

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THOMAS A. EDISON STATE COLLEGE

October 11, 1985

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Danielson, Chairman; Thomas Seessel, Vice-Chairman; George Hanford; E. Harvey Myers; John Blossom; Christian Yegen; Robert Taylor; Eleanor Spiegel; George A. Pruitt, President.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rita Novitt

ALSO PRESENT: Jerry Ice, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Richard Hansen, Vice President for Public Affairs; Michael Scheiring, Vice President for Administration and Finance; Gerri Collins, Executive Assistant to the President; Linda Mather, Department of Higher Education.

The public meeting was officially called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Patricia Danielson who noted that the date, time, and location for the meeting had been published in accordance with the New Jersey law.

INSTALLATION: Patricia Danielson introduced John Blossom, Departmental Vice President at Prudential Insurance Company of America, Registered Representative of PruCapital Securities, Inc., and the new Trustee on the Board of Trustees at Thomas A. Edison State College. She then led Mr. Blossom in the swearing in ceremony and welcomed him on behalf of the Board.

MINUTES APPROVED: The minutes of the June 7, 1985 Board of Trustees meeting were presented for approval. George Hanford moved and Thomas Seessel seconded a motion to approve the minutes. Motion carried (8-0).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Before beginning his report, Dr. Pruitt introduced Dr. Gerard Middlemiss, elected President of the American Federation of Teachers Local 4277. Dr. Middlemiss has been with the College for eight years, currently serving as Coordinator of Corporate Services. Dr. Pruitt indicated that Dr. Middlemiss initiated liaisons with national sports organizations which resulted in enrollments of professional athletes. Therefore, Dr. Pruitt added in jest, he refers to Dr. Middlemiss as the Edison State College coach and athletic director. He also announced that effective November 8, 1985 Dr. Middlemiss has resigned to join the Gloucester County College staff as Vice President for Life-Long Learning. Dr. Pruitt concluded with a public expression of appreciation for the leadership Dr. Middlemiss has brought to the College throughout his tenure.

Dr. Pruitt then introduced Diane Gruenberg, Coordinator of the Bachelor of Arts degree program, indicating that she has been away for a year teaching in China, part of the year on a personal leave-of-absence and part on an authorized leave.

Expressing her appreciation for the leave, Diane Gruenberg stated that she was in southwestern China in what the Chinese people call the frontier. She taught third year foreign language students and junior faculty. During that time she was also working on research for her doctoral dissertation.

She then presented the College with a gift of two framed Chinese paintings.

Adding to his report previously mailed, Dr. Pruitt indicated that \$245,000.00 had been restored to the budget during budget negotiations. He added that there was a strong possibility that these funds will remain in the base. This will be determined when the budget is finally put together. He stated that the College has never had discretionary funds. If these funds are kept in the base, the College will have it.

With reference to the budget, he concluded that Edison State College was the only college that had 100% of its budget recommended by the Department of Higher Education, the Board of Higher Education, and the Governor's Office.

Regarding the recent Student Trustee Bill, Dr. Pruitt stated that Edison State College was successful in securing an amendment to the legislation which would allow the College Board to select its own student representative. He reported that the Governor conditionally vetoed the Bill. He signed it but added the stipulation that it will become effective when the college autonomy legislation is passed.

Regarding autonomy, Dr. Pruitt stated that of the three original Bills, the third Bill has been enacted. This Bill provided for the establishment of a New Jersey state college Governing Boards Association independent of the state in every way. It will be housed across from the state Capitol, and selection of staff is under way. The Association has secured the firm of Public Affairs Consultants (PAC) of Springfield, New Jersey to provide professional lobbying efforts on behalf of the Governing Boards Association.

In this regard, one of the primary lobbying efforts will be to secure up front budget recommendations to cover increases, rather than to rely on special bills to get what is needed.

Dr. Pruitt then stated that Edison State College is recognized nationally for its methods in prior learning assessment. As a result, the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools came to Edison State College and Empire State College to get a standards policy and procedures for prior-learning assessment. Dr. Paul Jacobs was Edison's representative, and our policy statement was accepted verbatim. Dr. Pruitt added that national standards are important to maintaining high quality in prior-learning assessment.

Dr. Pruitt announced that Frank Gubitose and Robert Hillier have agreed to serve on the Foundation Board of Directors. Frank Gubitose is President of Capitol State Bank. Robert Hillier is President of The Hillier Group, one of the largest architectural firms in New Jersey.

Dr. Pruitt also announced that Richard Hansen's title has been changed to more accurately reflect the work of his division. The new title is Vice President for Public Affairs.

With regard to negotiations with the state American Federation of Teacher's Union, Dr. Pruitt noted that the current Agreement expires on June 30, 1986. Dr. Pruitt and Dr. Nathan Weiss have been selected to represent the state college Presidents at the bargaining table. Frank Mason, from the Governor's Office of Employee Relations, conducts the negotiations. Judith Turnbull represents the Department of Higher Education.

Dr. Pruitt then announced that five members of the Legislature plan to attend the October 20th Commencement. They are: Assemblyman John Watson; Assemblyman Gerard Naples; Assemblywoman Angela Perun; Assemblyman Guy Muziani; and Senator Catherine Costa. Other distinguished guests include: Jean Bogle, Assistant Counsel to the Governor; Thomas Gassert, Esquire, Chairman of the Board of Higher Education; and Trenton Mayor Arthur Holland.

A framed certificate was then presented to Dr. Ruth McKeefery, Dean of Academic Programs, in recognition of her achievement and successful completion of Levels I, II, and III of the Certified Public Manager Program.

CHALLENGE GRANT UPDATE:

Commenting on the Governor's Challenge Grant Program, Dr. Pruitt reported that specific challenges were given as follows:

- 1) for Rutgers to become the foremost research institution in the world,
- 2) for New Jersey Institute of Technology to become first in its field, and
- 3) for the state colleges to become first in the nation, each in its own way. Ten million dollars was set aside for this third challenge.

Jerry Ice directed the preparation of Edison's proposal. Many staff members assisted and worked late hours to meet the deadlines.

Approximately \$40 million in requests for funding was submitted by the state colleges. Two colleges were completely funded in the first round. Four other colleges including Edison State College were recommended for funding in the second round. The Governor has given support to the request for additional funding.

Dr. Pruitt added that although the College was disappointed that funding was not received in the first round, the College is pleased with the outcome which recommended \$1.5 million.

The Board stated for the record that it was very pleased with the outcome of the Challenge Grant proposal. Christian Yegen moved and George Hanford seconded a resolution to applaud the staff in its efforts and to urge funding for the second round recommendations. Motion carried (8-0).

ACADEMIC COUNCIL APPOINTMENT:

Patricia Danielson read the following resolution:

The Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison State College does hereby appoint Dr. Leon Buteau, Professor of Materials Science, New Jersey Institute of Technology, to the College's Academic Council for a three year term.

The action herein is pursuant to a recommendation by the President of the College, having been reviewed and endorsed by the Academic Council.

Eleanor Spiegel moved and Thomas Seessel seconded a motion to approve the resolution. Motion carried (8-0).

APPROVAL OF GRADUATES:

Associate and Baccalaureate Candidates

Jerry Ice presented the candidates for degree in two classes as follows:

In the August 1, 1985 class, there were 9 candidates for the Associate in Arts, 8 candidates for the Associate in Science in Management, 1 candidate for the Associate in Applied Science, 28 candidates for the Bachelor of Arts, 21 candidates for the Bachelor of Science, and 18 candidates for the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration for a total of 85 candidates.

For the October 1, 1985 class, there were 15 candidates for the Associate in Arts, 5 candidates for the Associate in Science in Management, 31 candidates for the Bachelor of Arts, 17 candidates for the Bachelor of Science, and 18 candidates for the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration for a total of 86 candidates.

Adding to this report, he indicated that the College has now graduated 5,372 students. Of the 434 graduated this year, 329 were baccalaureate and 105 associate; 233 were male and 201 female; 305 were in-state and 129 were out-of-state. The oldest is 87; the youngest is 20.

In the two classes presented for approval, 47 took five years or more to complete. A large number completed some of their work through prior-learning assessment. One person completed all but one course through testing.

One association candidate is a retired woman who worked as an archivist for the Thomas Edison Library in East Orange.

He concluded his remarks by indicating that 110 graduates would be attending the Commencement ceremonies.

Patricia Danielson read the following resolution:

The Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison State College does hereby approve all candidates for degrees as presented in the lists provided, said candidates having met all the requirements for the Associate or Baccalaureate degrees by August and October 1, 1985.

The action herein recommended is pursuant to a recommendation by the President of the College and the requirements set by the Academic Council.

Eleanor Spiegel moved and Robert Taylor seconded a motion to approve all candidates for degree as presented. Motion carried (8-0).

HONORARY DEGREE:

Patricia Danielson read the following resolution:

WHEREAS: Dr. James L. Fisher has been invited to give the address at the 13th Annual Commencement, and

WHEREAS: Dr. Fisher has distinguished himself as a faculty member, college president, author, and educational statesman; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison State College does hereby award Dr. Fisher the degree Doctor of Humane Letters Honoris Causa; be it further

RESOLVED: That said degree be conferred upon him during the proceedings of the commencement ceremonies to be held on October 20, 1985.

Eleanor Spiegel moved and Harvey Myers seconded a motion to approve. Motion carried (8-0).

FY '85 REVENUE REPORT:

Commenting on the budget report previously distributed, Dr. Pruitt stated that the budget outcomes, while great, were really the result of the academic programs of the College meeting and satisfying the students who are seeking degrees. He added that the College now enrolls 5,034 students.

Closing his remarks regarding budget, he noted that the College not only met budget for the last fiscal year, but has met budget for the first quarter of FY '86.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS:

Dr. Pruitt then presented the personnel actions for approval. He called attention to four specific items, noting:

- 1) A secretary, Annie Bowser, was selected as one of the two new Admissions Representatives. She had been an earlier recipient of the Certified Manager Program Certificate for Levels I, II, and III.
- 2) The second Admissions Representative position resulted from a downgrade of the vacant position formerly held by Leon Genciana.
- 3) Philip Sanders replaced Natalie Huebler. Information regarding her resignation was transmitted in the Summer President's Report.
- 4) Michael Klebanoff left the College to open his own restaurant in Vermont.

The following names were presented:

New Appointments

Annie Bowser	Admissions Representative
Patricia Capuzzi	Evaluator II
Edward George	Administrative Assistant
Melinda Lewis	Admissions Representative
Gwendolyn Matlock	Clerk Transcriber
Timothy Mott	Academic Advisor I
Philip Sanders	Administrative Assistant
Bonnie Stills	Senior Clerk Typist
Mary Wyszynski	Clerk Transcriber

Resignations

Dennis Bakewicz	Senior Portfolio Advisor
Mary Burns	Senior Clerk Typist
Leon Genciana (deceased)	Academic Advisor I
Geraldine Hendrickson	Clerk Typist
Natalie Huebler	Administrative Assistant
Michael Klebanoff	Evaluator II
Linda LaMont	Clerk Typist
Glenda Young	Administrative Assistant

Patricia Danielson read the following resolution:

The Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison State College does hereby approve all personnel actions as indicated on the lists provided.

The action herein recommended is pursuant to a recommendation by the President of the College.

Harvey Myers moved and Robert Taylor seconded a motion to approve all personnel actions as presented. Motion carried (8-0).

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

Patricia Danielson made the following Board Committee appointments:

Academic Affairs:	George Hanford, Chair Eleanor Spiegel E. Harvey Myers
Public Affairs:	Christian Yegen, Chair John Blossom Patricia Danielson
Administration and Finance:	Robert Taylor, Chair Rita Novitt Thomas Seessel

Patricia Danielson then stated, personally, that she is in the process of moving and of securing another position, and that she appreciated Dr. Pruitt offering her an office at the College where she can work and receive messages. She complimented the staff for the considerations and assistance she has been given.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Patricia Danielson then read the following resolution:

Be it hereby resolved pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 and 10:4-12 that the Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison State College hold a closed session at 12:00 noon or immediately following the public meeting of October 11, 1985 for the purpose of discussing a matter of litigation.

It is expected that the discussion undertaken in closed session can be made public at such time as the issues are resolved.

Thomas Seessel moved and George Hanford seconded a motion to approve the resolution. Motion carried (8-0).

There being no further business, Harvey Myers moved and John Blossom seconded a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Motion carried (8-0).

Submitted by,



George A. Pruitt
Secretary to the Board

12/10/85

Date

Approved by,



~~Patricia Danielson~~
Chairman of the Board

12/13/85

Date