUE

- Making a Career Out of Making a Difference
- Keeping His Education in Focus
- The Future is Now



2



4

Contents

SUMMER '05

1 Message from the President

2 College News

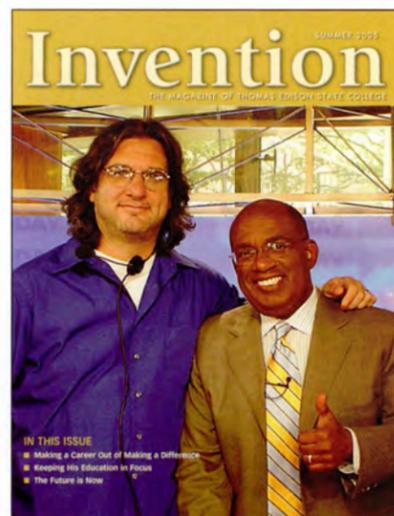
4 Making a Career Out of Making a Difference

6 Keeping His Education in Focus

8 The Future is Now

11 Alumni & Foundation News

12 Applause, Applause
• Alumni Updates



◀ **Cover Story:**
Eric Eisenstein, BA '97, on the set of Today with NBC's Al Roker.

Invention is published by
Thomas Edison State College

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JOHN P. THURBER
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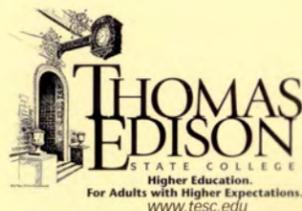
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Dear Alumni, Students and Friends,

Booker T. Washington, one of America's most prominent educators and reformers once said, "Excellence is to do a common thing in an uncommon way."

Everything we do at Thomas Edison State College is grounded in our excellence. Everywhere one looks, from our academic programs to our students and alumni, the determination to achieve excellence is a consistent and prevailing quality. In this edition, we feature two alumni who have made excellence a

Please
Place
Postage
Here

Eric Eisenstein, BA '97, has earned eight Emmy® awards in broadcast journalism and is at the top of his game. A resident of Mt. Laurel, N.J., he earned his baccalaureate degree in communications at Thomas Edison State College while balancing his job responsibilities as a national broadcast journalist. His desire to complete his degree even though it was not always easy is typical of many of our students, and, like many of our students, he has brought a measure of excellence to his field. Eric is an outstanding example of an alumna committed to excellence. He was named "Outstanding Achievement" by the Girl Scouts of Camden County and was named one of the "People to Watch in 2005" by *SJ Magazine*, the rising star in the field of nursing. Ricca, who earned her degree while working as the assistant vice president of Women's and Children's Health Services, N.J. Here, she describes how the degree she earned from Thomas Edison State College helped her in her career.

COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Street
1176



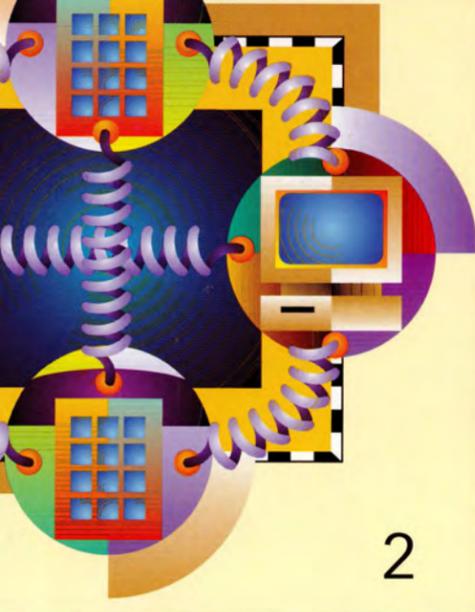
For Eisenstein and Ricca and many other adults interested in achieving their lifelong goal of attaining a college education, Thomas Edison State College has been a smart choice. For more than 30 years, the College has provided flexible, high-quality, collegiate learning opportunities to self-directed adults and has been a pioneer in using technology in adult higher education.

Today, we continue to push the envelope. In this edition, we explore the long-term outlook for distance education in a discussion with Dr. P. Henry van Zyl, Thomas Edison State College's vice provost for Directed Independent Adult Learning.

Our educational delivery systems are unique, flexible and convenient. Thomas Edison State College strives for excellence in higher education in an uncommon way. Our students, alumni and staff are a testament to the margin of excellence that is our daily endeavor. I hope you enjoy this issue of *Invention*.

Sincerely,

Dr. George A. Pruitt
President



2



Contents

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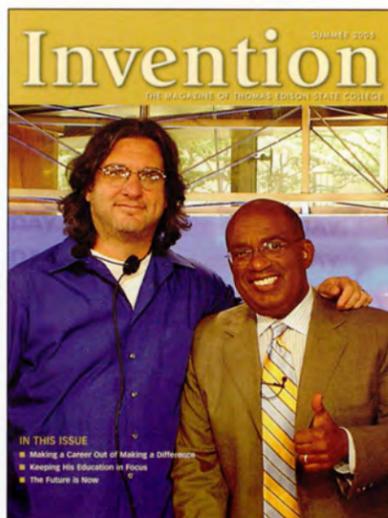
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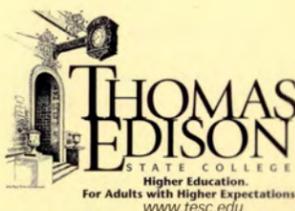
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In this issue of *Invention*, we feature two alumni who have made excellence a daily habit.

Eric Eisenstein, BA '97, has earned eight Emmy® awards in broadcast production and is at the top of his game. A resident of Mt. Laurel, N.J., Eisenstein pursued his baccalaureate degree in communications at Thomas

Edison State College while balancing his job responsibilities as a national broadcast network cameraman and director. His desire to complete his degree even though it was not required for professional success is typical of many of our students, and, like many of our alumni, he has brought a real measure of excellence to his field.

Terese Ricca, RN, is another outstanding example of an alumna committed to excellence. Named one of the "Women of Outstanding Achievement" by the Girl Scouts of Camden County N.J., and listed as one of the "People to Watch in 2005" by *SJ Magazine*, the Hammonton, N.J., resident is a rising star in the field of nursing. Ricca, who earned her BSN degree in March 2005, is the assistant vice president of Women's and Children's

Everything we do at Thomas Edison State College is grounded in our commitment to excellence.

Programs of Excellence at Virtua Health in Marlton, N.J. Here, she describes how the degree she earned from Thomas Edison State College has made a difference in her career.

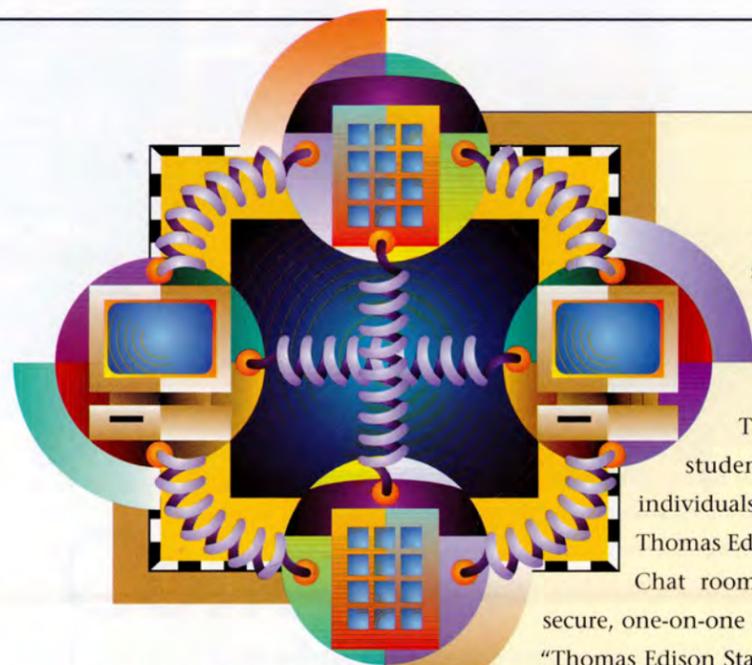
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Sincerely,

Dr. George A. Pruitt
President



NEW LIVE INTERNET CHAT HELPS STUDENTS & COUNSELORS STAY CONNECTED

Students and those thinking about becoming students have a new way to communicate directly with counselors at Thomas Edison State College and get fast answers to questions they have about the school, their course work and earning a degree.

The Advisement Live Chat, designed for enrolled students, and the Admissions Live Chat, designed for individuals considering enrollment, are easily accessible via the Thomas Edison State College home page at www.tesc.edu. Each Live Chat room supports real-time dialog via the Internet through secure, one-on-one sessions with College counselors.

"Thomas Edison State College has a long history of utilizing technology to enhance student services. Our new Live Chat application is another fine example of this commitment," said Drew W. Hopkins, chief information officer. "The College will continue to deploy appropriate technology that empowers our students."

Students with questions may log in to the Advisement Live Chat area to discuss any academic advisement issues with an academic advisor.

"This new chat feature provides another opportunity for the College to stay connected with its students," said Garry M. Keel, Ed.D., assistant director for Learner Services. "We're very happy to offer a new way for our students to be in touch with our academic advising team."

Adults thinking about enrolling at Thomas Edison State College can log in to the Admissions Live Chat, where an admissions counselor can guide them through the application and admission process and discuss financial aid opportunities.

"We provide answers for prospective students on-the-spot," said Renee San Giacomo, director of Admissions. "This technology establishes instant communication between the adults considering the College and an admissions counselor."

Users may elect to have a transcript of the chat session sent directly via e-mail. Users need Internet access with connection of 54K or higher and must temporarily disable any pop-up software installed on their computer. First-time visitors will be prompted to download the Avaya ActiveX software, free of charge.

Advisement Live Chat sessions are held weekdays from noon - 2 p.m. EST.
Admissions Live Chat sessions are held weekdays from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. EST.

The Live Chat areas are accessible from the Thomas Edison State College home page at www.tesc.edu. For additional information about the College, please contact (888) 442-8372.

"Thomas Edison State College has a long history of utilizing technology to enhance student services. Our new Live Chat application is another fine example of this commitment."

— Drew W. Hopkins,
chief information officer

Robin A. Smith Appointed Director of Community Affairs & Government Relations



Robin A. Smith has been appointed director of Community Affairs & Government Relations at Thomas Edison State College. Smith is responsible for

fostering and developing Thomas Edison State College's relationships with community, civic, religious and social organizations in the College's Trenton neighborhood. She also serves as the primary legislative liaison at the state and federal level, developing and maintaining relationships with policy makers, interest groups, and others involved in the legislative and policy-making process.

"Robin Smith has a wealth of experience in community relations and communications as well as strong background in public policy," said Dr. George A.

Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College. "We are very fortunate that she has joined our staff to build partnerships that enhance the College's efforts focused on community affairs and government relations."

Since joining the College in May 2005, Smith has been appointed to the New Jersey Advisory Council on Adolescent Pregnancy by Acting Governor Richard J. Codey.

Prior to joining the College, Smith was community relations coordinator with Capital Health System in Trenton and served as confidential assistant to the chief of staff, Office of the Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior

Services. She also served as a research associate at Princeton Public Affairs Group.

Smith holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, in New Brunswick, N.J., and is a 2004 graduate of the Leadership Trenton program of The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy at Thomas Edison State College. Smith is a member of the Child Placement Review Board of Mercer County and a board member of the Trenton Public Education Foundation. She also serves on the steering committee of the New Jersey Black Issues Convention.

NEW JERSEY PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL APPROVES MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING DEGREE

The New Jersey President's Council approved a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree program at Thomas Edison State College at its May 2005 meeting.

Nursing is currently the fastest growing degree program at the College, with more than 400 enrolled students. The School of Nursing established its new Nurse Educator graduate program based on growing requests from both current students and graduates calling for a master's level program, careful analysis of the results of a needs assessment focusing on the issue and to help address the current crisis of a nationwide shortage of nurses and nurse educators.

"Our new Master of Science in Nursing degree complements our existing programs and will enable registered nurses to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree completely online and continue on to earn a master's degree with economy of time and credit," said Susan O'Brien, Ed.D, RN, dean of the School of Nursing. "Our students who earn a BSN can apply 9 credits to their MSN requirements at Thomas Edison State College. Our new online program answers the call for innovation in nursing education

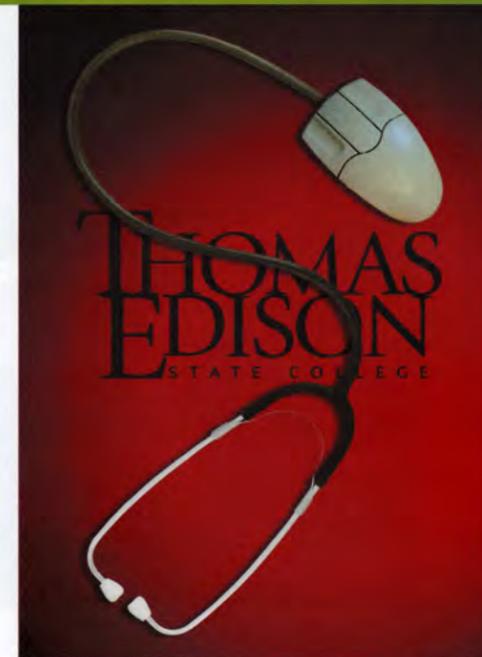
by removing barriers that deter many nurses from pursuing advanced degrees."

Those barriers are largely time and place. Most nurses cannot put their lives and careers on hold to sit in a classroom at a specific time and place. At Thomas Edison State College, they do not have to.

O'Brien noted that nurses who have already earned a BSN degree may also enter the program and complete a Master of Science in Nursing degree.

The 36-credit Master of Science in Nursing degree program will become available in July 2006. In addition, licensed registered nurses with a previously earned master's degree in another nursing specialty may earn a 12-to-15 credit Nurse Educator Certificate at Thomas Edison State College by taking graduate nursing education courses. This online certificate program is expected to be offered in October 2005.

For more information about nursing degree and certificate programs at Thomas Edison State College, call (888) 442-8372 or e-mail info@tesc.edu. Information is also available at www.tesc.edu.



Making a career out of making a difference

"Positive People Make Progress."

Her motto:



▲ Terry Ricca, BSN '05, assistant vice president of the Women's and Children's Programs of Excellence at Virtua Health - Marlton, and Michael S. Kotzen, chief operating officer and vice president of Virtua West Jersey Hospital - Voorhees, discuss Virtua Health's strategic plan to build two all-digital regional medical centers in Burlington and Camden counties in New Jersey.

"I felt respected for the wealth of knowledge I brought to the table from my clinical experience and work experience. My Thomas Edison State College education has given me the confidence in reaching a goal that is a very powerful and attractive attribute—a BSN degree."

— Terese Ricca



Terese Ricca has always wanted to make a difference in people's lives.

And by most accounts, she has.

After all, 7,400 families cannot be wrong.

As assistant vice president of the Women's and Children's Programs of Excellence at Virtua Health in Marlton, N.J., Ricca ensures that more than 7,400 babies born each year and their mothers receive excellent care.

Her outstanding efforts have recently garnered recognition and praise.

Ricca was recently recognized by the Girl Scouts of Camden County, N.J., with its "Women of Outstanding Achievement Award." She was also named as one of the "People to Watch in 2005" by *SJ Magazine*, a lifestyle publication for residents of southern New Jersey.

But despite her considerable professional accomplishments, Ricca had another aspiration.

"I also wanted to formally finish my education and earn my baccalaureate degree," she said. "That was another goal I wanted to accomplish."

It was a goal she would realize at Thomas Edison State College.

Interestingly, it was Ricca's son who got her thinking about returning to college as she continued her nursing career. She then learned that Thomas Edison State College was a good match for her need to balance school with her personal and professional obligations.

Three years after enrolling, Ricca graduated from Thomas Edison State College in March 2005 with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. She said that the flexibility of Thomas Edison State College's program offered the greatest advantage.

"I felt respected for the wealth of

knowledge I brought to the table from my clinical experience and work experience," she explained. "My Thomas Edison State College education has given me the confidence in reaching a goal that is a very powerful and attractive attribute—a BSN degree."

Ricca brings that same dedication to her work at Virtua. In fact, it was her drive to make a difference that inspired Ricca to pursue a career in nursing in the first place.

That career began in 1978, after Ricca graduated from the nursing diploma program at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She has been at Virtua Health for the past 22 years and has worked in many patient care departments, including the Intensive Care Unit, the Emergency Department and the Labor and Delivery Unit.

Today, in addition to overseeing Virtua's women's and children's programs, Ricca is responsible for bringing leading-edge technology, top medical experts and patient-focused programs to the region as the health system moves toward its strategic plan to build two all-digital regional medical centers in Burlington and Camden counties.

Accomplishing this work is no small feat, and Ricca is quick to give credit to her colleagues who make up her "team."

Her motto:
"Positive People Make Progress."

"I have worked with my team to expand access to the best care to all moms and babies in the region," she said. "Together, we bring the highest quality health care to the region's women and children."

Ricca's team has played a critical role in many important programs at the health system, including earning the designation of Virtua Voorhees Hospital as a Regional Perinatal Center by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior

Services. Thanks to this designation, pregnant women at risk for early delivery now can be transferred from their South Jersey treatment centers to Virtua Voorhees, where they can receive the highest level of care.

Ricca was also a key leader in Virtua's recent implementation of InSightec Ltd's ExAblate system, a magnetic resonance guided focused ultrasound technology for the noninvasive treatment of uterine fibroids. Ricca and her team played a key role in enabling Virtua to become one of the first health care systems in the nation to acquire this technology.

In addition, Ricca and her team have worked to develop and expand a range of important programs and services, including Virtua's Maternal-Fetal Medicine program for women with high-risk pregnancies and the Child and Adolescent Rapid Evaluation Service (CARES) at Virtua Voorhees Hospital, which provides child-friendly emergency care, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

When asked about her spare-time interests, Ricca, who lives in Hammonton, N.J., replied enthusiastically. "Reading! Reading! Reading!" she exclaimed. "And walking. Walking while visualizing success and happiness."

Now that sounds like the perfect prescription for making a difference in people's lives.

(photos from left) Eric Eisenstein (BA, '97), covering the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens for NBC Sports; taking a break during a recent weekday taping of *Today*; on the set of *Saturday Night Live*. Photos courtesy of Eric Eisenstein.



KEEPING HIS EDUCATION FOCUS

"Being a student again and being tested in something other than my career was very fulfilling. Intellectually, it really recharged my batteries. Work, even live television, can become routine. Pursuing my degree was reinvigorating."

— Eric Eisenstein

It took just one moment and Eric Eisenstein was hooked for life.

As his eyes grew wide and examined the lights and cameras on the set of the *Mike Douglas Show*, Eisenstein realized he wanted a career in television. He was in first grade.

Today, after nearly 30 years in the television business, Eisenstein still relishes the thrill of walking onto the set. Currently, he has the honor of working on two of the best-known sets in America: NBC's *Today* show and *Saturday Night Live*.

"I've been incredibly lucky in my career," recalled Eisenstein, who earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in communications in 1997 from Thomas Edison State College. "I have worked with the best people in the business."

Yet despite his successful career in television, Eisenstein, who left college in the late 1970s to take his first full-time broadcasting job, said earning his degree was something he always wanted to do. He learned about Thomas Edison State College in 1995 on a visit to Notre Dame University with his father, a career educator and former school superintendent in Atlantic City.

"We were walking on the campus of Notre Dame and I was saying that I wish I had finished," said Eisenstein. "It was always hanging over my head that I did not finish. Then my dad told me about Thomas Edison State College."

Eisenstein said that he enjoyed receiving and submitting assignments in the mail and working with his academic advisors and mentors to turn portfolio projects into videos with written documentation.

"Being a student again and being tested in something other than my career was very fulfilling," he said. "Intellectually, it really recharged my batteries. Work, even live television, can become routine. Pursuing my degree was reinvigorating."

This year, Eisenstein celebrated his 25th year at NBC. As both a cameraman and director, Eisenstein has covered some of the most memorable moments in sports over the last two decades, including numerous trips to the World Series and Super Bowl and two assignments to the Olympics.

It was Eisenstein that captured Kirk Gibson's heroic home run against Oakland in the 1989 World Series in Los Angeles that helped the Dodgers win the series. He was also the man who brought Bill Buckner's heartbreaking error in the 1986 World Series into

tens of millions of living rooms across the country. The play ultimately led to the Boston Red Sox losing the series to the New York Mets.

"You know you are getting old when you see your best work on ESPN Classics," joked Eisenstein, who spent 15 years with NBC Sports.

Covering sports for NBC also led to Eisenstein meeting his wife, Carole, in Montreal. They met during Eisenstein's assignment covering the National League Championship Series and have been married for 22 years. Eisenstein said she was very supportive of his decision to pursue a career in broadcasting - and his return to college.

He first joined NBC in 1980. That assignment eventually led to a full-time position with NBC Sports. His work as a cameraman helped Eisenstein develop his skills as a director.

"You can learn a lot covering a live sporting event," he said. "Operating a camera, you are the eyes of the director and you have the freedom to show things that happen after the whistle blows. All of this is part of directing."

In 1997, Eisenstein got his first break at directing professional sports with Comcast and the Philadelphia 76ers. With permission from NBC, Eisenstein directed all of the team's road games and a few home games during the season. In 1998, Eisenstein directed some national college games for ESPN.

Eisenstein left NBC Sports in 1999 and joined the *Rosie O'Donnell Show*, which gave him the opportunity to direct ESPN college basketball games on the weekend and take on other directing projects for networks such as Fox Sports.

In 2004, Eisenstein was reunited with NBC Sports and invited to help cover the 2004 Olympics in Athens—this time as a director. Eisenstein and his team covered indoor volleyball for the network and his work earned him one of his eight Emmy® Awards.

Currently, Eisenstein is with NBC's Broadcast Entertainment division, where he works on *Today* and *Saturday Night Live*.

"The talent at *Today* are just great people," Eisenstein said of co-hosts Katie Couric, Matt Lauer and Al Roker. "We spend a lot of time together and I know they appreciate the work we do."

Eisenstein said the pace is much different at *Saturday Night Live*, where very often the sketches seen during the live telecast are rewritten or reshuffled hours before they air.

"Shots are predicated on movement and dialog and timing is critical," he said. "It's live television, so what we are doing is done without a net. *Saturday Night Live* is really the last of the live variety shows left on network television—and that live element is why it is fun to watch."

In addition to his duties at NBC, Eisenstein continues to direct various projects, including the talent search program, *Gimme the Mike, Philadelphia*, now in its second season on UPN 57 in Philadelphia.

While he enjoys his career in broadcasting, Eisenstein, a resident of Mount Laurel, N.J., said earning his degree gave him a different type of satisfaction. It also allowed him to demonstrate to his two children that a college education is worth pursuing.

"I felt great to be a student again," he said. "My family had a chance to see me study and to see me start this thing and to finish. I was able to talk the talk and walk the walk."



▲ P. Henry van Zyl, Ph.D., vice provost for Directed Independent Adult Learning (DIAL) at Thomas Edison State College, fields a call in his office from a course designer.

The Future is NOW

P. Henry van Zyl, Ph.D., does not intend to trivialize the written word, but when he describes Thomas Edison State College's strategy for developing courses, one cannot help but notice his vision does not include much ink, paper or costly textbooks.

The College is constantly enhancing the delivery and value of courses to distant and independent learners and listening to van Zyl, vice provost for Directed Independent Adult Learning (DIAL) at Thomas Edison State College, discuss the future along with some recent innovations taking place at the College serves as compelling grist. The fact that these dynamic initiatives fly in the face of assembly-line conventions and costs associated with traditional courses may have us all pining for the future.

In this interview, van Zyl discussed the continuously growing distance and learning options at Thomas Edison State College, empowering adult learners with the ability to customize their own courses and moving toward the custom publication of textbooks for Thomas Edison State College.

As van Zyl explained, the future is now at Thomas Edison State College.

To understand the flexible learning opportunities adult students will have in the future, it is helpful to understand the concepts of learning objects and modules.

"A learning object is an interchangeable unit, or building block, used to develop specific courses," said van Zyl. "The learning object can then be referenced in any instance or area of study where it may be required, such as geography, political science, economics or any other course."

For example, a map of the polar ice cap is a learning object that has been created and is used in the development of more than one course. A learning object, such as the map, is a component of modules.

"A module is a repository of information relating to a particular learning objective in a specific subject," said van Zyl. "Modules round out the content of a course to meet requirements of a

continued on page 10

"The revolutionary aspect of what we have started to do is that we are enabling our students to make choices about course content and course objectives as they relate to their degree program."



▲ Aaron Appelstein is a course designer at Thomas Edison State College working on the modularization of new courses, which will enable students to customize their own classes.

typical course and link to the student's major area of study. For the College's adult learners, course content can be built on the use of interchangeable learning objects organized into modules."

■ EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO BUILD CUSTOMIZED COURSES

The concept of learning objects and modules is not new. However, Thomas Edison State College's strategy of using learning objects and modules to empower students to build courses tailored specifically to their area of study is unprecedented in higher education.

"The revolutionary aspect of what we have started to do is that we are enabling our students to make choices about course content and course objectives as they relate to their degree program," he said.

This approach allows the College to develop courses that include both a subject's core objectives as well as interchangeable modules related to the subject that relate directly to a student's particular area of study. These interchangeable objectives and modules will be selected by the student.

Take a course like English Composition. Using this new process, students earning a degree in business can customize their English Composition course by adding objectives that speak directly to a business degree.

Course designers at Thomas Edison State College are in the process of converting all courses at the College to

this modular system—and currently have about 90 modularized courses completed. In addition, all new courses being developed use this innovative approach. In the next five years, students at the College will be customizing a majority of their classes.

"We are moving in a new direction—one where we are designing courses around content, not just a textbook," said van Zyl. "This goes beyond convention and provides a perspective more diverse than typical textbooks so what we offer our students more accurately represents what they need to master."

Innovation notwithstanding, van Zyl added that students will still have the option of signing up for traditional prepackaged courses that do not include customization options.

■ A NEW APPROACH TO TEXTBOOKS

When it comes to higher education, textbooks are typically restrictive and costly.

Students are often required to purchase multiple textbooks for a single course, even though only portions of each textbook are covered in a course.

This results in students spending considerable money on several textbooks. Within a year or two, it is common for a new edition of a textbook to be published for the same course, which makes a relatively new book obsolete.

These new editions often do not result in substantial changes to information in the

textbook, but reflect organizational changes that have little impact on content.

Thomas Edison State College is working with textbook publishers to change the way it uses textbooks. The results are creating savings for students and textbooks that better target relative course content.

"We have started to custom publish our own textbooks to meet particular course objectives," said van Zyl, who noted that two undergraduate courses currently utilize textbooks customized exclusively for Thomas Edison State College. "The customized publication, along with our syllabus, online course materials and assessment tools, becomes the basis for the course."

College textbooks are usually written from the perspective of an individual author or group of authors that examine a subject through a certain lens. Then, instructors build their courses around those textbooks.

A customized publication takes specific content from various books and compiles them into one textbook that contains the information which focuses more closely on a particular course's content. It also results in savings for students, who only have to purchase one book—not multiple books for a single course.

"Custom publishing allows us to use resources to support student learning outcomes rather than the publisher's bottom line," said van Zyl. "We, must, however, underscore the fact that the basic collaborations remain. Mentors will continue to mediate courses, and instructional designers will continue to offer support for developing courses based on sound pedagogical principles, and there will always be assignments and tests to help adult learners stay on track."

van Zyl

As vice provost for Directed Independent Adult Learning, van Zyl is responsible for the leadership of the undergraduate distance learning program at Thomas Edison State College. His published research on the subjects of instructional design and distance education as well as technology-based accommodation for disabled students has appeared in leading international professional journals.

GOLF NEWS

THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE FOUNDATION — THOMAS C. STRECKEWALD GOLF CLASSIC

Perfect weather prevailed at the 11th Annual Thomas C. Streckewald Golf Classic on June 6 at Sea Oaks Golf Club in Little Egg Harbor Township, N.J. Eighty-four golfers participated in the tournament, which is sponsored by the Thomas Edison State College Foundation, and raised approximately \$40,000. Sun National Bank, Bank of America and Merrill Lynch were this year's Premier tournament sponsors. Thanks to the support of this extraordinary event, the Thomas C. Streckewald Endowment is now more than \$250,000.

▶ Jim Rigler (right), who won closest to the pin on the 7th hole with his three-footer, with John P. Thurber, vice president for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison State College.



◀ John P. Thurber (right), vice president for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison State College, presented the awards for second place in the scramble format to the foursome from Public Service Electric & Gas. Pictured from the left are Dave Sutter, Ed Capell, Ted Urbanski and Jim Rigler.



▶ The foursome from Rider University came in first in the scramble format. Pictured from the left are Tommy Dempsey, Brian Keane, Ron Walker and Keith Richardson.



IN REMEMBRANCE

S. JOHN QUATTRONE



It is with great sadness that Thomas Edison State College announces the loss of S. John Quattrone, a



longtime supporter of the College and director of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation, who passed away on April 18, 2005, after a courageous battle with cancer.

"John was one of the pillars of the Foundation Board and was instrumental in building our planned giving program," said John P. Thurber, vice president for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison State College. "He was truly a community leader who inspired and touched many lives with his enthusiasm, dedication and spirit."

Quattrone joined the Foundation Board in 1987 and had served as treasurer for the past 13 years. His work to foster support for the Foundation and to promote planned giving opportunities to Board members, alumni and friends of the College was invaluable.

Quattrone devoted his professional and civic life to benefit the greater Trenton community. He generously donated his time, talent and resources to benefit Thomas Edison State College and many local charities, including the American Cancer Society and the YMCA.

To honor his memory, the Thomas Edison State College Foundation has established the S. John Quattrone Endowment Fund—a fitting legacy that will provide financial support for the College.

JASON G. BLACK
BSBA '04

Jason G. Black recently secured a new position at Ford and Harrison LLP in Orlando, Fla. Black has plans to continue his education by pursuing a Master in Business Administration degree within the next five years. Black is the Systems Manager at Innovative Data Management. "Thomas Edison State College was a vital component to springboard my career into management," said Black. He recently told us of an even more exciting accomplishment, the birth of his 6-month-old baby girl, Lindsey Beth Black.

CARL T. BUSCHER
AA '76 BA '80

Carl T. Buscher was recently re-elected as president of the Norwood, N.J., Board of Health, and has served his community for the last 43 years as a volunteer in scouting. Most notably, Buscher is also the past Grand Knight of the Norwood Knights of Columbus, a Catholic men's fraternal benefit society that was formed to render financial aid to members and their families.

GEORGE CARLOS DAVIDSON SR.
BA '94

George Carlos Davidson Sr. earned a Master of Arts degree in transpersonal studies with a concentration in visual arts from Atlantic University in Virginia Beach, Va. Davidson is employed at Lucent Technologies as an engineer and resides in Neptune, N.J.

MOSHE FESSEL
BA '98

Moshe Fessel graduated from Columbia Law School in 2001, and is currently an associate with the law firm of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP. Moshe has worked in the firm's General Practice group since 2001, focusing on Commercial Real Estate. Moshe and his wife, Aliza, have two children, Avigayil (age 10) and Yael (age 9). Aliza is studying for a doctoral degree in education, supervision and administration at the Azrieli School of Jewish Education and Administration. The Fessel family currently lives in Woodmere, N.Y.

MICHELE GAJDEROWICZ
BA '92

Michele Gajderowicz earned her Master of Science Management degree from Rosemont College in 2001. Gajderowicz is the vice president and chief marketing officer of Empire Golf Management and currently resides in Westville, N.J. Empire Golf Management is headquartered in Pomona, N.Y., and is one division of Bergstol Enterprises. Empire currently owns and operates three golf courses in New York, four courses in New Jersey and one golf course in Florida. In addition, Gajderowicz plans to complete degree requirements for a Master of Business Administration degree at Rosemont College in the near future.

MICHAEL W. MARTIN JR.
BA '01

Michael W. Martin Jr. recently completed a Master of Business Administration degree in managerial leadership at City University of New York. Martin is currently enrolled in Walden University's Applied Management and Decision Sciences Ph.D. program with a leadership and organizational change emphasis. Martin was promoted from deputy public affairs officer to public affairs officer at the Naval Postgraduate School, which has traditionally been an officer-specific position. In addition he was appointed to serve on Walden University's Social Change Conference Task Force committee; its first Social Change Conference is scheduled to be held in Maryland later this year.

MARGUERITE CHANTRELLE MCINNIS
BA '86

Dr. Marguerite Chantrelle McInnis was recently appointed interim dean for the School of Education and Social Services for Saint Leo University in Saint Leo, Fla. McInnis has been with Saint Leo University since 1999, serving as an associate professor and chair of the Department of Social Work. She is the faculty advisor to the Saint Leo Social Work Club, a senator for the Saint Leo Faculty Senate, and a member of both the Sexual Assault Task Force and the General Education Review Committee. McInnis received a Master of Social Work and doctorate degree from Florida State University. Her professional affiliations include the Council on Social Work Education, National Association

of Social Workers, Baccalaureate Program Directors' Association and the Florida Association of Deans and Directors of Schools of Social Work. Her publications include, "Giving Voice to the Alzheimer's Caregivers' Experience" in *Social Work* magazine; "Evaluating Project Payback," for the Florida State University, Institute for Health and Human Services Research; and is co-author of the book "Courts & Justice: A Reader," Waveland Press, Inc.

ROBERT OCHES
BS '97

Robert Ochess was recently sworn in as chief of police of the Middletown Police Department in Middletown, N.J. The department employs approximately 100 officers, and Ochess has the responsibility to review each unit and reconstruct functional areas as needed. He attended the Federal Bureau of Investigation Academy in 1995 in Quantico, Va., and returned in 2001 for a Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar. He also completed a Master of Arts in administration of justice in 2000 at Monmouth University.

BARRY ROBBERSON
BS '96

Barry Roberson retired as a New Jersey State Police deputy superintendent and has served the last two years as chief of the Rutgers University Police Department. He was recently selected to head the East Brunswick Police Force. Roberson also served in the New Jersey National Guard, retired as a captain, and graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation Academy in Quantico, Va.

LISA BERLIANT SCHER
BA '02

Lisa Berliant Scher recently completed a Master of Science in Special Education degree from The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md. She met her husband while enrolled in this program and recently celebrated the birth of the couple's first child, a son

program to teach online. In a recent conversation, Stelacio told us, "Nontraditional methods made it possible for me to reach educational goals that otherwise were beyond my geographic grasp. As a result of completing a BSBA at Thomas Edison State College, I was promoted to a staff developer at Cape May County ETTC (Educational Technology

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product lines. Her shop, Appearances for Men, is a premier grooming establishment. Schwartz has created and currently distributes her own men's hair, body and skin care products.

DIANE STELACIO
BS '01

Diane Stelacio completed a Master of Science in education degree with a specialization in adult education at Capella University in Minneapolis, Minn., in March 2005. She is currently enrolled at Capella to complete a certification

BS '03

Adegoke Shennaikie earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Southern California University for Professional Studies in Santa Ana, Calif., in December 2004, and currently resides in Fairton, N.J.

PATTI SHERLOCK
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Author Patti Sherlock has won the Meriel Human-Animal bond award from the Dog Writers Association of America for "Letters from Wolfie," released in 2004. Sherlock, who lives in



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- ❖ Promotion
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We invite you as a member of our family of Thomas Edison State College Alumni to tell us about the exciting things happening in your life. Let us know what's new with you since you graduated from Thomas Edison State College or how your experience at the College changed your life, and we may include your updates in a future issue of *Invention*. Please tell us.

To contact us, please fill out the form below and mail it to: Thomas Edison State College, *Invention* Editor, 101 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608-1176; fax it to (609) 984-1376; or e-mail your good news to invention@tesc.edu. You may include photos to accompany your news. Items will be published as space permits.

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LISA BERLIANT SCHER
BA '02

Lisa Berliant Scher recently completed a Master of Science in Special Education degree from The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md. She met her husband while enrolled in this program and recently celebrated the birth of the couple's first child, a son named Shaya. Scher is currently seeking employment in the Maryland Public School district, and is the recipient of the Hope Scholarship. The Hope Scholarship is awarded only to a limited number of people and is awarded solely on academic merit. Scher's husband is enrolled in school in Jerusalem, Israel, and the Scher family plans to move back to the United States in August 2005.

JOLENE SCHWARTZ
BS '96

Jolene Schwartz is a self-employed entrepreneur who recently expanded her cosmetology business. The owner of a men's salon in southern N.J., she has begun manufacturing her own men's product lines. Her shop, Appearances for Men, is a premier grooming establishment. Schwartz has created and currently distributes her own men's hair, body and skin care products.

DIANE STELACIO
BS '01

Diane Stelacio completed a Master of Science in education degree with a specialization in adult education at Capella University in Minneapolis, Minn., in March 2005. She is currently enrolled at Capella to complete a certification

program to teach online. In a recent conversation, Stelacio told us, "Nontraditional methods made it possible for me to reach educational goals that otherwise were beyond my geographic grasp. As a result of completing a BSBA at Thomas Edison State College, I was promoted to a staff developer at Cape May County ETTC (Educational Technology Training Center)." Stelacio desires to be instrumental in broadening the educational opportunities and resources to enhance learning opportunities, and is committed to working toward this goal by training instructors and broadening their perspective for the use of technology to expand classroom walls. Stelacio has a list of conferences presentations which include: Accessible Technology Design Awareness; Stepping Stones to Getting Started; Integrating Study Skills into Your Classroom—Practice Makes Perfect; Effective Use of Rubrics; and Bridging the Achievement Gap—Bridging and Study Skills.

ADEGOKE SHENNAIKE
BS '03

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Idaho, accepted the award at the organization's February convention, held each year in conjunction with the Westminster Dog Show at Madison Square Garden. The award included a cash prize and air fare to the awards banquet. Merial, an animal pharmaceutical company, sponsors the annual award to recognize "an exceptional work that highlights the unique relationship between a dog and its owner, and best brings to life the concept of the human-animal bond." Letters from Wolfie" is Sherlock's fifth book and third novel for young people.

BERNARD SIBEN BA '00

Bernard Siben is the chief executive officer of Siben Consult, LLC, which provides marketing assistance to architects, engineers, surveyors, construction managers and environmental consultants - firms creating the "built environment." Siben Consult, LLC, develops strategic marketing plans and plans to pursue individual clients and projects as well as a broad range of print materials. Generic materials include brochures as well as text for Web sites and advertising. Specific technical responses include letters of interest, proposals, projects such as streets and highways; water and wastewater utilities; railroads, mass transit, airports and more.

MARK D. SIMPSON BA '82



Mark D. Simpson was recently named among Pennsylvania's Super Lawyers in the June 2005 edition of *Philadelphia* magazine. Simpson is a partner with the property law firm Synnestvedt & Lechner LLP. Approximately 36,000 attorneys throughout the state of Pennsylvania were asked to nominate colleagues whom they personally observed in action; nominees were then ranked based on the number of votes received.

Simpson earned his law degree from the University of Baltimore School of Law in Baltimore, Md. At Synnestvedt & Lechner LLP, Simpson practices in all fields of intellectual property law, specializing in preparing and prosecuting electrical, electromechanical, business method and computer-related patent applications, and related intellectual property litigation. Simpson and his wife, Lisa, live in Moorestown, N.J., with their three children.

RICHARD STEIN BSAST '02

Richard Stein was selected for promotion to Command Master Chief in the United States Navy, and has served the Navy for 21 years. He was previously the Electricians Mate Master Chief before his promotion, and resides in Virginia Beach, Va.

RICHARD TURNER BSAST '00

Richard Turner is enrolled at the University of South Carolina School of Law in Columbia, S.C. He plans to work as an attorney in Sumter, S.C., where he resides with his wife and two daughters. He was formerly an enlisted member of the United States Navy and is currently a law clerk for the South Carolina State Senate.

MICHAEL WELLS BA '88

Michael Wells received a Master of Arts degree from California State University, Dominguez Hills, Carson, Calif., in 1993. His new book on grant writing, "Proven Strategies Professionals Use to Make Their Proposals Work" was published in March. Wells has also been named the editor of the Charity Channel online newsletter *Grants and Foundation Review* and has been a board member of the American Association of Grant Professionals since 1999.

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Attention Students: Scholarships Available

The Thomas Edison State College Foundation is making scholarships available for students this fall. For information on how to apply, contact the Thomas Edison State College Foundation at (609) 984-1588.