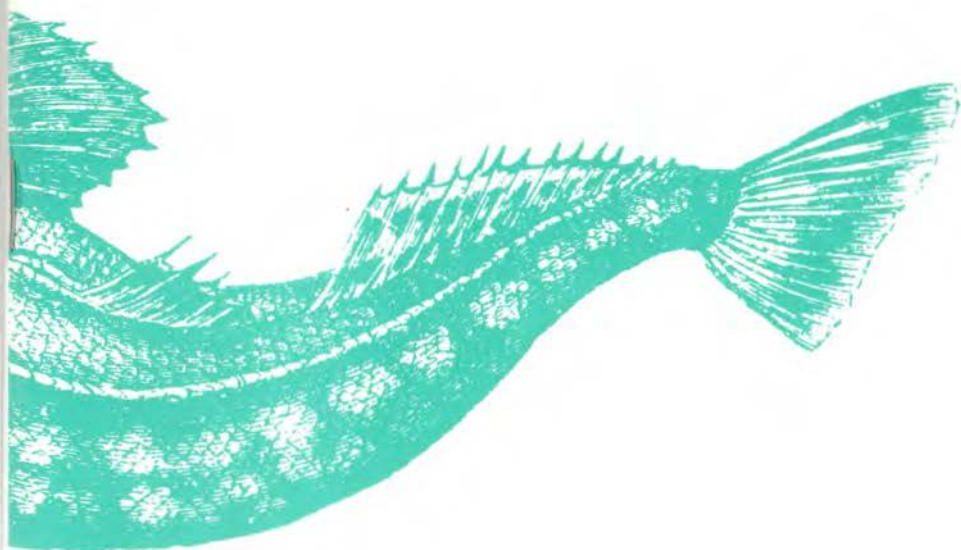
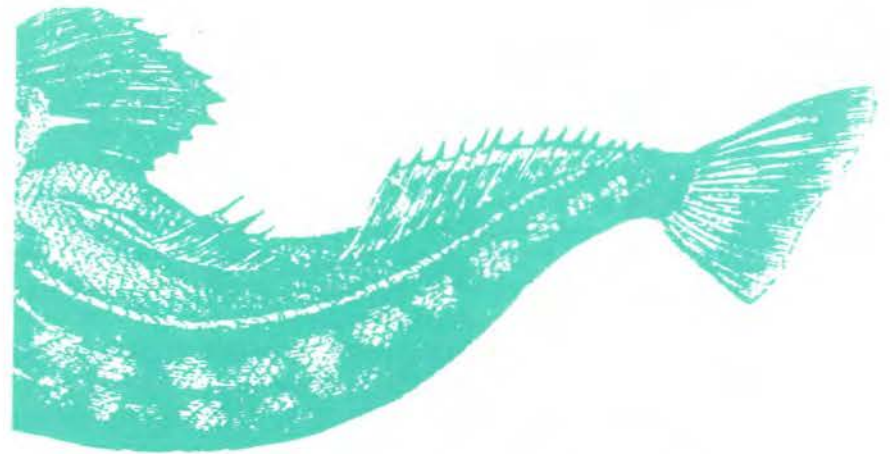


The 1993 Thomas Edison State
College Foundation Gala

Honoring

Dr. George A. Pruitt





**The Thomas Edison
State College Foundation**

**Welcomes you to this year's
Foundation Gala
honoring Dr. George A. Pruitt
on his 10th anniversary
as president of
Thomas Edison State College**

**The New Jersey State Aquarium
October 23, 1993**

Reception 7 p.m.

Dinner and Dancing 8 p.m.

Black tie optional



A Decade of Excellence: Dr. George A. Pruitt

In their book about college presidents, *Leaders on Leadership: The College Presidency*, James L. Fischer and Martha W. Tack attribute five qualities to today's college president: vision, courage, a take-charge attitude, commitment and personal style. There are no words in the English language that better describe

Thomas Edison State College's president, Dr. George A. Pruitt, this evening's honoree.

Dr. Pruitt came to Thomas Edison State College 10 years ago and began a transformation that would lift the College from relative obscurity to national prominence. His unswerving dedication to the task at hand, inimitable leadership style and infectious drive rallied not only those around him at the College, but those who came into contact with him at local, state and national levels. Both Dr. Pruitt, who is routinely appointed to prominent boards and committees, and the fully accredited College, which is a recognized leader in higher education, have achieved a high degree of notoriety over the past decade.

"A prerequisite for success in the presidency is the ability to dream dreams that come true. Without a doubt, the president must be able to articulate a clear and realizable vision for the institution and be able to motivate others to work for that cause....The effective president is unabashedly confident and unafraid to think differently. Certainly, the president must give consistent support to faculty, students and staff as they seek new programs and methods for educating our citizens, yet he or she must always be the 'fly in the ointment,' constantly stirring things up and encouraging people to try new things, rather than be satisfied with the status quo." Dr. Pruitt is the epitome of vision and courage, as defined in *Leaders*. Only a man with the ability to not only see the future, but to grasp it and make it a reality, could have taken a College from a small Trenton-area office building to a fully computerized, diverse, progressive academic institution for adult learners.

Dr. Pruitt's vision and courage brought the Governor's Challenge Grant which provided start-up funding for the computerization of the College, in particular the Computer Assisted Lifelong Learning (CALL) Network. There are few colleges which offer each employee computer access via a desktop terminal, fewer still that connect off-campus students through a computer network. His vision and courage will move the College's computer capabilities forward into the 21st century, striving always to develop and implement services that meet the needs of the adult student.

It was also Dr. Pruitt's vision and courage that brought the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program to registered nurses that live or work in New Jersey. This unique, nationally accredited program is one of the most convenient methods for nurses who wish to complete a bachelor's degree. His vision and courage created a partnership with the city of Trenton, TOPS (Trenton Office of Policy Studies), which works side-by-side with the Mayor's Office, sharing the expertise of Thomas Edison State College staffers to revitalize and regenerate the capital city through policy analysis and recommendations.

More recently, Dr. Pruitt's vision and courage resulted in HINT (Healthcare Information Network and Technologies), a partnership with the New Jersey Institute of Technology and the state legislature to lend support and assistance for developing a method of lowering healthcare costs for the citizens of New Jersey. His vision and courage have been responsible for the proposed Master of Science in Management program, which would provide the benefits of a Thomas Edison State College education to adults seeking a graduate degree. Throughout the years, Dr. Pruitt's visionary leadership has challenged the institution and its professionals to constantly and regularly identify opportunities that serve adult students, the city of Trenton, the state of New Jersey and beyond, opportunities that other cities and states are emulating and duplicating. This is no ordinary college. This is no ordinary president.

"A president cannot sit back and wait for change, but must capitalize on the opportunities presented and even create a few. Indeed, the president must be a renegade, challenging the bureaucracy and braving unpopularity to build a top-quality, responsible institution.... Above all, the president must believe in the importance of higher education and the impact it can have on society at large." A take-charge attitude and commitment, as expressed in *Leaders*, also characterize Dr. Pruitt, who leads by example and inspires faculty, staff, alumni and students to reach for that point beyond being the best.

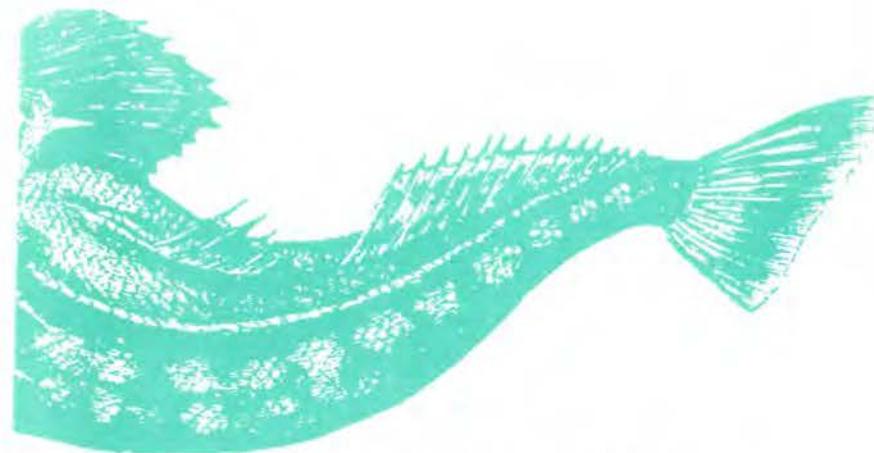
Dr. Pruitt's take-charge attitude and commitment make Thomas Edison State College re-invent the way higher education is delivered to students, each and every day. The College that, in its infancy, provided general advice to adults looking for information about college opportunities, is now working on new and innovative ways to serve degree-seeking students by expanding the electronic communications on CALL and beyond. These projects don't come easily, but Dr. Pruitt has never been one to take the easy way out. Dr. Pruitt admonishes the institution to be innovative and creative, to take a new direction for the benefit of the student and the community.

His take-charge attitude and commitment brought legislation that resulted in the College's acquisition of the adjacent town houses as the site for the ever-expand-

ing range of student services, while allowing the College to help preserve an historic part of Trenton's capital complex. It was Dr. Pruitt's take-charge attitude and commitment that resulted in a separate, full-service Academic Center and the acquisition of the Kuser Mansion for further expansion. These facilities give the College a commanding physical presence in New Jersey and add to its flourishing national reputation.

"Effective presidents...captivate you with their charm and their positive attitudes toward life, excite you about your own potential and make you want to work hard to achieve the dream in which they so strongly believe." Of all the descriptive lines in *Leaders*, this phrase on personal style sums up the reason that Dr. Pruitt is a standout among his peers. Along with his focus on technology, service to the student and the community, enhancement of the facilities and the limitless possibilities of the future, Dr. Pruitt has always put a premium on the talents of his staff. These are the individuals who will lead the College to greater things. A cursory glance through any President's Annual Report shows the depth and quality of the faculty and staff, most of whom routinely present at local, state, national and, occasionally, worldwide venues. It is with Dr. Pruitt's support and encouragement that members of the College family step toward self-actualization in the journey for a better College. This is not an imaginary destination in the minds of those who are moved by Dr. Pruitt. It is a goal in which all fervently believe.

In the 1987 Periodic Review Report that Dr. Pruitt prepared for the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, a quote precedes the body of the report, setting the tone for the impressive work that had been achieved in only five years of Dr. Pruitt's presidency. The anonymous author states, "I approached two bricklayers working side by side and asked, 'What are you doing?' The first one said, 'I'm laying bricks.' The second one responded, 'I'm building a cathedral.'" In 10 short years, Dr. George A. Pruitt has used the visionary leadership, courage, attitude, commitment and style that has earned him awards and honors, numerous appointments and unflinching respect as one of the most respected college presidents in the country to build a multi-faceted, honored cathedral called Thomas Edison State College. Those touched by his deeds, and those fortunate enough to have helped lay the bricks, look forward to many more years of Dr. Pruitt's leadership and the College's continuing innovation in service of adult learners.



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Iris Saltiel

Butlered Hors d'oeuvres

Velvet Corn Soup with
Fresh Coriander

Salad of Boston and
Watercress with
Crumbled Montrachet
Cheese, Roasted Red
Peppers and Walnuts
with a Walnut Oil-Rice
Vinegar Dressing

Menu

Choice of:

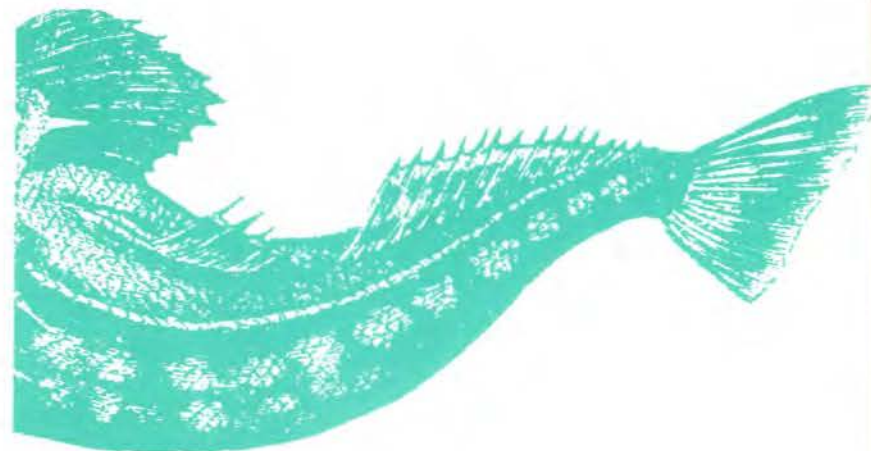
Poached Salmon with
Dill Cream Sauce

Pasta Primavera with
Julienned Vegetables and
Parmesan Cream Sauce

Roasted Filet of Beef with
Wild and Fresh Mushrooms and a
Wild Mushroom Demi Glace

Chevre and Roasted Garlic Timbale
Sauteed Sugar Snap Peas
French Bread and Sweet Butter

Chocolate Cornucopia filled with
White Chocolate Mousse and Mixed
Fresh Fruit served on a Pool of
Raspberry Sauce garnished with
Fresh Mint



Program

Reception

"The Abyss"

Welcome

Andrew J. Brown, co-chair
Rita A. Novitt, co-chair

Introduction of the president
Dr. George A. Pruitt

Richard J. Gillespie
president, chair
Thomas Edison State College
Foundation

Remarks

Dr. George A. Pruitt, president
Thomas Edison State College

Toast and Dinner

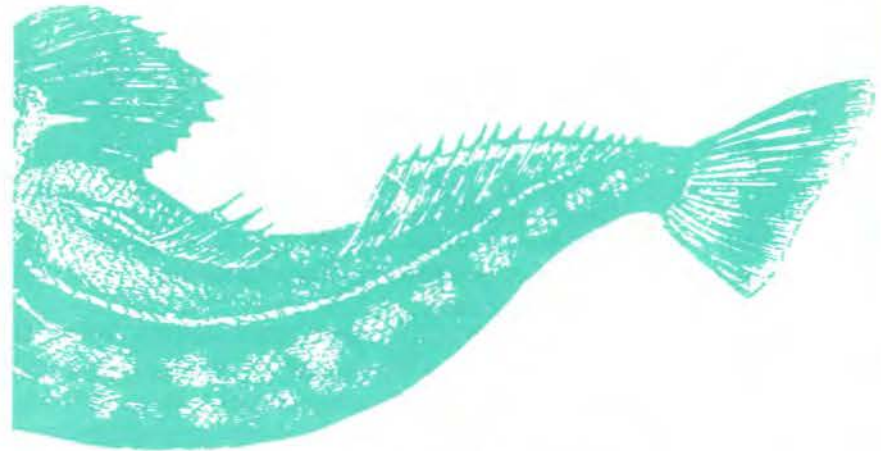
"The Rotunda"

Dancing to the Music of *Totally Hot*



Thanks

The Foundation expresses its
appreciation to
The Gillespie Organization
for its contribution of
design services
and to
CoreStates
for printing
the cards, invitations and programs
for this evening's Gala.



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The Thomas A. Edison State College Foundation, Inc.

Dear Friends:

A lot can happen in 10 years. An infant grows into a young person bursting with personality. A young wine matures into a robust vintage. The computer revolution, the fall of communism, the signing of peace accords between former enemies, all have taken place within the last decade.

Another miracle has occurred in the last 10 years: the growth of new opportunities nationwide for adults seeking to complete a college education. In the early '80s, most college students were young people fresh out of high school. Today, most college students are over the age of 21, with increasing numbers of adults in their middle years and beyond discovering the joy of lifelong learning.

Nowhere has that miracle been more apparent than at Thomas Edison State College, New Jersey's state college for adults. During the past 10 years, enrollments have doubled and annual giving has increased tenfold. This year, the College saw its 10,000th graduate walk across the stage at the War Memorial.

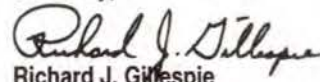
It's no coincidence that this unprecedented era coincides with the 10-year period in which Dr. George A. Pruitt has been president of Thomas Edison State College. In my own nine years with the Foundation, I have observed Dr. Pruitt's intelligence, leadership and insight working their magic as the College increased student services, expanded its campus, embraced new technologies and engaged in public service.

Dr. Pruitt's head has never been turned by the national accolades which have come his way. In fact, he is very much the same warm, witty and caring friend who welcomed me to the Foundation in 1984. His one concern is that adults have access to the highest quality collegiate education, a goal he continues to realize every year of his presidency.

Thomas Edison State College is sometimes referred to as one of the nation's greatest higher education treasures. This isn't too surprising, when we have a treasure of our own as president.

I speak on behalf of the entire Thomas Edison State College Foundation when I say, Congratulations, George. And thank you. It's been a great 10 years.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Gillespie
President and Chairman of the Board

Proclamation from the Board of Directors of the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association

As graduates and students of Thomas Edison State College, we do hereby declare this the 23rd day of October, 1993, a special day, and,

wherefore, we honor our leader, Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of this educational institution, and,

therefore, we give thanks and applaud Dr. Pruitt in recognition of his outstanding guardianship of our alma mater, and

herewith, we give our sincere

Congratulations on this

Occasion of your 10th anniversary.

Notable are the gains realized under your directorship.

Gratitude of the Thomas Edison State College graduates and students resound from the ivy-covered walls of our alma mater.

Recognition of your contributions

And

Thoughtful,

Ultra-modern, uniquely unifying,

Leadership makes us proud to

Applaud you with loud accolades of

Thanks

In observance of your

Outstanding and

Noble

Service to our school and community.

Respectfully submitted,

Ida B. Hammond, B.A. '78, president
Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association



Thomas Edison State College: A Pioneer in Higher Education

Thomas Edison State College began in 1971 as an idea: like Thomas Edison himself, many adults acquire college-level knowledge on their own. Through examinations and portfolio assessment, that knowledge could be measured and college credits awarded.

The College's journey to its present complement of services, programs and facilities began one step at a time, not unlike the journey taken by many of its students. On Dec. 17, 1971, the New Jersey State Board of Higher Education approved the establishment of Thomas Edison College, effective July 1, 1972. A 24-member advisory council of representatives of public and private colleges, labor, business, government and the New York Regents program (an established external degree program in New York) began meeting in March 1972 to lay the foundation for the College. Shortly thereafter, an interstate agreement was developed making Thomas Edison a degree-granting institution in cooperation with the New York State Regents External Degree Program.

The College was granted the right to award the Associate in Arts degree in July 1972. At the same time, the institution took over its first home — rented office space at 1750 North Olden Ave. in Ewing Township. The College enrolled its first students that November.

By the spring of 1973, the College was in full swing. In June, the State Board of Education approved Thomas Edison State College as the ninth state college, with an independent board of trustees; 70 students were awarded the College's first A.A. degrees; and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools accepted Thomas Edison as a candidate for accreditation.

In September, the new board of trustees voted to end the joint agreement with the New York Regents. Just 14 months after being chartered as a New Jersey state college, Thomas Edison was striking out on its own.

That rapid progression from idea to institution illustrates two traits that have characterized Thomas Edison State College and the Thomas Edison student from the beginning — pioneering spirit matched by a determination to get things done. Less than five years after its establishment, the College received full accreditation from Middle States in April 1976.

The College has continued to be a pioneer in delivering education to adults regardless of their location, age or previous academic record. Over 8,750 students

residing in 50 states and 65 other nations are completing associate and baccalaureate degrees through a variety of options, including testing, assessment, Guided Study and transfer of credit. The College awarded its 10,000th degree on Oct. 23, 1993, when Maureen Kane accepted her diploma during Commencement.

The College is also a forerunner in the electronic delivery of academic services through its Computer Assisted Lifelong Learning (CALL) Network, which opens access to higher education to adult students throughout the nation. The CALL-PC Program reaches out to underserved students who are able to pursue their degrees thanks to this laptop computer lending program. With technology changing rapidly across New Jersey, the nation and the world, Thomas Edison is poised to meet the demands of a new and exciting future that brings the College to the student via computers, telecommunications and more.

Other College achievements include the Center for Corporate and Public Partnerships, which works with business and industry to build organizational partnerships in the service of adult learners and the community, and includes PONS (Program for Noncollegiate Sponsored Instruction) and Corporate Programs; the Healthcare Information Networks and Technologies (HINT) program, a partnership with NJIT to help reduce health care costs; the Trenton Office of Policy Studies (TOPS), also part of the Center, which works directly with the city of Trenton to provide assistance with policy development; the National Institute on the Assessment of Experiential Learning; the Statewide Testing and Assessment Center; and the Thomas Edison College Examination Program, to name a few.

The humble beginnings in the North Olden Avenue office grew up when the College moved into the historic Kelsey Building in 1979, a foreshadowing of things to come. Since then, the College's facilities have expanded into an impressive campus in downtown Trenton. Administrative offices are still housed in the magnificent Kelsey Building on the corner of Barrack and West State Streets. The adjacent town houses soon will be renovated to make the Kelsey complex another gem on the block that includes the State House. A stone's throw on the other side of the State House is the historic Kuser Mansion at 315 West State St., newly refurbished to accommodate services such as Admissions, Guided Study, Directed Independent Adult Learning (DIAL) and more. A few blocks away is the recently renovated Academic Center at 167 Hanover St., which houses academic and student services, including the registrar and advisement. Thomas Edison State College's presence in downtown Trenton is growing as rapidly as its stature in the higher education community.

The pioneering spirit, flourishing campus and expanding technological services all point to one thing: the promise to provide the mature adult student, near and far, with a quality education. Future developments in this century and the next will continue to meet that goal at Thomas Edison State College.



September 22, 1993

Dr. George A. Pruitt
President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State St.
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176

Dear Dr. Pruitt:

On behalf of Atlantic Community College, I extend my congratulations to you upon the 10th anniversary of your presidency at Thomas Edison State College.

Atlantic Community College has enjoyed a long and fruitful relationship with Thomas Edison State College, a school which has made it possible for so many adults in Southern New Jersey to achieve a baccalaureate degree. Many ACC graduates have gone on to receive their four-year degrees from Thomas Edison.

During your 10 years at the college, you have led Thomas Edison in an exemplary fashion, garnering well-deserved recognition not only in New Jersey, but in the national higher education community as well.

The faculty, staff and students of Atlantic Community College salute you on your accomplishments and wish you many more years of success.

Sincerely,

John T. May
Interim President



September 20, 1993

Dr. Natale S. Caliendo
Vice President for Public Affairs
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08608-1176

Dear Dr. Caliendo:

On behalf of the students, faculty, staff and Board of Trustees of Burlington County College, I am pleased to offer our sincerest congratulations to Dr. George A. Pruitt on the occasion of his tenth anniversary as President of Thomas Edison State College.

Dr. Pruitt has achieved extraordinary success in guiding Thomas Edison to becoming a national leader in adult higher education. He has skillfully positioned the College to levels through which the citizens of New Jersey are afforded exceptional opportunities for educational, professional and personal growth.

We hope Dr. Pruitt will accept the enclosed certificate as a small token of our esteem and congratulations.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Messina, Jr.
President

RCM:ml

Enclosure

5100 Black Horse Pike, Mays Landing, NJ 08330-2699 ☐ (609) 343-4900 ☐ (609) 343-4917 fax

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ROBERT A. ALTMAN
VICE PRESIDENT

August 30, 1993

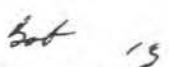
President George Pruitt
Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176

Dear George;

In recent weeks, I've received several letters and notes reminding me of your tenth anniversary as President of Edison State College, and alerting me to the forthcoming celebration of that event on October 23. Much as I would like to be able to attend the well-earned recognition ceremony, I'll be (literally) on my way from Beijing to Hong Kong on that day -- so won't be able to get to Camden.

Nonetheless, please accept my heartiest congratulations. It's been a pleasure having the opportunity to work with you -- and get to know you -- in recent years, and I look forward to your continuing leadership in New Jersey higher education.

Cordially,


Robert A. Altman
Vice President

RAA/cej



Essex County College

303 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102
201-877-3022

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 17, 1993

Dr. George A. Pruitt
President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176

Dear Dr. Pruitt: 

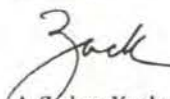
I wish to extend my sincere congratulations to you as you celebrate ten years of service as President of Thomas Edison State College.

During your tenure as President, your institution has emerged as one of the nation's premier centers for collegiate adult education. Thomas Edison's success and widespread acclaim serve as strong testimony to your exceptional academic leadership. By virtue of your efforts, Thomas Edison has become known as one of the pioneers in the emerging practice of distance learning.

Many graduates of Essex County College have subsequently gained their baccalaureate degrees at Thomas Edison. Some have enrolled at Thomas Edison for job related reasons, while others have enrolled for the satisfaction inherent in continuing their professional development. Whatever their motivations for enrolling at your institution, they all have indicated that their experiences at Thomas Edison were nothing short of first rate.

All of us in New Jersey's colleges and universities owe you a debt of gratitude for the recognition you have brought to New Jersey's system of higher education through your work at Thomas Edison. Best regards, and continued best wishes as you look ahead to a second decade at the helm of Thomas Edison!

Cordially,


A. Zachary Yamba
President

Gloucester
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



County College
TANYARD ROAD, DEPTFORD TOWNSHIP

September 16, 1993

Dr. George A. Pruitt, President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176

Dear George:

On behalf of the Gloucester County College family I am very pleased to extend to you our congratulations for 10 years of exemplary service to Thomas Edison State College and to the State of New Jersey. The impact of your leadership as President has been felt by the myriad students which Edison has served over the past decade by providing diverse and alternative methods to achieve a high quality collegiate education.

Congratulations!

Sincerely,

Richard H. Jones
Richard H. Jones
President

RHJ/cmd

MAILING ADDRESS: RR #4, BOX 200, SEWELL, NJ 08080-9518

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
New Jersey

RECOGNITION AWARD

The HCCC Community presents this certificate of recognition to

GEORGE A. PRUITT

in acknowledgement of ten years
of outstanding accomplishment and contributions
as President of Thomas Edison State College.

Wendell
President

17 September 1993
Date

County of Mercer

New Jersey

Board of Chosen Freeholders

PROCLAMATION FROM THE MERCER COUNTY BOARD
OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS HONORING DR. GEORGE A.
PRUITT, PRESIDENT OF THOMAS EDISON STATE
COLLEGE, THIS 23RD DAY OF OCTOBER, 1993.

WHEREAS, Dr. George A. Pruitt's many accomplishments will be recognized by the Thomas Edison State College Foundation at this year's annual dinner-dance in Dr. Pruitt's honor; and

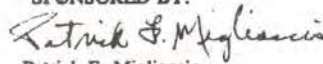
WHEREAS, Dr. Pruitt celebrated his 10th Anniversary as President of Thomas Edison State College on December 1, 1992; and

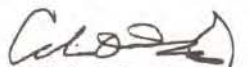
WHEREAS, Dr. Pruitt has received awards and accolades from many educational and humanitarian organizations and was selected by the Exxon Foundation as one of the most effective college presidents in the nation; and

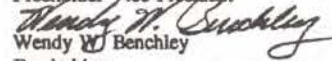
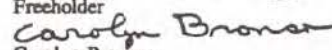
WHEREAS, during Dr. Pruitt's presidency, the College has emerged as a National leader in higher education for adults and as an integral part of the education, cultural and historical heritage of New Jersey's capital city; now therefore


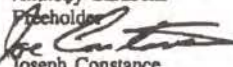
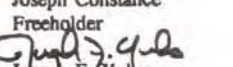
BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Mercer County Board of Chosen Freeholders does hereby commend Dr. George A. Pruitt for his outstanding accomplishments as President of Thomas Edison State College.

SPONSORED BY:


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MERCER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 27, 1993

Dr. George Pruitt, President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176

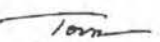
Dear George:

Congratulations! In a time when the crush of the office of president makes turnover the norm, you have flourished for ten years as the President of Thomas Edison State College. Your accomplishments are well known and appreciated among your colleagues in New Jersey and in circles of higher education throughout the country. Under your leadership, Thomas A. Edison College has become a model for innovation in higher education for adults and for lifelong learning, an inspiration for the rest of us in the educational community.

I am personally pleased, as a colleague and friend, that you have been selected as one of the Most Effective College Presidents in the United States. Obviously, many community and educational institutions feel the same way or they would not have chosen you to serve on their boards of directors/trustees. Your willingness to give your time and talents to others is singular, George. You set an example which is hard for the rest of us to keep up with.

Best wishes to you as you celebrate ten years of distinguished service to Thomas Edison and to our community. May your future endeavors be as blessed as they have been in the past. I look forward to seeing you on October 23 at the New Jersey State Aquarium in Camden.

Sincerely yours,


Thomas D. Sepe
President

TDS/la

Monmouth College

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WEST LONG BRANCH, NEW JERSEY 07764-1898 (908) 671-3402

September 20, 1993

Dr. George A. Pruitt
President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176

Dear Dr. Pruitt:

It is my great pleasure to extend congratulations and best wishes to you upon the celebration of your tenth anniversary as President of Thomas Edison State College.

While I have only been in New Jersey since July, and am attempting to familiarize myself rapidly with the entire higher education system, your reputation as an outstanding leader in the field is evident. As president of the "college without classrooms, books and faculty" you have led the development of a unique institution. There is a very real need for the service provided by Thomas Edison State College, not only to the people of New Jersey, but nationwide.

You are to be commended for your vision and leadership and I join with my colleagues across the state in saluting you. Hopefully, I will have the pleasure of meeting you in the not too distant future. In the meantime, my very warm regards to you.

Sincerely,


Rebecca Stafford

jf



NEW JERSEY STATE COLLEGE
GOVERNING BOARDS
ASSOCIATION, INC.

110 WEST STATE STREET
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08608
(609) 989-1100

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ROWAN COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
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TRENTON STATE COLLEGE
WILLIAM PATTERSON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

September 29, 1993

Dr. George A. Pruitt
President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08608-1176

Dear George:

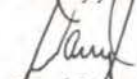
Rarely am I as pleased to write to a colleague as I am in writing this letter. You have been not only a colleague, but a friend and counselor since I came to the State College Governing Boards Association nearly eight years ago. Indeed, one of the few mistakes in your ten years at Thomas Edison State College may have been in serving on the GBA Search Committee!

Seriously, I remember well your early vision for Edison to expand broadly, high-quality educational and public policy service to New Jerseyans. With a great deal of hard work you have not only achieved those expectations, but in many cases, surpassed what was expected. Given your dedication to the college and to serving all people, I was not surprised that you had been named one of the most effective educational leaders in the nation. In a difficult environment, after achieving enactment of the *State College Autonomy Laws*, you provided tireless and wise leadership for your fellow presidents and the Association in helping to implement the promise of that landmark law. Throughout your productive tenure at Edison, you remain one of the most highly respected higher education leaders in New Jersey. In the state's capital, your advice is sought widely and, is more often than not, acted upon.

Given all of the accolades that you deserve, allow me to join the Thomas Edison State College family and all of your friends and colleagues in New Jersey in congratulating you and the college on the anniversary of your ten years of outstanding leadership.

I wish you at least ten additional years of success!

Sincerely yours,


Warryl G. Greer
Executive Director

Princeton University Princeton, New Jersey 08544-0015
President's Room

October 23, 1993

Dr. George A. Pruitt
President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176

Dear George:

I want to extend my congratulations to you on the occasion of your tenth anniversary as President of Thomas Edison State College.

Since its chartering two decades ago, Thomas Edison State College has added an important dimension to higher education in our state, with its innovative programs of outreach to adult students and its recognition of the many different ways and different settings in our lives in which learning takes place.

Your very capable leadership of the college has served effectively to bring the institution to higher recognition both in the educational community and—as the recent surge of enrollments at Thomas Edison clearly shows—in the population which may benefit from the programs the college has to offer. You have made and, I am sure, will continue to make an important contribution to higher education in New Jersey. Congratulations on this ten-year milestone and best wishes for an equally productive and exciting future.

Sincerely,



Harold T. Shapiro



Raritan Valley
Community College

P.O. Box 3300 • Somerville, N.J. 08876

Office of the President

(908) 526-1200

September 20, 1993


Mr. Natale S. Caliendo
Vice President for Public Affairs
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176

Dear Mr. Caliendo:

As the President of a New Jersey Community College that has worked effectively with Edison State College, I would like to acknowledge the role that President Pruitt has played in the development of Edison State College and its ability to articulate its efforts with those of the community colleges. Under President Pruitt's stewardship, Edison has emerged as a leading innovative institution of higher education.

My congratulations are extended to President Pruitt and Edison State College on their accomplishments during the past ten years, and for the future.

Sincerely,


S. Charles Irace
President

dvc

RIDER

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RIDER COLLEGE
2083 LAWRENCEVILLE ROAD
LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ 08648-3099
609 896 5000

September 22, 1993

Dr. George A. Pruitt
President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08608-1176

Dear George:

It is a real pleasure to congratulate you on the occasion of your 10th anniversary as President of Thomas Edison State College. I am really sorry I cannot be part of the celebration on October 23 but that is our Homecoming date and duty calls.

Thomas Edison College has been most fortunate to have you as its leader and the greater New Jersey higher education enterprise has benefited from your insight, common sense, collegiality, and good humor. I consider you one of the genuine "clear thinkers" in New Jersey and am always interested in your views.

I hope the gala at the New Jersey State Aquarium will be a great event and extend best wishes for every happiness and success in the future!

Sincerely,



J. Barton Luedeke
President

JBL:rm

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY RUTGERS

President

New Brunswick • New Jersey 08903

908/932-7454

September 21, 1993

President George A. Pruitt
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08608-1176

Dear George:

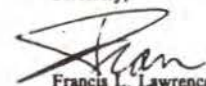
Congratulations on your 10th anniversary as president of Thomas Edison State College. Your leadership, vision, creativity and integrity distinguish your exceptional service to the higher education community. Your skills as a mediator and consensus builder have enabled you to bring your ideas to successful fruition during your presidency at Thomas Edison State College.

Long before many of your colleagues recognized the importance of providing educational opportunities to adult learners and non-traditional students you provided a framework at Edison to serve the adult community. During your tenure you built programs of distinction and the size of the student body increased dramatically. Over the last ten years Edison has developed innovative computer assisted learning opportunities at corporate sites; a new generation of guided study programs using videotape and audiotape; new portfolio assessment programs; telecommunications courses for older, community college graduates located in underserved areas of the state; and a communications network which permits students to engage in coursework and allows faculty to offer advising to students located anywhere in the world. These programs have helped make New Jersey a leader in adult education.

As a formulator of educational policy for the state and for the nation we applaud your service as chair of a wide range of educational organizations, including the Council of New Jersey State College Presidents and the board of trustees of the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning; your membership on diverse policy bodies, such as national commission of the American Council on Education and the Trustee Committee on Planning and Development of the College Board; and your service on governing bodies of foundations and public and private agencies.

At each of our public institutions, we struggle to create a balance between access and excellence. You have clearly succeeded at Edison. Your ideas, your management style, and your enthusiasm to move projects from thought to inception, are an inspiration to all of us. To another decade of innovation and growth!

Sincerely,


Francis L. Lawrence



SALEM
Community College

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

480 HOLLYWOOD AVENUE
CARNEY'S POINT, NEW JERSEY 08089-3700
609/299-2100

Dr. George A. Pruitt, President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176

Dear Dr. Pruitt:

On behalf of Salem Community College, I extend my warmest congratulations on your tenth anniversary as president of Thomas Edison State College.

I am pleased to recognize your many accomplishments. Your efforts have had a positive impact on your own campus and on the higher education community in New Jersey. I wish you continued success as you begin your next decade of leadership.

Congratulations again, and best wishes for the future.

Sincerely,

Linda C. Jolly, Ph.D.
President

LCJ/r



STEPHEN M. SEGAL, INC., REALTORS
INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INVESTMENT REAL ESTATE

September 1, 1993

Dr. George A. Pruitt
President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176

Dear George:

Your selection by the Exxon Foundation as one of the nation's most effective college presidents comes as no surprise to me. I have had the distinct privilege of serving with you on the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and during this service have had the opportunity of observing your involvement as Chairman of our Committee on Education. No one has ever fulfilled this responsibility with quite the same thoroughness, enthusiasm, and effectiveness as you have and I salute you for your untiring efforts.

Regrettably, Jean and I are scheduled to be on the west coast over the weekend that includes Saturday, October 23rd, and as a result, will not be able to attend the Foundation dinner dance to be held in your honor. It goes without saying that we are pleased with the recognition you are about to receive and wish to say that no one is more deserving.

Please accept our best wishes for the continued success of all the worthy civic activities that have become such an important part of your life.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN M. SEGAL, INC.

Eugene V. Howard
Senior Vice President

EVH/jhp

993 Lanox Drive, Suite 106, Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648 (609) 896-3399 FAX: (609) 895-1408

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VERA KING FARRIS
President

September 30, 1993

Dr. George Albert Pruitt
President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08608-1176

Dear George:

Congratulations! It hardly seems as though more than ten years have passed since we first met. I remember that you took me under your wing and served as my mentor when I was a "neophyte" president. I am deeply grateful for your personal assistance during the early years of my presidency.

It is a great honor for me to participate in this well-deserved tribute as your accomplishments and achievements have been exemplary. Your tenure exemplifies the consummate college president as you have served not only the constituents of Thomas Edison College with distinction, but have also rendered dedicated service to the American Council on Education, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

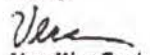
Because of your vision and foresight, Thomas Edison State College is a leader among innovative colleges in this country -- one of the first colleges without walls. Your institution provides genuine higher educational opportunity for a non-traditional segment of the population who would not be able to attain a degree through typical channels.

I have especially enjoyed our interactions on the New Jersey Council of State College Presidents, where I succeeded you as chair. Under your leadership autonomy became a reality for the state colleges, and we were able to establish policies and procedures to advance this novel idea. You have been a source of inspiration to those of us in the state college system because of a pragmatism that is uniquely accompanied by optimism.

Please know that I treasure our friendship and am extremely proud of your legendary contributions to the field of higher education.

Good luck and best wishes for the future. I hope to share this momentous occasion with you on Saturday, October 23rd.

Fondly,


Vera King Farris
President

A College of the New Jersey System of Higher Education



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
(908) 709-7100

1033 SPRINGFIELD AVENUE, CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY 07016-1588

CRANFORD CAMPUS
(908) 709-7000

ELIZABETH CAMPUS
(908) 965-6000

PLAINFIELD CAMPUS
(908) 412-3599

September 21, 1993

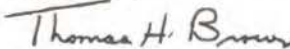
Dr. George A. Pruitt
President
Thomas Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176

Dear Dr. Pruitt:

I must express my admiration for the work you have done at Thomas Edison State College during the last decade. During this decade, Thomas Edison State College has become a leader in providing education for adults. Certainly, you are deserving of your selection by the Exxon Foundation as one of the most effective college presidents in the nation.

Congratulations on your tenth anniversary with Thomas Edison. Best wishes for continued success!

Sincerely,


Thomas H. Brown
President

THB/lm



Warren County
Community College

Route 57 West
Washington, New Jersey 07882-8805

908-889-1090
FAX 908-889-7488

September 20, 1993

Dr. George Pruitt
Thomas A. Edison State College
101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear George:

On behalf of the faculty, students, staff and trustees of Warren County Community College we want to acknowledge your many contributions to higher education. Under your leadership Thomas Edison State College has emerged as a valuable alternative model in providing higher education. This is a singular achievement given the very traditional nature of the academy.

We at Warren recognize the quality of the education provided at Thomas Edison State College. One of your graduates is a member of our faculty.

This recognition is much deserved both for you as well as the institution which you lead. Best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Vincent De Sanctis,
President

VDS/mvb

THOMAS EDISON
State College

101 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608-1176