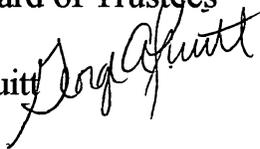


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MEMORANDUM

June 8, 2001

To: Members, Board of Trustees

From: George A. Pruitt 

Subject: President's Report to the Board

Academic Affairs

Appointments

Appointments have been made on a number of key positions in academic affairs. They include:

- Dr. Maxine Lentz, Vice Provost and Academic Dean. Dr. Lentz previously served deanships at Lesley University, Emerson College, and Philadelphia University.
- Mr. James Owens, Director of Financial Aid and Veterans Affairs. Mr. Owens had been the Director of Financial Aid at Camden County College and The Community College of Philadelphia.
- Ms. Sharon Smith, Registrar. Mrs. Smith was employed by the Pemberton Public School System. Prior to this, she was employed at Thomas Edison State College for a total of 15 years and served as the College's Associate Registrar from 1990-1996.
- Dr. Susan O'Brien, Associate Dean, Director of Nursing. Dr. O'Brien comes to the College from LaSalle University and has a doctorate in health education from Temple University, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree and a Master of Science in Nursing degree from University of Pennsylvania and a RN diploma from the Roger Williams School of Nursing in Rhode Island.

Middle States Association Accreditation Review

In preparation for the Middle States accreditation review scheduled for the spring of 2002, the College is completing a first draft of the Self-Study report, a comprehensive analysis, with special emphasis on the College's core competencies. Four work groups were assembled to analyze each of the core competencies: individualized program planning and learner services, the assessment of experiential learning, distance learning, and public policy. Also discussed in the Self-Study draft

are the College's educational programs and curricula; faculty and their roles; institutional effectiveness and outcomes assessment; information technology and capabilities; library and learning resources; financial, physical and human resources; leadership and governance; catalogs and publications; and institutional change and renewal. The Self-Study draft was presented to the Academic Council for input, and will be distributed widely throughout the College community for further review. Once a final draft is completed, it will go to the Board of Trustees for approval, and then be submitted to the Middle States Association for distribution to the visiting team.

National Institute on the Assessment of Experiential Learning

This June's National Institute on the Assessment of Experiential Learning has attracted a total of 30 participants. Of the 30 participants, seven are alumni of the Institute. The tracks are fairly evenly split: 14 will be in the beginning track and 16 in the advanced track.

Applied Science and Technology Degree Programs

Five-Year Degree Review—The five-year degree review of the Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Technology degree program and the Associate in Science in Applied Science and Technology degree program have been completed and approved by the Academic Council. If approved by the Board of Trustees, the recommended changes will take effect in July 2001. The main recommendation is the restructuring of the Core and Specialization into one integrated Area of Study, allowing more flexibility in adapting the degree requirements to the particular subject area.

Institutional Advancement/Military Contacts—We are currently working with the Navy, Army, Army National Guard, and Coast Guard on various Memoranda of Understanding. The Army and Navy have been most active this quarter. The College is one of sixteen schools selected to be included in the Navy College Partners MOU. We have prepared "roadmaps" for our Web site showing exactly what credits the sailors have and how they can complete degree programs related to specific Navy ratings. We are beginning to see enrollments in this area. The Navy will be asking for proposals for additional ratings in the next few months. The e-Army University contract was awarded to Price Waterhouse Cooper and we are one of their affiliated colleges. The population coming to the College via this program is expected to be newly enlisted soldiers with few college credits.

Associate in Applied Science Degree—We have begun implementation of the recently approved Associate in Applied Science degree. The programs within this degree are Administrative Studies, Applied Computer Studies, Applied Electronics Studies, Applied Health Studies, Mechanics and Maintenance, and Occupational Studies. The actual area of study or career track within each program reflects the student's particular military rating or set of coursework. Career Tracks have been established in 55 fields, including such fields as Automotive Mechanics, Food Service, Medical Specialist, Dental Specialist, Aviation Fuel and Cargo, Aircraft Maintenance, Network Administration, Utilities Maintenance, and Aviation Operations. The first students have enrolled in the program.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program

During the past few months, under the leadership of the newly appointed Associate Dean and Director, the priority effort has been to finalize plans to phase out use of the Excelsior (Regents) College generic Bachelor of Science in Nursing curriculum, and to phase in the revised Thomas Edison State College upper-division Bachelor of Science in Nursing curriculum. To accomplish

and support this goal, external regulatory agencies, students and staff have been notified, marketing efforts have been increased, a series of meetings and information sessions have been held, publications revised, and new program materials prepared.

Plans are underway for the continued development of new online courses to be offered by the College's DIAL unit. Faculty, consultants will be provided with appropriate orientation, and appropriate College infrastructure (e.g., student records, Registrar's activities) will be updated to accommodate the shift from examinations to courses.

Human Services Degree Programs

In response to the Abbott District rulings in New Jersey that child care workers/head teachers in Abbott District classrooms must obtain a baccalaureate degree and qualify for P-3 certification, the College is preparing to make opportunities available to these teachers. Staff is developing expertise regarding Department of Education regulations and certification requirements in New Jersey, including traditional and alternate routes. The College has developed a good working relationship with the New Jersey Professional Development Center for Early Care and Education. The funds available to pay for teachers to meet the degree requirements are managed through this organization, and Thomas Edison State College has an excellent relationship with it.

The Associate Dean for Human Services is now serving on the Lucent Technologies and Avaya Quality Connections: Child Care Initiative Union County Area Advisory Committee. This has provided another good opportunity to make available accurate and complete information about the College to the child-care and higher-education communities in New Jersey. The Associate Dean also spoke to a group of police officers in Cherry Hill, New Jersey at the invitation of the Alumni office at a meeting suggested by and arranged for by one of the College's graduates.

During the past quarter, a review of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Management Institute's Independent Study Courses was undertaken. These courses are available for transcript credit through Frederick Community College. However, the costs associated with transferring the credit to another institution are quite high when more than a few credits are transferred in. The Associate Dean for Human Services asked a faculty member in Emergency Disaster Management to review these courses. After a review of these courses by a faculty consultant, Thomas Edison State College has determined that it can now offer credit for these courses without a student needing to purchase them from another institution.

Graduate Studies: Master of Science in Management

The first degree review of the Master of Science in Management (MSM) program has begun. A five-person faculty committee will guide the initiative, which will assess the impact of the program on students. Dr. Linda Mather, president of Beacon Associates will chair the committee. Dr. Mather was integrally involved with the program review process as a former employee of the New Jersey Department of Higher Education, and she serves on the faculty at the MSM orientation. The committee includes two leadership and management consulting faculty with degrees in adult learning. They are Dr. Fred Brodzinski, Associate Director, City University New York - Institute of Transportation, who also is an expert in process improvement, and Dr. Joyce Lee, an associate professor at California State-Fullerton, an expert in collaborative learning. Others on the review team include Dr. Alan Fazzari, vice president for Human Resources at Wheeling Industries, Dr. William Reed, who earned his Master of Science in Management degree with the College's first graduating class in 1997, and who is Director of Sales at MicroWarehouse

with a doctorate from the Union Institute. Together, they bring expertise in curriculum and management trends. The review will seek benchmarking studies and new models of management education from other practitioners. The review will also gather information from students, alumni, faculty, and employers. The review will be completed by Fall 2001.

Master of Science in Management summer enrollments continue to increase. Twenty-one students have been accepted, with 5 of those enrolled in either the Project Management or Management of Substance Abuse track. An additional 15 students are taking courses as nonmatriculated students.

Corporate-Higher Education Programs

During the last quarter, an on-site course review was conducted at the American Educational Institute in Basking Ridge, New Jersey. There were 48 separate courses reviewed and recommended for credit. Many of these courses were being re-reviewed as part of the three-year on-site re-evaluation process, integral to the quality control measures of the program. A number of the credit recommendations are at the graduate level and articulate well with the College's Master of Science in Management degree. Another site review was conducted in Secaucus, New Jersey for a new sponsor, Panasonic Services Company.

There have also been positive developments with several of our sponsor organizations. Both the Recovery Assistance Program Training (RAPT) and American Educational Institute (AEI) have developed partnerships with the College so that their students may use their graduate-level credit recommendations in the College's Master of Science in Management program. Currently we are working with both the Somerset School of Massage Therapy and the HoHoKus School of Business and Medical Sciences to develop partnerships on the undergraduate level so that their graduates can continue their education through degree programs at Thomas Edison State College.

Distance & Independent Adult Learning (DIAL)

e-Army University—At the beginning of the third quarter, the College began registering soldier-students from the e-Army University program into DIAL courses. As of this writing, 183 soldiers are enrolled in various courses. The College offered 23 courses to Army students for the first term. All have been made available to soldier-students over the World Wide Web. We are currently enrolling soldiers for all three summer semesters. Also in conjunction with the e-Army program, the College has initiated video and audio streaming for four pilot courses this quarter (one video and three audio).

Projects and New Partnerships—A contract has been negotiated with Harcourt eLearning that will allow for the leasing of Blackboard-compatible course modules. These will be the basis for new Web courses and will improve the turnaround time for getting courses into a Web format.

Final negotiations for a working relationship with *iStudy.com* have begun. It is anticipated that this project will be finalized by the end of the fiscal year. This project will allow students to study on-line for a range of standardized examinations and will provide an additional portal for individuals interested in using exams as a way to earn a college degree to find TESC.

Thomas Edison State College is part of a group of colleges pursuing the development of a consortial degree in Celtic studies, which would be delivered at a distance. The consortial group

includes two-year and four-year institutions in the United States and four-year institutions overseas.

Faculty Mentor Hiring—Eight faculty mentors were assigned new sections during the third quarter. Three new faculty consultants were engaged. They are Howard Rubin (Nutrition); William Reed (Small Business Management); and Allan Silberman (Mass Communication One and Two).

Course Equivalency Enrollments—Course Equivalency Enrollments for the Winter 1 semester 2001 totaled 2218, a 21.5% increase over Winter 2000 semester totaled 2218, a 21.5% increase over Winter 1, 2000. Winter 2 saw an increase of 50% over Winter 2, 2000, with 1986 enrollments. Of that total, 183 enrollments were from the e-Army University program, which was launched during the Winter 2 term.

Course and Testing Revision—Developments in these areas during the last quarter include the following:

- One new course, Personal Finance for 2000 and Beyond has been completed.
- A total of 54 courses are currently under development or being revised.
- Three courses have been converted from Contract Learning to Guided Study courses.
- A total of 22 courses are being revised, edited or reformatted.
- A total of 27 examinations have been completed or revised for the e-Army program.
- A total of 26 course manuals have been revised for the e-Army program.
- A total of 36 examinations have been revised for DIAL courses.
- A total of 15 new examinations are being created/developed for DIAL courses.
- A total of 19 course manuals have been revised for DIAL courses.
- A total of 33 course revisions and alternations were made for the e-Army program Blackboard Courses.

Certificate in Distance Education Program Seminars Status—Four seminars are now ready for deployment to train faculty for online Distance education. The Multimedia seminar materials are being revised after having been tested. The College has now successfully completed the 8-week term that started January 1, 2001, with two seminar sections. We have just begun the second term with two sections of the second seminar and one section of the first seminar.

Division of Public Affairs

Market Research

The College has commissioned a study through Carnegie Communications to analyze the behaviors and needs of our applicant pool. Information from this study will enable the College to provide the most appropriate and best service to these potential students. The results of the study will be available next quarter.

Public Relations

The College has been featured in a number of newspapers and other publications, as well as on television and radio programs, during the past quarter. The following list presents highlights:

- Both the *Trenton Times* and the *Star Ledger* published articles and (in the case of the *Times*) an op-ed piece on the College's partnership with the University of South Africa (UNISA).
- The *City News* published a photo and a story regarding the Watson Institute's regional workshop on race and poverty.
- The *Trenton Times* published a story on the College's partnership with the U.S. Navy
- The *Trenton Times* published an article about the Degree Pathways Program established between Thomas Edison State College and Bucks County Community College.
- *US 1* newspaper published a story on the College's Master of Arts in Professional Studies program and profiled student Pat Martinelli for the paper's Women in Business issue.
- The *Star Ledger's* Spring Education Guide carried an article on adults going back to school to qualify for career change. The Spring Education Guide also featured an interview with the College's Associate Dean and Director of the BSN degree program on the subject of the statewide nursing shortage and how colleges are addressing this shortage through curricula and degree programs.
- Bill Seaton, Associate Vice President of DIAL, appeared on Fox Philadelphia's television show, *New Jersey Journal* with host Vernon Shaw and Thomas Edison State College graduate student Carla Tisdale-Walker, where they discussed the College's programs and distance learning as part of a panel.
- William Watson, Executive Director of the Watson Institute for Public Policy, was interviewed live on WIMG-AM where he discussed the Heritage Tourism initiative as well as Leadership Trenton and other Watson Institute projects. The show was also videotaped for rebroadcast on WZBN-TV.

Publications

Major publications produced during this quarter include the following:

- *Signals*. The Spring 2001 issue was written, edited, designed, and distributed.
- *Invention*. The Spring 2001 issue was distributed in March. The Summer 2001 issue will be distributed in June.
- *Registration Bulletin*. During this quarter, the Registration Bulletin was completely redesigned for the reader, edited, printed, and delivered.

- *Undergraduate Prospectus 2001*. During this quarter, the Prospectus was designed, edited, printed, and delivered.
- *College Catalog*. During this quarter, the Catalog was designed, edited, printed, and delivered.
- *Tuition and Fees Schedule*. During this quarter, the brochure containing this schedule was designed, edited, and printed. Pending Board approval of FY 2002 fees and tuition, the brochure will be inserted into all *Registration Bulletins* and *Undergraduate Prospectus*.
- *Degree Pathway Brochure*. During this quarter, this brochure was revised and reprinted.
- *The Test Registration Form Brochure*. During this quarter, this brochure was updated and printed.

Awards

For the *Undergraduate Prospectus 2000*, the College received the Excellence in Publications Award (APEX 2000) from Communications Concepts, as well as the Gold Award from the Jersey Shore Publications and Advertising Association (JSPRAA). The College also received the JSPRAA Silver Award for the *Invention* newsletter.

Marketing Outreach

Military Markets—During this quarter, the College has begun a program of monthly visits to naval bases in the Norfolk, Virginia, area in coordination with the advertising that the Navy is doing on the Navy College Rating Partnership. To date, an average of 80 potential students have attended these information sessions.

The Navy sponsored a series of college information fairs for the Navy College Rating Partnership schools in Jacksonville, Florida, at which College staff made presentations. The College had more than 150 sailors inquire about this program during the three-day event. College staff also visited the Naval Submarine base in New London/ Groton, Connecticut, where more than 40 sailors attended information sessions. As the College implements tracking systems that will follow the enrollment actions of these inquiries, it will be able to obtain accurate and dependable data on this program's success.

The Army University Access Online (e-Army) program, began in January 2001. The College has many course enrollments from this program. However, managing this program continues to be a challenge due to the requirements that the Army and its contractor have put on participating educational institutions like ours.

The College staff continued monthly visits to McGuire Airforce Base, New Jersey. The base is the College's regional military location, and service members attend College-sponsored information sessions from various bases in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. Approximately 120 service members were provided with Thomas Edison State College materials this quarter.

Community Colleges—College staff participated in 36 transfer fairs and informational sessions held during the months of April, May, and June, in Camden, Gloucester, Montgomery and

Sussex counties. At each event there was an average attendance of 15-20 students and College literature, including the general brochure, the *Degree Pathways* brochure, the *Prospectus*, the *College Catalog*, and the *Registration Bulletin*, were distributed.

College staff also made 14 presentations to community-college counselors. These information sessions also provided a forum for discussing student-related issues and concerns.

The College participated in an education fair at Trump Casino, where 15 casino employees received information on Thomas Edison State College. Many employees of the casinos in Atlantic City are graduates of the Casino Career Institute at Atlantic Cape Community College.

The College hosted its second annual Community College Advisory Committee meeting on May 11. Transfer counselors from all 19 New Jersey Community Colleges, along with their counterparts from nearby Pennsylvania Community Colleges, were invited. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the unique student opportunities that the College offers, such as Portfolio Assessment and Contract Learning.

The College also hosted a meeting of community-college representatives to discuss the ways that Thomas Edison State College can assist students fulfilling the new educational requirements that have been set by the Abbott District ruling. College staff also presented Abbott-District-degree-completion information to 45 students, advisors, and child-care center directors at Cumberland County College.

The College participated in five nursing fairs at various hospitals and community colleges within the state of New Jersey. These sessions informed nurses of changes to our Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

Thomas Edison State College was the site of this year's "Serving the Adult Collegian" (STAC) conference on May 4, 2001. Attendees included faculty mentors and representatives from student service departments at local colleges. The speaker, Maryanne LeGrow, presented information on the effective distance-education teaching methods that focus on adult students.

Thomas Edison State College has received grant funding from the Rummel Foundation to establish its first merit-based scholarship program to recognize high-achieving New Jersey community college students. Selected students will be awarded "Rummel Scholarships" that will cover one year of the College's Comprehensive tuition.

Corporate Markets—Ford Motor Company has now chosen Thomas Edison State College to be one of 13 schools to provide distance education opportunities to its employees. Ford has provided computers to all employees on request, and Ford's Institute for Education based in Detroit offers various credit and degree-earning options electronically. Ford Motor Company will actively use its Web site to promote Thomas Edison State College's degree programs, along with educational opportunities from University of Kansas, University of Missouri, Empire State College, two community Colleges in the Detroit area and seven other institutions. Ford Motor Company will also proactively send e-mails encouraging their employees to visit the Web site.

The College staff met with the director and general counsel of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service in April. The agency will promote Thomas Edison State College to its over

two hundred employees, as well as to mediators nationwide. The director was impressed with the College's Bachelor of Arts in Labor Studies degree, and he plans to also to use some of the College's individual courses in the agency's Institute for Continuing Education.

The Department of Environmental Protection in Trenton invited the College to participate in an annual education fair. The College was one of four institutions in attendance. College staff had conversations with 40 prospective students and responded to their requests for information. College staff also met with a Verizon representative in Howell, New Jersey. The representative distributed Thomas Edison State College general information to all of her 54 technicians. The representative, herself, enrolled in the College.

Community Markets—College staff provided an exhibit and information at the New Jersey Library Association Spring Conference. Over the two-day exhibit period, information regarding the College was handed out to an estimated sixty people. The conference emphasized building the future for New Jersey libraries and welcoming the newly appointed New Jersey State Librarian Norma Blake. Lawrenceville and Monmouth county libraries have scheduled information sessions.

College staff attended a career day at the Mountainview Youth Correctional Center. They also made a presentation to more than forty employees of the New Jersey State Parole Board. This was beneficial to the College because employees of the parole board are expected to earn degrees in order to advance.

Contact Center

The College's new Contact Center continues to demonstrate its value as a means to improve the quality and quantity of services provided to prospective and enrolled students. Telephone activity, e-mail communication and collateral requests increase steadily each month. The addition of a supervisory position to the Center has improved the quality of services through better oversight and a consistent program of training for staff.

Development and Alumni Affairs

Foundation Revenue—As of March 31, 2001, Annual Fund revenue totaled \$44,445, compared to \$18,138 at the same time last year. The Foundation's preliminary combined fund balance as of March 31, 2001, totaled \$1,621,647 compared to \$1,495,332 for the same quarter last year. The Endowment fund balance remained strong at \$598,843 and the Quasi-endowment fund balance was \$707,809.

Foundation Board—The Foundation Board's Executive Committee met on June 1, 2001. The Committee approved the FY2000 audit prepared by Druker, Rahl, and Fein. Eugene Elias presented the audit to the Committee. The Foundation Board also elected Joshua Weinstein, President of Torre Lazur/McCann Healthcare Worldwide, to a three-year term to commence in June. Mr. Weinstein is a graduate of Thomas Edison State College.

Annual Gala—The Tenth Annual Gala will be held on Saturday, November 17, 2001, at Trenton's War Memorial Building. This year's Spirit of Edison honorees will be Dennis Bone, President, Verizon New Jersey, who will receive the Community Leader Award; S. John Quattrone, longtime Foundation Board member, who will receive the Family of Edison Award; and Antonia Marrotta-Brinton '83, who will receive the Alumna of the Year Award. The co-chairs of this year's event committee are Maria Imbalzano and Margaret Hoisington.

Golf Classic—The 2001 Thomas C. Streckewald Golf Classic will be held on Monday, June 18, 2001, at the Cherry Valley Country Club in Skillman, New Jersey. Eric Lear and Jim Carnes are event co-chairs for a second year. Mike Davis, head coach of the University of Indiana men's basketball team and Thomas Edison State College alumnus, will be attending the outing this year as a special guest. AT&T has once again agreed to serve as major sponsor of the event.

Alumni Phonathon—The Alumni Association held its phonathon the week of April 28th. Michael Smilack served as chair of the event for the second consecutive year. The 2001 Phonathon goal is \$105,000. The phonathon once again went very well. We expect to meet or exceed the budget goals.

Alumni Association Board of Directors—The Alumni Association Board of Directors held meetings on March 10 and April 28. Topics such as the annual phonathon and the Putting Him/Her Through (PHT) Banquet were discussed. The banquet will be held at the War Memorial Building on October 13th, in conjunction with the College's commencement ceremonies.

The Board of Directors is accepting nominations for the three Alumni Association Awards—Outstanding Service to Society, Outstanding Professional Achievement and Outstanding Service to the Alumni Association. The awards will be presented at the Alumni Association Annual Meeting, also to be held on October 13.

John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy

Leadership Trenton—The Exploratory Committee for Leadership Trenton, composed of Leadership New Jersey Graduates met on April 18, 2001, to hear an overview of current activities, and to discuss next steps. The Institute convened a follow-up meeting of this group on May 8th to conduct a small focus group forum of potential participants. Members of the Exploratory Committee identified individuals who would be good candidates for the program. Once the focus group interviews are conducted, the Exploratory Committee will be assisting with program development work. The Institute plans to convene three main committees: a Seminar Development Committee, a Skills Training Committee, and a Selection Process Committee.

The Institute also started to develop several funding scenarios for the operation of this program. Tom O'Neill, from the Partnership for NJ and a TESC Board of Trustees member, will be assisting with fundraising efforts, as will Stephanie Bray, Director for Development at Thomas Edison.

New Jersey Urban Mayors Association Partnership—Institute Staff coordinated the third annual conference mayors, superintendents and school board presidents at the College held on March 28, 2001. More than one hundred invited guests, including representatives from most of the Abbott districts, attended. New Jersey's newly appointed Commissioner of Education, Dr. Vito Gagliardi, was the keynote speaker. Seven work groups then discussed a number of items pertinent to school facilities. John Thurber, Vice President of Public Affairs presented remarks on behalf of Thomas Edison State College, Mayor Douglas Palmer of Trenton spoke on behalf of the New Jersey Urban Mayors Association and Mr. Pablo Clausell delivered moving remarks on the many challenges confronting urban superintendents in the Abbott Districts.

Institute staff worked with Mayor Palmer to support his role on the State Planning Commission. They circulated the meeting schedule to all members of the New Jersey Urban Mayors Association and drafted sample testimony and press releases on various aspects of the New Jersey State Plan. In particular, comments focused on the need for rebuilding New Jersey's urban infrastructure. The staff coordinated a press conference on behalf of the Urban Mayors Association held immediately prior to the adoption of the plan by the Commission.

Trenton Activities— The Institute continued working with the City of Trenton on the design for a new waterfront park on the Delaware River. The work included several meetings with the engineers and county officials, in effort to guarantee public waterfront access. Institute staff also worked with the Director of the Department of Recreation, Natural Resources and Culture to plan and implement a retreat with recreation providers city-wide. The retreat brought over 100 people together and was the beginning of an ongoing process to improve recreation opportunities for Trenton youth.

Dr. Pruitt and Mr. Watson met with Mayor Palmer, County Executive Prunetti and the Greater Mercer County Chamber of Commerce and presented significant elements of the Heritage Tourism Initiative for the capital region. The City, County and Chamber were advised of the important role they must perform in the transition of our existing Trenton Convention & Visitors Bureau into a new tourism marketing organization representing the entire capital region.

Newark—The Institute continued to work with the Ironbound Community Development Corporation on its Open Space and Recreation Plan. Recent work included development of a detailed contract for the consultant and recommendations for the composition of an Advisory Board.

Non-Profit Assistance—The Institute continues to work with a number of non-profit corporations on issues related to strategic planning, smart growth issues, and long range planning. Recent activities have included work with the Association for New Jersey Environmental Commissions, Isles, Inc., and the Coalition for Affordable Housing and the Environment.

Children's Futures Project— During this time period, the Children's Futures project has focused on the following:

- Completing the proposal submitted to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Children's Futures requested 10 years of support with a budget of about \$20 million over the first five years. Primarily to help leverage funding from national and state sources, we recommended creation of a new non-profit in Trenton to oversee the effort. RWJ is currently reviewing the proposal.
- Meeting with key stakeholders to discuss specific support for the Initiative. Meetings were held with the Mayor, County Executive, the County Workforce Investment Board, Governor's Office, NJ Department of Health, NJ Department of Human Services, School Superintendent, Police Director, Hospital CEOs, and directors of a number of large non-profits in the community. As a result of the effort, approximately 30 letters of support were included as part of the final proposal to RWJ.

- Planning for the possible operational start-up for Children's Futures, should the Initiative be funded. This includes exploration of office space, design of human resources, legal structure, benefit packages, identification of Board candidates, and staffing issues.
- Continuing design of interventions to improve birth outcomes, strengthen effective parenting, improve quality in child care (home-based and center-based settings), and strengthen leadership and capacity.

Finally, Children's Futures staff were invited to make a presentation at a regional conference on fatherhood on February 28, sponsored by the Union Industrial Home and Horizon Mercy. On April 7th, the *Trenton Times* published an op-ed article authored by Children's Futures staff, and on April 17, Initiative staff was invited by Mayor Palmer to meet with Senator Corzine to discuss Children's Futures.

HINT—The Institute continues to assist the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) to implement the HINT study recommendations and HINT law to gain substantial administrative savings through the use of healthcare communications standards using electronic data interchange (EDI) for healthcare claims and medical information. The HINT study recommended the initiation of various pilot projects, some listed below, to implement the HINT goals of administrative simplification for healthcare.

Medical Incident Data Set (MIDS)—The intent of the MIDS project is to reduce the cost of hospital discharge data submission by redesigning data submission protocols and improving the data collection at the state level.

The Institute continues to act as Data Intermediary Project Administrator on behalf of the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS). During this quarterly reporting period, meetings were held to define and re-design the MIDS system, and the DHSS is proceeding with a statewide roll out of the new data intermediary hospital discharge system. QuadraMed Corporation has now installed the new electronic inpatient reporting system at 82 of the 89 New Jersey acute care hospitals. Of the 82 hospitals 67 have started to transmit data.

HINT Legislative Initiatives – HINT Advisory Board and HINT Regulations— The HINT study was the basis for the HINT law, P. L. of 1999, Chapter 154 signed by the Governor on July 1, 1999. The Department of Banking and Insurance (DOBI) is moving forward with regulations to implement the New Jersey HINT law. On March 5, 2001, the Department of Banking and Insurance (DOBI) issued proposed new rules N.J.A.C. 11:22-3 for the Electronic Receipt and Transmission of Health Care Claim Information: Standard Enrollment and Claim Forms. College staff submitted a letter to Karen Garfing, Assistant Commissioner at DOBI, commenting on some suggested improvements to the proposed regulations. The comment period ended on April 4th and DOBI staff are currently reviewing all comments received prior to issuing final regulations.

Institute staff have actively participated in the State HINT Advisory Board. This Board assists the State of New Jersey to implement the HINT Legislation. Institute staff has assisted the DHSS staff in developing the agenda for the HINT Advisory Board meeting which was held on March 20, 2001. Institute staff has also provided research and privacy articles to DHSS for the HINT Advisory Board Privacy Subcommittee meeting held on May 7. Institute staff procured the guest speaker, Holt Anderson, Executive Director of the North Carolina Healthcare

Information & Communications Alliance, Inc. (NCHICA) for this meeting. As part the College's education and public policy mission, the College has covered Mr. Anderson's reimbursable cost for his trip to Trenton.

HINT Statewide Survey—Work continues to finalize a request for proposal (RFP) for a second statewide HINT survey on technology usage in New Jersey which would be compared to the first statewide HINT survey and be used by the state NJDHSS, the HINT Healthcare Advisory Board, and policy makers statewide and nationally. The College's Board of Trustees approved a bid waiver in the amount of \$200,000 in March for this project.

Thomas Edison State College Resignations

The following staff have resigned from the College:

Patricia Mark	-	Test Development
Maria Carmen Panlilio	-	Financial Aid
Dolores Brown Hall	-	Nursing Program

New Jersey State Library Resignations

The following staff have resigned from the New Jersey State Library:

Sheila Berardi	-	State Government Information Services
Michael Zadareky	-	Library of the Blind/Handicapped
Steven Rosen	-	Library of the Blind/Handicapped