

I·N·V·E·N·T·I·O·N

NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

WINTER/SPRING 1996

new!

Graduate work at a distance through Thomas Edison's MSM program

Dreams of a graduate degree are being realized by select AT&T employees, who are first class of the Thomas Edison State College Master of Science in Management (MSM) program. These managers are on the road to an important goal: achieving a master's for professional advancement, personal satisfaction and to help AT&T retain its competitive edge in today's marketplace.

One of the most sought after graduate degrees, the MSM is being offered "at a distance" by the nation's premier distance learning institution, Thomas Edison State College. It is the first of its kind to offer a competency-based program almost entirely through distance learning. Students will make extensive use of on-line interaction with the College

through Thomas Edison's own Computer Assisted Lifelong Learning (CALL) Network.

"This is an exciting time for Thomas Edison State College, and for the adult learners at AT&T," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison. "This adds a new dimension to our long-standing relationship with AT&T. I look forward to the day when I can present this first graduate class with their diplomas at our annual Commencement ceremonies."

Linda Villa, Human Resources vice president, Services Operation Division at AT&T, concurs. "Continuous learning is a critical success factor for individuals and organizations. As a business imperative, we are working with Thomas Edison State College in a unique adult learning experience by investing in the



Anthony Tuggles of AT&T learns about Thomas Edison's CALL Network from Evelyn Spradley, associate director for MIS for Educational Technology.

people of AT&T. We are excited about partnering in this endeavor."

The AT&T class of students recently took part in one of three required residency programs. The Orientation Session focused on setting program standards, introducing assessment, and developing learning and success skills. In addition, students began their first course.

Participants learned more about distance learning, took part in team-building exercises, discovered the CALL Network and became familiar with the on-line portions of the program. To help ensure success, students attended workshops on learning patterns and processes, assessment techniques and strategies for success. Students also took

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staff profile

Keeping up with senior advisor Theresa Bowman Downing

BY NINA MALONE

A casual observer might think that being elected to a second term on a national board is impressive. Or, that co-presenting papers at a national conference is exciting. While those observations would be correct, they would only scratch the surface of the commitment that Theresa Bowman Downing, senior program advisor at Thomas Edison State College, has to her students, her profession and her career.

Bowman Downing, who has been with the College for 12 years, is serving her second term as secretary of the National Organization for Human Service Education (NOHSE). As a member of the Executive Committee, Bowman Downing is part and parcel of the decisions made by this auspicious group to support and promote improvements in direct service, public education, program development, planning and evaluation, administration and public policy in the human services arena. NOHSE professionals come from correction, mental health, child care, social services, gerontology, developmental disabilities, addictions and recreation. Through her involvement with NOHSE, Bowman Downing is opening



Keeping it all in the family

Theresa Bowman, senior advisor (center), welcomes two new BSHS alumni to the Class of '95. Enjoying a perfect Commencement day are Adrienne Mosley, class speaker, and Dan DeMora, both of whom were honored with the Arnold Fletcher Award for excellence.

doors of opportunity to students in Thomas Edison's Human Services programs.

"I'm very proud to be a part of NOHSE," Bowman Downing said. "We are reaching out to invite human services professionals to come together and support each other, the profession and this group. Student members benefit from professional contacts, conferences and symposia that expand the reach of human services from the workplace to educational issues."

Bowman Downing's personal involvement is also a boon to her students, who turn to her for advice, counseling and educational preparation. For example, she has been instrumental in working with NOHSE's strategic planning goals. "We're taking the group to the next level," she added. "I was pleased that my planning proposal was unanimously adopted by the NOHSE board. We're going to bring it to the general membership now to talk about future directions for

NOHSE."

Luckily for NOHSE, Bowman Downing's involvement goes far beyond behind-the-scenes planning. Recently, Bowman Downing, along with Dr. Carolyn Arnold of the University of Massachusetts/Lasell and Dr. Victoria D. Coleman of Purdue University, conducted a panel presentation at the 1995 NOHSE conference. Their topic, "An Inclusive Society: Embracing Cultural Diversity

devise effective strategies to enhance further social development and cross-cultural understanding in culturally diverse settings — all rolled into one dynamic session.

"We were looking to provide practitioners with the chance to identify and challenge assumptions about culture and diversity," Bowman Downing noted. "More importantly, we wanted participants to be able to take this back

A casual observer might think that being elected to a second term on a national board is impressive.

in Higher Education," was a presentation examining personal and group assumptions about cultural identity. Some of the interactive exercises included an information exchange about issues of race and ethnicity in human services; a discussion of the perceptions about the responsibility for preparing selective human service practitioners to serve a culturally diverse client base; and an opportunity to

and to apply it in the classroom, the workplace or in the delivery of human services."

At Thomas Edison, Bowman Downing advises Human Services students. As such, she is a strong advocate for the profession and for NOHSE. "I really like NOHSE. It's a warm and inclusive organization," she commented. "I'm not just a

CONTINUED P. 2

membership number: I get to do things. I know that I am a part of the human services movement, and I try to offer that opportunity to my students."

Thomas Edison State College offers a Bachelor of Science in Human Services, as well as an Associate in Science in Public and Social Services. Major areas of study include Administration of Justice, Child Development Services, Emergency Disaster Management, Gerontology, Social Services and many more. Many of the requirements can be met through the College's own Distance & Independent Adult Learning (DIAL) courses and Portfolio Assessment program.

What's next for this upbeat and energetic human services professional? How about book

publishing? Bowman Downing is self-publishing a book of her own poetry, personal and spiritual works that describe the "Black experience." Largely biographical, it includes pictorial essays of her family and friends. As if that wasn't enough of a challenge, her proposal for the NOHSE strategic plan will be featured in the organization's newsletter, The Link. Add that to her frequent speaking engagements on behalf of Thomas Edison State College, and Bowman Downing is one busy individual.

"God helped me at the right time," Bowman Downing said with conviction. "It is all coming together." Luckily, Bowman Downing is sharing that good fortune with her colleagues at NOHSE and her students at Thomas Edison State College. ♦

Earning a degree in Human Services

The Bachelor of Science in Human Services (BSHS) and Associate in Science in Public and Social Services (ASPSS) are two of the College's popular degree programs. Requirements for these degrees are listed below. Many of these requirements can be met through Thomas Edison's own Distance & Independent Adult Learning (DIAL) courses and Portfolio Assessment program. In addition, Liberal Arts Requirements and Free Electives also can be earned through transfer of credit from regionally accredited colleges. Both degrees include a Practicum, the capstone requirement tying together theory with practical experience gained through employment. This is a special assessment by a faculty member appointed by the College.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HUMAN SERVICES (BSHS):

Liberal Arts Requirements	48 credits
Includes Written Expression, Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Liberal Arts Electives	
Concentration in Human Services	57 credits
Includes Core Requirements and Individualized Specialization	
Free Electives	15 credits
Total semester hour credits	120 credits

MAJOR AREAS: SPECIALIZATIONS (*Available to both the BSHS and ASPSS)

- Administration of Justice*
- Child Development Services*
- Community Services*
- Emergency Disaster Management*
- Gerontology
- Health and Nutrition Counseling
- Health Services
- Health Services Administration
- Health Services Education
- Legal Services*
- Mental Health and Rehabilitative Services
- Recreation Services*
- Social Services*
- Social Services Administration
- Social Services for Special Populations*

ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE IN PUBLIC AND SOCIAL SERVICES (ASPSS):

Liberal Arts Requirements	30 credits
Includes Written Expression, Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Liberal Arts Electives.	
Individualized Option	21 credits
Free Electives	9 credits
Total semester hour credits	60 credits

Find out more about becoming a student at Thomas Edison State College. Contact the Office of Admissions Services at (609) 984-1150, or visit the College on the World Wide Web at <http://www.tesc.edu>. Applications can be made on-line on the Web site.

Farewell to a colleague: Dr. Natale S. Caliendo



Natale S. Caliendo

The Thomas Edison State College community was shocked and deeply saddened by the sudden loss of Dr. Natale S. Caliendo, vice president for Public Affairs. Dr. Caliendo was killed while walking near his home in Newtown, Pa., Sunday, Jan. 14.

"Thomas Edison State College and the community it represents is stunned and deeply saddened by the untimely loss of Vice President Caliendo. We are shocked, grief-stricken and deeply wounded by this tragedy," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president, Thomas Edison State College.

During his four years with Thomas Edison, Dr. Caliendo was responsible for dramatic growth in the College's development and public affairs programs, increasing the visibility of the College both nationally and locally. He served on a number of boards of directors and was active in many community organizations, ranging from the Chamber of Commerce and Private Industry Council, to Junior Achievement and the Greater Princeton Youth Orchestra. In

addition to his dedication to adult education, he was renowned for his love of children and went out of his way to help underprivileged children learn the path to success. An example of this was a series of talks he gave to fifth graders from Trenton's Monument School last year, in which he kept them spellbound with stories about his own experiences growing up in a poor Italian-American neighborhood, and how he struggled against the odds to complete his education and achieve career success.

Dr. Caliendo's many contributions to the arts and humanities were cited by the Italian-American Hall of Fame, which

inducted him Nov. 18 in a ceremony in Atlantic City, N.J., the capstone of a brilliant career in higher education which included previous administrative positions at Suffolk University and the University of Rhode Island. An avid golfer, he was one of the creators of the College's Foundation Annual Golf Classic.

A Vietnam veteran, Dr. Caliendo received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Springfield College and his doctorate from Syracuse University. He was proud of his Italian-American heritage and his family: his sister, Louise, of Boulder, Colo., and four sons: Nat Jr., Daniel, Nicholas and Christopher. He was a warm, outgoing individual with a love of life. No one who met him would ever forget him.

Donations in memory of Dr. Caliendo may be made to the Natale S. and Christine Caliendo Endowment, a fund he created to honor the memory of his parents. For more information, contact the Office of Development, Thomas Edison State College, 101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J., 08608-1176, (609) 984-1588. ♦

Thurber to serve as acting vice president for Public Affairs



John P. Thurber

John P. Thurber of Trenton, N.J., executive director of the Institute for Public Policy (IPP) at Thomas Edison State College, also will serve as acting vice president for Public Affairs at the College.

Thurber, who has been with Thomas Edison for nearly five years, will oversee the Public Affairs division following the sudden loss of Dr. Natale S. Caliendo, who served as vice president for Public Affairs since 1991. Dr. Caliendo, a popular educator and beloved colleague, was struck by an automobile and killed while walking near his home in Newtown, Pa., on Jan. 14 (see related story on this page).

"I am honored to have the opportunity to work with the

Public Affairs staff," said Thurber. "I look forward to the challenge this position will afford me."

A former public interest attorney in the New Jersey Department of the Public Advocate, Thurber is a summa cum laude graduate of Rutgers Law School and a member of the New Jersey and New York Bars. As executive director of

board member of the New Jersey Community Loan Fund, and holds board memberships on Prospect Street Center (Trenton) and Rural Development, Inc. He is an elder at Bethany Presbyterian Church in Trenton. Thurber is a member of the Leadership New Jersey Class of 1992, and the recipient of the New Jersey Association of Family

Thurber is a summa cum laude graduate of Rutgers Law School and a member of the New Jersey and New York Bars.

IPP and its forerunner, the Trenton Office of Policy Studies, Thurber oversees a number of partnership initiatives, including those with the Urban Mayors Association and the Trenton Enterprise Initiative. Recently, IPP was awarded major grants from the Fund for New Jersey and the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.

Thurber is a founding

Food Centers' Man of the Year award in 1993.

"John Thurber has demonstrated exemplary leadership in government, in the business world and in the community," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College. "The College will benefit from the knowledge and expertise John will bring to the Division of Public Affairs." ♦



MSM program...from p.1

part in the first, formal course, "Organizational Theory and Behavior."

Consulting faculty facilitated orientation exercises and helped prepare students to participate in On-Line Computer courses. Guiding students as mentors and

teaching courses are the MSM faculty. Faculty facilitators are drawn from some of the most respected institutions in higher education, including Thomas Edison State College, Rutgers-The State University, Rider University, Georgian Court College and Cabrini

College. In addition, the faculty includes representatives from prestigious businesses such as AT&T, Wheelock Industries, Digital Equipment Corp., Merrill Lynch and Midlantic Bank.

According to Director of Graduate Studies Dr. Sonja Eveslage, the MSM is designed to serve employed adults who have had professional experience in the management field. It has broad appeal for those who choose distance learning programs. The MSM will integrate the theory and practice of management as it applies to diverse organizations, educational institutions and other nonprofit agencies. The emphasis is on theory and practice in the management of organizations. The development of analytical, problem-solving and decision-making abilities, and the application of those abilities to actual and simulated management situations, make the program unique. The 42 credit program includes two residencies; the rest of the program is completed by students where they live and work. Thirty-six of the 42 credits must be completed through

Thomas Edison's independent computer-based graduate course offerings. Students are assisted throughout the program by a personal faculty mentor. For more information about the MSM, contact the Office of

Graduate Studies, Thomas Edison State College, (609) 292-5143, 101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176. MSM information also is available on the College's World Wide Web site, <http://www.tesc.edu>.

MSM Curriculum Course Requirements

Program Content	Semester Hours	Credit no credit
Orientation Weekend		
Knowledge, Skills and Applications		
Organizational Theory & Behavior	6	
Human Resource Management	3	
Economic Issues in Organizations	3	
Finance & Accounting for Managers	3	
Organizational Research	3	
Organizational Environment	3	
Seminar: Organizational Management and Leadership	6	
Electives:	6	
Select from Ethics (3), Statistics (3), Marketing Management (3) or MIS (3)		
Performance Competencies		
Professional Leadership Development I (Residency)	3	
Professional Leadership Development II (Residency)	2	
Thesis	4	
Total semester hour credits	42	

To receive an MSM Prospectus and application, write to the Office of Graduate Studies, 101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176, Or call (609) 292-5143 and request information about the graduate program. Information about the MSM also is available on the College's Web page, <http://www.tesc.edu>.

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♻️ This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Meet four MSM students...

Bruce W. Hall

Bruce W. Hall, a manager with AT&T, chose Thomas Edison State College for his MSM for the same reasons he choose the College for his undergraduate education in 1985. "I wanted to take advantage of the flexibility to 'attend' college without the in-school rigidity," said Bruce, who received a BSBA in 1991. "Without this ability, there is no way I would be able to pursue a degree without committing substantially more time away from my family, personal and work obligations."

A Lopatcong, N.J., resident, Bruce works in Bedminster, N.J. in the Network Computing and Services, Network Performance and Quality process as the liaison for Global Joint Ventures. "As AT&T goes global, it sometimes becomes more effective to partner with in-country organizations rather than going it alone," he explained. "I am responsible for recommending the performance and reliability requirements to those who are responsible for development of the network project."

Bruce, who is pursuing the MSM to make himself more marketable with AT&T, said his job requires him to interface with many diverse cultures, and that the MSM is helping him to better understand the different behaviors and to work through conflicts that may arise.



Laura Earl

When Laura Earl completed her bachelor's degree with Thomas Edison in 1991, she became a strong proponent for the quality of the school and its programs. "The MSM program appealed to me since I could work from home or on the road. I tried to begin a master's program twice, but, with work and travel commitments, I was not able to attend formal classes."

Laura, a Hillsborough, N.J., resident, is pursuing a master's degree "strictly" as a personal goal. "While I believe the degree will certainly enhance my resume in terms of future job opportunities, the primary reason is personal goal-related. I believe the subjects covered in this program will enhance my skills as a manager with the company."

An international dial offer manager at AT&T in Bridgewater, N.J., Laura explained that the MSM program allows her the freedom to work independently, yet still enjoy the cohesiveness of the group. "We correspond frequently with each other through e-mail. The program also allows the opportunity to take advantage of leading-edge technology by using the Internet. With the program Thomas Edison is offering, along with the tuition refund benefit AT&T provides, it is possible for me complete the degree in a timely fashion."



Harry Fuerstenberger

Harry Fuerstenberger has been considering getting a master's degree for several years, but the commute to various schools to attend classes after work—not to mention the drive home—was always too far or too time consuming.

"The Thomas Edison MSM program allows me to work on all the assignments at home and send them in via my home PC and electronic mail," noted Harry, who is realizing a personal goal. "I have the time now since my children are out of high school, and I'm not involved in all the various evening programs with them."

A project manager in the Switch Global Services Development organization at AT&T in Bridgewater, N.J., Harry project manages the design, development, testing and implementation of new international features.

"The MSM program will provide me with the current management tools and understanding to better perform at my current job, and to provide the knowledge to prepare me for other management jobs within the company."

For the Milford, N.J., resident, Thomas Edison State College has become a family affair. Harry's wife obtained her associate and bachelor's degrees through the College, and his daughter, who is in the military police in the U.S. Marine Corps, will be obtaining her degree through Thomas Edison.



William Reed

William (Bill) Reed, a sales manager for Microwarehouse Inc., MicroSystems division, in Lakewood, N.J., is the only member of the MSM class that is not an AT&T employee. However, after a weekend at Basking Ridge where all the MSM students gathered for their first residency, Bill said he is looking forward to working with his AT&T classmates and feels they will have a great time going through the program together.

"The program will work in a very practical way," noted Bill, who is pursuing the master's for personal satisfaction as well as potential advancement on the job. "As a manager, I can use the information immediately in my daily routine. Plus, it will help me when advancement time comes along."

A 1994 Thomas Edison State College baccalaureate degree graduate, Bill was enrolled in another master's program when he heard about MSM at Thomas Edison. He made a call to Dr. Sonja Eveslage, director of Graduate Studies, to inquire about the program and shortly thereafter, was asked to join the inaugural group.

Bill, a Lavallette, N.J., resident, explained that Thomas Edison's programs are the solution to a busy schedule. "Thomas Edison, through technology,

makes this possible for me. I run a small business and work full-time at night, so my personal schedule permits me no latitude for 'regular' programs."



SHINING STARS...

BY LINDA SOLTIS

For Gail Ann Palatine, ASAST '89, BSAST '91, the time is right. A familiar face at the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Annual Fund Phonathon for the last seven years, Palatine has assumed the top job for this year's fundraiser.

"Although I've been active on the Alumni Association Board for a number of years, the time was not right until now for me to assume a major leadership role," said Palatine. "This is the right time for me to step into this very important position."

It seems only fitting that Palatine should chair the Phonathon — it is how she was first introduced to the Alumni Association. "I received an inspiring phone call from Ida Hammond (former association president) inviting me to participate in the Phonathon," Palatine explained. "I've been involved ever since."

"Gail has been a Phonathon participant for many years," said Annette Singer, director of Alumni Affairs. "This experience has given her a wealth of insight into the responsibility of coordinating alumni participation to support this major fundraising activity. You can't help but get caught up with her smile and energy. She is definitely one of our shining stars!"

Palatine has set some lofty goals for herself as a chair of the Phonathon and as a member of the Alumni Board, "I want to assist the College Alumni Association in conducting its affairs with the highest ethical standards and principles, for the purpose of encouraging College graduates to support and share with the College its mission of advancing student programs and encouraging an overall sense of well being."

A principal environmental specialist, radiation enforcement

manager with the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Enforcement in Trenton, N.J., Palatine has been a New Jersey state employee for 15 years. She is responsible for advising field inspectors on investigation procedures and reviewing investigation reports for enforceability. She also reviews and writes draft regulations in regard to law changes for enforcement programs.

Palatine and her husband, Richard, live in Lawrenceville. Their family includes sons Richard and James, daughters Judith and Jennifer, and a four-year-old granddaughter Kristen.

Despite job and family responsibilities, Palatine said she was able to earn her degree because of the programs and dedicated staff at the College.

"Thomas Edison State College has been an inspiration to me since I decided to start taking courses in 1986," Palatine noted. "Working toward completing a degree is very difficult while holding a full-time job."

However, my advisor Pat Jackson was the best. She

really encouraged me when I was down. She was always there with the perfect solution to, what seemed to me, the impossible problem. The dedication of the staff always made me feel they really wanted me to succeed.

"The Alumni Association is comprised of people with the same kind of dedication, get-up and go and professionalism. The Alumni Association is special because it's like a magnet for special people. Thomas Edison State College alumni all give 110 percent."

Just like Gail Ann Palatine! ♦



Each One reaches out again

One of our most popular programs continues to be our "Each One, Reach One" campaign. This program provides an avenue for Thomas Edison State College students and alumni to tell their friends, coworkers and family about Thomas Edison State College. As many of the College's alumni already know, the variety of programs, many ways to earn credit and helpful staff that made their experience at Thomas Edison fulfilling can do the same for someone else who is searching for the perfect way to complete a degree.

For those who have used this method to tell others about the College, there are many new students eager to send "thanks." For those who have not used this excellent opportunity to help someone achieve the dream of a college degree, please take a few minutes to cut out the coupon in this issue of the *Invention* and send it to them. Experience has shown they will thank you for it later. Reach out today!

Each One, Reach One

Pass this along to a friend who can benefit from Thomas Edison State College's services for adult learners!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____

Work _____

Home _____

Mail this coupon to: Thomas Edison State College
Office of Admissions Services
101 W. State St.
Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176

Questions? (609) 984-1150

The Alumni Each One, Reach One Campaign Reaches Out!

WS96

Attention! Military outreach in progress, sir!

Our commitment to provide quality education wherever people live and work has now assumed global proportions. Every military base, post, station or ship has an Education Service Officer (ESO) that recommends and advises military and non-military personnel on College opportunities and programs. This person serves as a vital link between educational institutions and the servicemember. Each ESO in the Army, Navy and Marine Corps now has received a personalized letter from Thomas Edison State College, fifteen copies of the Prospectus and a fact sheet about the College, including how to get information through the World Wide Web. Servicemembers around the world now have immediate access to information about the adult-centered services available at Thomas Edison State College.

This commitment to reacquainting our armed forces with our degree programs and degree completion is already having an effect. E-mail inquiries from military bases around the world have increased. Additional inquiries are expected to continue to climb as we continue to correspond with the ESOs. The second phase of this massive effort begins shortly with an e-mail announcement about the Master of Science in Management (MSM)

With the MSM in progress, this is an exciting time to make people aware of the many benefits of a Thomas Edison education. Military servicemembers, current and former students, alumni and graduates are welcome to provide feedback about groups, organizations and corporations that may be interested in Thomas Edison's services. Please contact the Office of Enrollment Services, Thomas Edison State College, 101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176. ♦

Visit the College in cyberspace

Have you stopped into Thomas Edison State College's World Wide Web page lately? If not, then head on over to <http://www.tesc.edu> to find the latest and greatest about "one of the brighter stars of higher learning" (*The New York Times*).

The Web page features services for enrolled students, and general information for anyone interested in the College's adult-centered services. You can find the basics about degree programs, College special events, fees, "What's New" and much more. So, next time you're surfing the Web, make sure to visit Thomas Edison State College. ♦

WORLD WIDE WEB WORLD WIDE WEB

Regional alumni chapters start in North Jersey



Pictured at the North Jersey Regional Chapter meeting are (bottom, from the left) Dennis G. Towers '83, '85; Judith Gottlieb '95; Adrienne Mosley '95; (standing, from the left) Paula Vaughan '90; Mary C. Dunn '80; Pat Slaymaker '90; Josephine Diaz '89; D. Lance Godfrey, student.

Alumni and students who live in different locales are going to have the chance to gather together to support each other and Thomas Edison State College through Regional Chapters. The goal is to provide an opportunity for local alumni and students to serve as advocates for the College, to promote a sense of community and shared purpose between

the College, its alumni and students and to offer regional workshops and programs that enhance professional and personal development.

The first, official Chapter has been started in North Jersey. Interested alumni and students met at Caldwell College, Caldwell, N.J., on Saturday, March 16, for an orientation. Patricia Slaymaker '90, chair of

the Regional Meetings Committee, and Paula Vaughan '90, Alumni Association vice president for Alumni Member Relations, were very enthused with the response and interest of the alumni and students present. According to Slaymaker, "Our North Jersey Chapter is excited and ready to go. I look forward to working with Chapters across the state—and across the country—as Thomas Edison alumni and students get together for the benefit of the College and their own personal and professional growth." ♦

Alumni and students interested in joining the North Jersey Chapter, or starting a Chapter in another region, are encouraged to call the Office of Alumni Affairs, (201) 877-1450, or write to Patricia Slaymaker '90 c/o Thomas Edison State College, Office of Alumni Affairs, 153 Halsey St., 5th Floor, Newark, N.J. 07102-2898.

Hey, that was my major, too...

Two Thomas Edison State College graduates and one student—all with Criminal Justice specializations and each in the field of law enforcement—are interested in connecting with other alumni and students working in the same profession. They would like to develop a network of Thomas Edison Criminal Justice professionals to provide opportunities to communicate with each other and to identify ways to serve as advocates for the College.

The two alumni, who also are members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, are: Howard Butt '95 and Joseph Linskey '86. The student is Frank Szynal. Anyone interested is invited to write to the Office of Alumni Affairs, Thomas Edison State College, 153 Halsey St., 5th Floor, Newark, N.J. 07102-2898. Include your name, address, phone number(s), e-mail address, type of law enforcement employment and graduate or student status. Information will be forwarded to Howard, Joe and Frank for follow-up.

Alumni in other professions who are interested in making a Thomas Edison connection also are welcome to drop a line to the Office of Alumni Affairs. The more, the merrier! ♦

applause...applause...

'79

Susan Louis Moyer (B.A.) of Ridgewood, N.J., has just completed her second book titled, *Silk Painting*

for Fashion and Fine Art, published by Watson-Guipill. Moyer's first book, *Silk Painting, The Artist's Guide to Gutta and Wax Resist Techniques*, was published in 1991, and is a best seller, now in its 4th printing. Moyer exhibits her work internationally and has sold her surface designs to major apparel manufacturers. She teaches silk painting workshops from coast to coast.

'82

Judith Lasch (B.A.) of Middletown Township, N.J., is the president of Lasch Media

Productions in Red Bank, N.J., a family-owned company which uses sophisticated video cameras and editing devices to produce documentaries, infomercials, promotional videos and a long-running New York City cable show called Focus on New York. Lasch, whose staff includes daughters Callie, Amy and Beth, earned a master's degree from City University of New York.

'86

Joseph P. Linskey (BSHS) of North Brunswick, N.J., was promoted to the rank of captain and assigned as opera-

tions commander of the Franklin Township Police Department. Joe, who is on the Alumni Association board of directors, is working toward his Doctor of Education degree at Nova Southeastern University.

Shirley Erdos (A.A.) of South Orange, N.J., received a bachelor's degree in sociology from Montclair State University in May 1995. The 70-year-old Erdos said she opted to complete her studies for personal gratification.

'88

Marilyn R. Collier (BSBA) of Scotch Plains, N.J., has established Align-

ment Inc., specializing in organizational change, human relations and teaching women how to create meaningful changes in their lives. In 1991, Collier earned a M.S. in organization behavior and human resource development from American University and National Training Laboratories (NTL) Institute for Applied Behavioral Science. In 1995, she earned a M.A. in human development from The Fielding Institute, where she is currently working toward a Ph.D. in human and organization systems. Collier will provide one-hour seminars on the subject of "change" for Thomas Edison alumni and students for free at New Jersey locations. Contact her at (908) 755-3322.

'91

Ezzio A. Bustamante (B.A.) of Elizabeth, N.J., graduated from Kean College of Union, N.J., in 1995 with a M.A. degree

in behavioral science. A management specialist for the city of Elizabeth, Bustamante also works part-time as evening director for Union County College, Elizabeth Campus. Currently, Bustamante is studying the possibility of forming a company that would serve as a link between North American companies and South American markets.

'92

John J. Schneyer, Jr., (B.A.) of Succasunna, N.J., completed the requirements for a Master of Science in

Management Science degree through the Executive Program at New Jersey Institute of Technology's School of Industrial Management in October 1995. The degree will be conferred at the formal graduation ceremony in May 1996. The Executive Program follows a 14 month accelerated schedule intended to allow executives to pursue their degree while still being free to tend to normal business responsibilities, corporate travel and relocation. It requires two weeks of residency and all-day sessions every other Friday and Saturday, and includes an international trip which, for his group, included Singapore, Hong Kong and the People's Republic of China. Schneyer is the manager of Information Services Quality Assurance with BASF Corporation in Mt. Olive, N.J.

'93

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Robert S. Scott (ASAST) received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Scott, who serves at Naval Nuclear Power Training Command in Orlando, Fla., was recognized for his outstanding achievement while serving as leading petty officer aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise. He was singled out for the award because of his superb initiative and contribution in helping the command fulfill its mission.

Samuel Tarshish (BSBA) of Lakewood, N.J., passed the uniform CPA examination and was admitted to practice in New Jersey in 1995. He is a cost analyst at Kimball Medical Center in Lakewood.

'95

James W. Edwards, Sr., (ASM) of Tuckerton, N.J., was elected treasurer of the New Jersey Association of

Public Accountants at its 48th annual convention in June 1995.

Ruth Ann Blumenstein (B.A.) of Cherry Hill, N.J., was second runner-up in the Ms. New Jersey Senior American Pageant held in Atlantic City, N.J., in November 1995.

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Edward P. Tremblay (ASAST) received a Letter of Commendation while assigned at Nuclear Field A School, Naval Training Center in Orlando, Fla. Tremblay was recognized for his superior performance of duty.

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class John J. Tomon (BSAST) of Charlestown, R.I., recently reported for duty with submarine Precommissioning Unit Louisiana, based at Groton, Conn.

If you would like news of your accomplishments included in the Applause, Applause section of *Invention*, please send information to:

Office of Alumni Affairs
Thomas Edison State College
153 Halsey St., 5th floor
Newark, N.J. 07102-2898

You may enclose a black-and-white photograph for consideration. Please include your daytime phone number, Thomas Edison degree(s) earned and year of graduation. Your news will be published as soon as possible; however, due to our quarterly publication schedule, it may not appear in the next issue.

\$760 million healthcare savings predicted:

Thomas Edison's HINT study results in proposed legislation

Two Senate committee held hearings in February on nine bills based on the outcome of the Healthcare Information Networks and Technologies (HINT) study completed by Thomas Edison State College and New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT).

The HINT study, entitled Electronic Network Solutions for Rising Healthcare Costs, recommends decisive methods to bring about a revolution in the way healthcare information is processed. The study recommends automated open networked computer systems and expands the protection of confidential medical information in New Jersey. If enacted, these nine bills (S-43 through S-50) could initiate a \$760 million savings statewide in administrative costs during the first year of implementation.

"This landmark legislation will move New Jersey's administrative healthcare procedures from inefficient and costly paper processes common in the 1800s to more cost efficient computer networks using today's existing technologies for processing healthcare claims and medical information," said Sen. Robert E. Littell. "These efficiencies will be seen throughout the sys-

tem, from the patient, the physician, the hospital, the employer and the insurer. Everyone will benefit. By using these systems, unnecessary tests and procedures can be eliminated, and fraud and abuse will be reduced."

The HINT study was initiated under the leadership of Sen. Littell and Sen. Richard J. LaRossa. Thomas Edison State College and New Jersey Institute of Technology were commissioned to collaboratively seek ways to achieve administrative efficiencies in the way healthcare claims and medical information is transmitted, stored and retrieved in New Jersey. The HINT study is the impetus behind these nine bills, which would bring disparate systems of healthcare information processing — which are mostly paper-based — to electronically open networked systems. The HINT report found that 85 percent of the 150 million healthcare claims filed annually in New Jersey were processed on paper.

"Using computers in open networked systems," added Sen. LaRossa, "there is an ability to provide more accurate and timely access to critical healthcare information for

physicians, hospitals, insurers and consumers. We need to bring the administrative side of healthcare into a more efficient system such as already exists in the banking, retail or travel industries. This will be a win-win situation for all

at an ATM machine or flight information on airlines from a travel agent is quick and efficient for both the consumer and merchant. He described the delays that would result if there were separate paper forms and transaction approval

Michael J. Scheiring, vice president and treasurer of Thomas Edison State College, added, "As a direct result of the HINT study, the state Legislature, with the concurrence of Gov. Christine Todd Whitman, funded \$2 million to the Department of Health (DOH) to start to connect hospitals to the DOH as an initial step in connecting providers, payers and other health entities with one another and with the DOH." As part of this appropriation, Thomas Edison and NJIT will serve in an advisory capacity to the DOH in implementing the open networked system with hospitals.

Another direct result of the release of the HINT study was the Legislature providing the \$1.5 million in funding to the attorney general for enhanced enforcement efforts to reduce healthcare fraud in New Jersey. Healthcare fraud is estimated to be as much as 10 percent of the nation's trillion dollar healthcare expenditures; as much as \$3 billion in New Jersey could be attributed to healthcare fraud and abuse annually.

Progress toward this important program will be reported in future issues of *Invention*. For more information about HINT and the HINT report, contact Gordon at (609) 984-1661. ♦

The HINT study recommends decisive methods to bring about a revolution in the way healthcare information is processed.

involved with healthcare, including the consumer."

"The HINT study pointed out administrative efficiencies in healthcare that can be achieved through electronic information transmittal," stated Mark Gordon, director of Special Studies at Thomas Edison and a key architect of the report.

Gordon compared the potential efficiencies in healthcare to how retail businesses, banks and travel networks currently handle administrative information. Today, through common networks connected electronically, the processing of a major charge card at a retail store, a bank transaction

procedures for each credit card, bank ATM machine or airline. "Unfortunately, this is the current administrative situation in healthcare, as each separate physician, hospital and insurance provider works through a maze of forms, policies and reporting procedures" Gordon added. The same "one stop shopping" available in retail can be applied to the healthcare industry through the use of common healthcare communication transmission standards using open networked systems that would connect employers, physicians, hospitals and insurers to one another to communicate in an efficient and timely manner.

Thomas Edison State College to introduce "Talking Browser" to adult learners

A collaboration that includes Thomas Edison State College will open doors of access to visually impaired adult learners throughout the world through a new technology called a "Talking Browser." Using this technology and Thomas Edison's other state-of-the-art higher education resources, visually impaired students will be able to use their computers and the World Wide Web to complete college degrees through Thomas Edison.

Development of the Talking Browser, called pwWebSpeak, is being spearheaded by Productivity Works Inc., a Trenton startup software company; deWitt & Associates, a consulting firm in Glen Rock, N.J.; and the College.

"This adds another level to Thomas Edison's array of educational offerings," said Drew Hopkins, director of Management Information Systems. "At the present time, Thomas Edison enables adults to complete degrees anywhere in the world through a variety of options, including testing, assessment of college-level knowledge they already have, courses they can take at home



It was just the beginning when Thomas Edison president Dr. George A. pruit (r) and Chairman of the Board of Trustees George Fricke cut the ceremonial ribbon on the College's Web page last year. In 1996, the Web page will be available to the blind and visually impaired through pwWebSpeak, the "Talking Browser."

or work, transfer of credit from other accredited colleges, and other methods. As the Talking Browser technology is completed and

adapted to the needs of Thomas Edison students in the coming years, visually challenged adult learners will be able to use the Internet to

communicate with the College every step of the way, from inquiring, applying online, enrolling and taking courses independent of the

conventional campus classroom."

Ray Ingram, executive vice president of Productivity Works, agreed. "For the Internet to be truly global, it has to be handicapped accessible. We are creating a product that will open the World Wide Web to a population that has been excluded from using it."

The Talking Browser, which is being tested at sites such as the New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped in Ewing, N.J., reads or speaks what is on the Web page. However, unlike most software that reads text to those who are blind or visually impaired, pwWebSpeak can identify highlighted words on the "page" that serve as links to other Web sites. By accessing these links, pwWebSpeak users will be able to surf the 'net with the best of them.

Testing of this exciting technology is in progress in limited sites in the United States and Europe. Productivity Works hopes to release pwWebSpeak in late spring. Watch future issues of *Invention* for progress reports. ♦

John J. McCann elected to Thomas Edison State College Foundation Board

John J. McCann of Sea Bright, N.J., executive vice president with Lynch, Jones & Ryan (LJR), Inc., in New York City, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation. A nonprofit corporation affiliated with Thomas Edison State College, the Foundation raises funds to support higher education for adults and other initiatives of the College.

A graduate of Thomas Edison State College with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in finance, McCann has served as treasurer of the



John J. McCann

Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association. A member of the Security Industry Association, McCann served three terms on the operations committee and four terms as president of the credit division.

In his current position, McCann is responsible for assisting LJR in the expansion of its businesses with direct authority for the firm's day-to-day operations. McCann and his wife, Valerie, have three grown children.

"John McCann has made significant contributions both in the business world and in the community," said John Thurber, acting vice president for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison. "He will be an invaluable addition to the College family as a member of the Foundation Board." ❖

partnership update

Graduate credit recommendations for courses from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities

Five courses offered to teachers through the New Jersey Council for the Humanities (NJCH) have undergone a PONSI review through Thomas Edison State College, and are recommended for 3 semester hours each of college credit at the graduate level. This recommendation means that New Jersey teachers in levels K-12, and administrators who take these

participate in the educational program. Thomas Edison State College has operated the PONSI program for ACE in this region since 1981. PONSI, part of the Office of Corporate-Higher Education Programs, is one of the College's comprehensive set of services for assessing knowledge that adults have gained outside the traditional college setting.

The NJCH courses recently

development. Courses are offered at several New Jersey locations.

NJCH, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, is an independent nonprofit organization that was founded in 1972 to enrich the lives of New Jersey citizens and to stimulate inquiry and thought through public humanities programs.

"Receiving the PONSI credit recommendations at the graduate level is critical to a significant number of teachers who take our courses. The recommendations can help them meet requirements for graduate degrees they are pursuing or, in some cases, qualify them for advancement," Paul Nolan, education director for the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, pointed out. Students benefit as well, when teachers return to the classroom with new skills and enrichment. Nolan added that the evaluation provided him and his staff with the opportunity to critically examine the strengths and weaknesses of the program, and to develop new goals.

Further information about PONSI credit recommendations and reviews can be obtained by contacting the Office of Corporate-Higher Education Programs, Thomas Edison State College, 101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176, (609) 633-6271. ❖

courses, can earn graduate-level credits at many of the over 1,100 colleges and universities nationwide that accept PONSI recommendations.

PONSI is a program of the American Council on Education (ACE) that translates the high-quality education that is being offered by noncollegiate organizations (corporations, government, unions and associations, for example) into college credit equivalencies that are then used by colleges and universities around the country to determine credit awards for those who

reviewed include: Holding Up Half the World: Women and Community, The Individual and Community in America, New Jersey's History: The Barrel Tapped at Both Ends, Religious Diversity in America and Worlds Apart: American Cities and Suburbs in Comparative Perspective.

Approximately 125 teachers are expected to take these courses each year through NJCH's New Jersey Teacher Institute, which offers intensive seminars and other follow-up activities designed to promote professional

EXAMining Your POTENTIAL



For thousands of adults, going to college has been the "impossible dream."

For one reason or another, their life circumstances—job commitment, family responsibilities, a physical disability—will not permit them to take courses. For others, taking courses would be essentially a backward step in their personal education: life experience has already given them the college-level knowledge that a course is designed to impart.

For such individuals, credit-by-examination programs, such as the Thomas Edison College Examination Program (TECEP), are ideal. By taking and passing a TECEP test, which costs an enrolled student \$50, the individual can provide the demonstration of achievement which is the basis for an award of college credit. That very same college credit might be achieved by sitting in a regular college classroom, but this would require a fairly rigid time schedule, perhaps twice a week for 15 weeks, as well as a tuition cost of \$300 or more. Many students would agree with Rhonda Shively, who recently earned six credits through testing, that "...the TECEP program is an excellent way for students to receive credit for knowledge they have obtained over the years. It is wonderful to be able to work full-time and still go to college."

What Are They?

What are the examinations like? They are very similar to the final examinations that are given on college campuses to instructed students—no easier, no harder. Studies have shown that classroom examinations are appropriate measures of what the instructors have taught in the courses. The result is that a person who earns college credit through credit-by-examination can be confident that their level of attainment is equal to or greater than that of the average instructed student. This is to be expected, since the examinations are developed by professors who are instructors in the various courses, and who design examinations for the students they instruct.

At Thomas Edison State College, for example, over 100 faculty consultants have contributed to the design and development of TECEP examinations. The faculty who participate in Thomas

Edison programs are experienced teachers. In 1995-96, for example, more than one-third were full professors on their home campuses, and almost two-thirds held a doctorate in their field.

Preparing for Exams

People prepare for credit-by-examination tests in different ways. Some take correspondence courses, which are a kind of formal instruction, but which permit the students to set a flexible pace, working at their own time and place. Others buy or borrow textbooks and study on their own, taking the examination when they feel they are ready. Programs for credit-by-examination, such as the TECEP program, provide study guides describing the tests, which give information on the test content and sample materials to help the student prepare. The test preparation process can be an exciting learning experience for students as they acquire new information and organize their ideas into a cohesive overview of the test subject.

A Wide Variety

Approximately 95 different examinations, covering a wide range of liberal arts, business and professional areas, are offered through Thomas Edison's TECEP program. Originally designed to help enrolled Thomas Edison students meet degree requirements, TECEP examinations are now administered nationally, and may be used at many other institutions.

Credit-by-examination may sound a little different because, unlike ordinary college work, a specific instructor does not teach the course. However, it is a valid source of college credit, and a wide variety of individuals can confidently use it for their own purpose in earning a college education. In the words of a recent student, "I love the TECEP program, because it empowers people to complete their goals and move forward." The impossible dream can become a reality.

For more information about TECEP at Thomas Edison State College, contact the Office of Testing and Assessment, Thomas Edison State College, 101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176, (609) 984-1100. ❖

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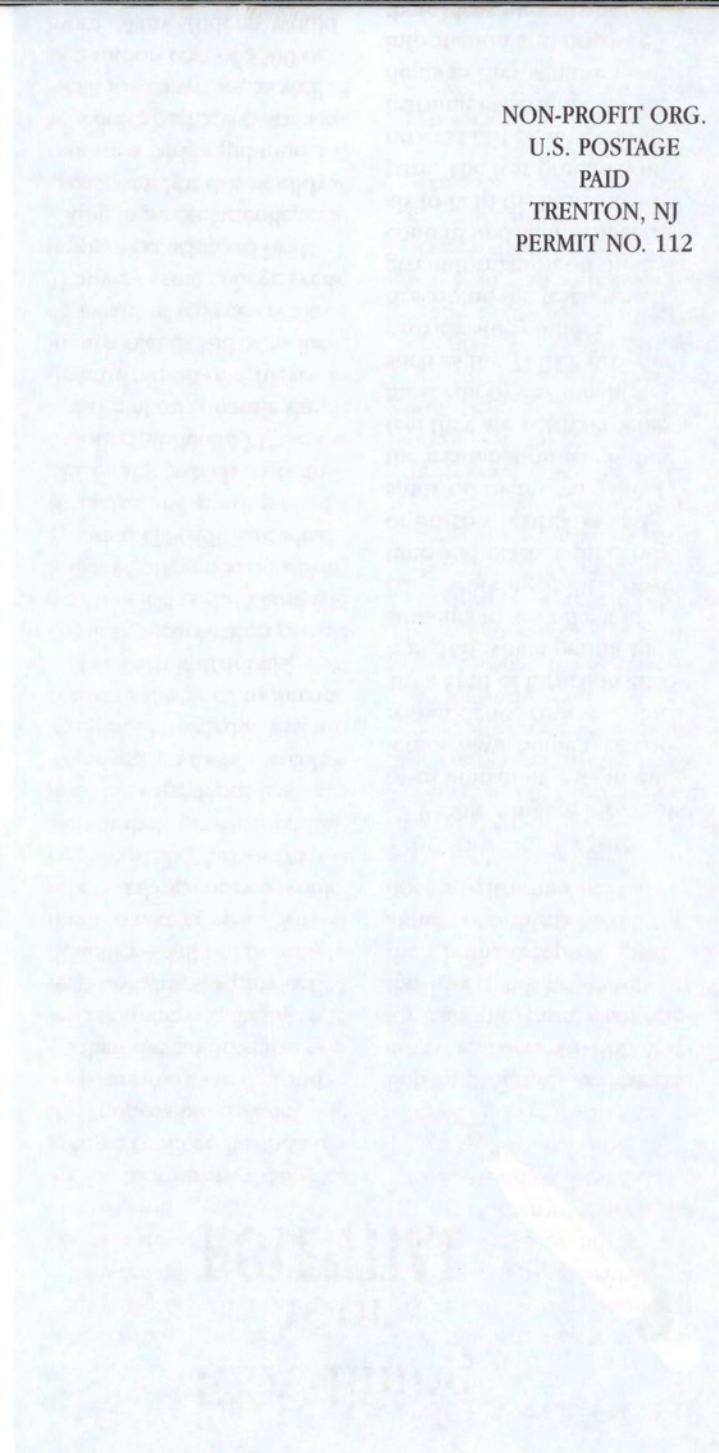
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