

# NEWS BRIEF

OFFICE OF CORPORATE-HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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## STUDENT PROFILE: Heidi Troy

### *ACE Credits Were First Step Toward Graduation*



**W**hen Heidi Troy learned that courses she had taken at the Stonier School of Banking could be used to earn college credits, it was the first step toward thinking about college. Even then, she was already working in the banking field and not so sure that the degree would make much difference as long as she continued to learn on the job and get promoted.

That was several years ago, and when a colleague was let go during a banking merger, Troy reconsidered the idea of pursuing a degree again and began looking into her options. "Stonier had made it a point to let us know that we could receive college credit for our work there because the program had been evaluated by the American Council on Education, so I knew I was off to a good start,"

Troy recalled. As with many adults, the next step was figuring out how to juggle earning the degree while working full-time. In Troy's case, she was working in North Jersey (where she had been transferred to several different branch locations in a short time) and living in Central Jersey. The idea of staying "up north" until late in the evening to attend classes, and the fact that she was being transferred often, made it difficult to select a college.

"My best option was Thomas Edison State College," Troy stated. With credits already earned from ACE-evaluated courses, she was on her way. Courses she had taken at Rutgers University also were applied to her degree requirements at Thomas Edison. Another Thomas Edison program, offered through the College's Center for



▲ Banker Heidi Troy earned her degree using credits earned through ACE-recommended courses.

## Program Name Change Announced

The American Council on Education recently announced a name change for their program formerly known as ACE/PONSI (the Program on Noncollegiate Sponsored Instruction). Effective immediately, this ACE program has been renamed the College Credit Recommendation Service.

This name change does

not change any of the details of the program or the ACE-Thomas Edison State College relationship. Thomas Edison will continue to operate the program for ACE in the greater New Jersey area, as it has done since 1981. "PONSI" has become a familiar name among the over 1,200 colleges and

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THOMAS  
EDISON  
STATE  
COLLEGE



## Partnerships Benefit Organizations/Employees

A diverse group of organizations has entered into partnerships with Thomas Edison State College through its Office of Corporate-Higher Education programs, and is taking full advantage of the benefits that such a relationship provides to the organization and its employees, students or members. Often, the partnership has been the catalyst for individuals to continue their education and to earn college degrees.

The March issue of NEWSBRIEF highlighted the partnership between the American

Institute of Banking of New Jersey (AIBNJ) and Thomas Edison. Each

**Each partnership agreement is unique and based on the organization's needs and characteristics, and the goals of the employees**

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the organization's needs and characteristics and the goals of the employees. When a partnership includes a College Credit Recommendation Service (formerly PONSI) component, Thomas Edison will provide a template model that demonstrates how ACE-evaluated courses fit into degree requirements. Once an agreement is signed, the College works with the specific organization as partners to help them promote the benefits to employees, students or members. ■

## Catholic University of Peru/Thomas Edison State College Share Educational Expertise

Educators from the Catholic University of Peru in Lima recently visited Thomas Edison to meet with College staff as part of an agreement to exchange resources and information. While most of the partnerships being coordinated through the Office of Corporate-Higher Education have as their basis a more direct student affiliation, this agreement,

the first ever that the Catholic University has pursued with a college in the United States, has a different focus.

"From our meetings, it is clear that the University views Thomas Edison as a model program in the areas of partnerships and distance learning. They will be relying on our expertise as they further develop these areas in Peru. This

agreement will provide the avenue to share resources and information as we look at the commonalities of serving the adult learner," stated Dr. Jerry Ice, vice president and provost, Thomas Edison State College.

Catholic University of Peru, founded in 1917, is the oldest established private higher educational institution in Peru. The

## Recent partnership agreements include the following organizations:

AIB of New Jersey  
AT&T School of Business and Technology  
Bergen County Police and Fire Academy  
Caesars Atlantic City  
Christopher Academy  
Institute for Certified Travel Agents  
Institute for Logistical Management  
Omaha Public Power District  
Recovery Assistance Program Training  
Technical Training Project



▲ Dr. Jerry Ice, vice president and provost, Thomas Edison State College, is pictured with Ana Velazco Lozada, director, Center for Continuing Education, Catholic University of Peru, during the signing of an agreement that will begin an exchange of resources and information between the two higher education institutions.

student population is over 12,000 and programs are available at the introductory, undergraduate and post-graduate levels. The dialog between the University and Thomas Edison began

earlier this year when Daniel Negron, assistant director, Office of Corporate Higher Education Programs, was in Peru on a personal visit and met with several educators. ■

## New Evaluations Announced

Lucent Technologies, Inc. Business Communications Systems Education and Training

Lucent Technologies, Inc., Business Communications Systems Education and Training (formerly Lucent Technologies, Inc. Training Solutions), recently had two additional courses evaluated and recommended for a total of 4 credits.

The courses, Delighting the Internal Customer and Minimizing Risk: Business Recovery and Security, are being offered in seven different Lucent Technologies training locations nationwide, at requested customer sites and globally at Lucent Technologies Centers of Excellence.

The core services of Lucent Technologies BCS Education and

Training includes competency modeling, needs analysis, and training development and delivery. In addition, BCS E&T provides change management facilitation services, performance consulting, broadcast television service and industry specific professional programs. ■

RETS Institute  
Radio Electronics Television Schools

A new ACE evaluation was conducted in July at the RETS Institute and resulted in 26 courses and a total of 87 credits being recommended in the Electronics Engineering Technology and Computer/Electronics Technician Programs. The facility is located on 2 1/2 acres in Nutley, N.J. and includes 13 classrooms designed for theory and laboratory instruction.

RETS Institute is owned and operated by M. Eastwick Colleges, Incorporated and was originally established in 1935 in Detroit, Mich. The New Jersey school was originally located in Newark when the first resident students enrolled in 1957. ■



▲ Anthony Baratta, education director, RETS Institute, is pictured showing equipment that is used in training students to install and troubleshoot computers to Professor William Barnes, associate professor of Engineering Technology and coordinator, Electrical Engineering Technology, New Jersey Institute of Technology. Professor Barnes was one of the faculty evaluators on the ACE review team that also included Professor Thomas Handler, professor of Electrical Engineering Technology, Middlesex County College, and Professor Edward Clark, associate professor of Electronics Technology, Atlantic Community College.



▲ Michael Richier (standing), global marketing manager, Lucent Technologies, Inc., Business Communications Systems Education and Training, reviews details of the training courses to be reviewed with Professor Stanley Yeldell, assistant professor of Law and Justice, Rowan University; Dr. William Brant, professor of Management, Rider University; and Thomas Handler, professor of Electrical Engineering Technology, Middlesex County College.

### Name Change.....from p.1

universities nationwide that award credits for courses recommended by ACE. The program also is recognized by hundreds of organizations who have had ACE recommendations of their education and train-

ing programs and have a working relationship with ACE. The College Credit Recommendation Service name will begin to appear on all ACE and Thomas Edison publications immediately. ■

## NEWSBRIEF

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## NEWSBRIEF

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STUDENT PROFILE:

Heidi Troy

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New Recommendations

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## Student Profile.....from p.1

Distance & Independent Adult Learning (DIAL) allowed Troy to work independently on Guided Study courses. In fact, Troy was able to complete the balance of her associate degree requirements through Guided Study.

Like many Thomas Edison students, Troy pointed out that she could not have completed a degree without the flexibility that Thomas Edison offers. "But that flexibility does not translate into ease," she quickly added. "I think earning a degree

through independent study is one of the most difficult ways. You must be very disciplined. You are on your own and must set a schedule and stick to it to succeed." Having earned her associate degree in March, Troy will continue with Thomas Edison to earn credits toward a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

Flexibility, alternative delivery systems, "non-traditional" — these are words that drive the banking industry as well as Thomas Edison, and the parallel thinking of how to earn a college degree and how to meet

the banking needs of today's busy customers occupies much of Troy's workday. As vice president of Planning and Project Administration for the Alternative Delivery System Division at Summit Bank, she is involved in projects related to the non-traditional delivery of banking services to the public. Troy looks at branches, in-store branches, supermarkets and self-service type models.

"We work to bring banking to our customers, anytime, anyplace."

## ACE Mourns Loss

E. Nelson (Al) Swinerton, director of the American Council on Education's College Credit Recommendation Service (formerly known as ACE/PONSI) in Washington, D.C., and director of the Council's Military Installation Voluntary Education Review project (MIVER), died of a heart attack June 13 while in Brussels, Belgium.

Since coming to ACE in 1992, Swinerton attended many of the ACE/Thomas Edison activities and was very supportive of our work. We send our condolences to our friends at ACE who worked with him, and to his family.