

## THOMAS A. EDISON STATE COLLEGE

### ELEVENTH COMMENCEMENT

October 30, 1983

The War Memorial Building Trenton, New Jersey

### AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain, For purple mountains' majesties Above the fruited plain. America! America! God shed His grace on thee, And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears.
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

Music by Samuel A. Ward Words by Katharine Lee Bates The
Eleventh Commencement
of
Thomas A. Edison State College

2:30 p.m. October 30, 1983

The War Memorial Building Trenton, New Jersey

> Dr. Jerry Ice Presiding

### ORDER OF CEREMONY

Processional

Hymn for the Audience "America the Beautiful"

Invocation

Greetings and Introductions Alan Ferguson

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Commencement Address Dr. Ernest L. Boyer

President of the Carnegie

Foundation for the Advancement

of Teaching

Conferring of Degrees Dr. Jerry Ice

Vice-President for

Academic Affairs

Presidential Charge Dr. George A. Pruitt

President

Induction into the

Alumni Association Bruce Hubscher

President of the Alumni

Association

Response for the Associate Degree

Candidates Antonia Marotta

Response for the Baccalaureate Degree Janis Miller

Candidates

Closing Remarks

Dr. Jerry Ice

Benediction

Recessional

Everyone is asked to stand during the Processional, the singing of "America, the Beautiful" and the Recessional.

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# ERNEST L. BOYER PRESIDENT CARNEGIE FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TEACHING

Ernest L. Boyer, former United States Commissioner of Education, was selected by his peers in a national survey in 1983 as the nation's leading educator. For three decades Dr. Boyer has devoted his career to school and college reform and to the advancement of education.

Dr. Boyer is the eighth President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, an education policy study center established by Andrew Carnegie in 1905.

Under Dr. Boyer's leadership, High School, A Report on Secondary Education in America was published recently. The study includes an examination of the American high school today, and makes a strong recommendation for what is needed to reinstate the values of public education for the future. High School provides a theoretical basis as well as an agenda for action in order to restore confidence in the American public school system. The book has been heralded by educators and parents alike.

Before joining the Carnegie Foundation in 1980, Dr. Boyer served as the twenty-third United States Commissioner of Education, administering a \$12 billion federal budget. Prior to serving as U.S. Commissioner of Education, Dr. Boyer was Chancellor of the State University of New York (SUNY). As head of the largest university in the United States, he directed a system of 64 institutions with over 350,000 students.

Dr. Boyer was named by three Presidents of the United States to National Committees: the National Commission on the Financing of Postsecondary Education, the President's Advisory Council on Women's Educational Programs, and the President's Commission on Foreign Language and International Education. He also has served as a member of the Commission on Critical Choices for Americans.

Dr. Boyer served as President of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges from 1974-1975. He has been a member of the Board of the American Association for Higher Education, the American Council on Education, the International Council for Educational Development, the Council for Financial Aid to Education, Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America, the Institute of International Education, and the Educational Testing Service.

Dr. Boyer is a graduate cum laude of Greenville College (Illinois), and he earned his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Southern California. In 1959 he was post-doctoral fellow at the University of Iowa Hospital. In 1976 he was a visiting fellow at Cambridge University. Dr. Boyer holds honorary degrees from 47 United States colleges and universities.

For five consecutive years he has been listed by U.S. News & World Report as one of the top educators in the nation.

### ACADEMIC HERALDRY: THE SYMBOLS OF LEARNING

While the current code concerning the types of academic costumes to be used by the colleges in the United States dates from 1960, distinctive academic dress dates from the medieval universities of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. The college or university commencement procession today is a pageant, alive and bright with a dress and ceremony deep in the tradition of the oldest universities.

Academic life as we know it today began in the Middle Ages—with Bologna and Paris, Oxford and Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Louvain—first in the Church, then in the guilds. The teaching guild was the Guild of the Master of Arts, where the Bachelor was the apprentice of the Master and the dress was color and pattern, the unity of men of like purpose. Twelfth century records of Oxford University carry this justification for academic dress: "It is honorable and in accordance with reason that clerks to whom God has given an advantage of the lay folk in their adornments within, should likewise differ from the lay folk outwardly in dress."

The principal features of academic dress are three: the gown, the cap, and the hood. Their design and heraldry were, from as early as the eleventh and twelfth centuries in the great European universities, the outward sign of the bringing together of students and

privileged persons under the same discipline.

To preserve their dignity and meaning, it early became necessary for these universities to set rules for academic dress. American universities agreed on a definite system in 1895 and set up a suitable code of academic dress for the colleges and universities of the United States. In 1932 and again in 1959 the American Council on Education revised the code which, for the most part, governs the style of

academic dress today.

THE GOWN. The flowing gown comes from the twelfth century. Many think it was worn in olden times as protection against the cold of unheated buildings. It has become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it completely covers any dress of rank or social standing underneath. It is black for all degrees with pointed sleeves for the Bachelor's degree; long closed sleeves for the Master's degree, with a slit for the arm and round open sleeves for the Doctor's degree. For the Bachelor's or Master's degree the gown has no trimmings. For the Doctor's degree it is faced down the front with velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves, in the color distinctive of the faculty or discipline to which the degree pertains. Of late years, the official colors of the College may appear in the gown or its decorations.

THE CAP. When Roman law freed the slave he won the privilege of wearing a cap. And so the academic cap is a sign of freedom of scholarship and the responsibility and dignity with which scholarship endows the wearer. Old poetry records the cap of scholarship as square to symbolize the book, although some authorities claim that the mortar board is the symbol of the masons, a privileged guild. The color of the tassel on the cap denotes the discipline.

THE HOOD. Since almost all of the students and faculty in the medieval universities were clerics (minor church ecclesiastics) and were tonsured, the hood served to cover the shaved head from the cold of unheated buildings. Eventually the hood was superseded by the skull cap which evolved into a headdress more or less like those in use today. Heraldically, the hood is an inverted shield with one or more chevrons of a secondary color on the ground of the primary color of the college. The color of the facing of the hood denotes the discipline represented by the degree; the color of the lining of the hood designates the color or university from which the degree was granted.

The Associate degree is a moden degree which dates back only several decades rather than centuries. In the hierarchy of the academic world, the associate degree is the modern entry point. Its equivalent in the guild of teachers would be that of a junior apprentice.

The hood is not worn by the Associate graduate. The Associate's cap and gown are grey.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The staff of the College wishes to thank William C. Smith, the organist for the ceremony, and the Garden State Theatre Organ Society. Mr. Smith studied music at Bucknell University and has served as a church organist in the Trenton area for many years. Mr. Smith is a member of the Garden State Theatre Organ Society, which maintains the 16 rank, 3 manual, Moller organ in the War Memorial Building.

The Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving theater organs throughout the state. The Society will be holding four concerts at the War Memorial Building throughout the next six months. Information concerning the concerts is available in the lobby.

The staff of the College also wishes to express its appreciation to Charles Lavin, Executive Director of the War Memorial Commission, and his staff for their assistance.

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