

I·N·V·E·N·T·I·O·N

NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

Summer 1995

College president addresses international leaders at seminar in Salzburg, Austria

Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, lectured by invitation at the prestigious Salzburg Seminar in Salzburg, Austria. Dr. Pruitt addressed an international audience of leaders from more than 35 nations from around the world on the topic, "Higher Education: Institutional Structures for the Twenty-First Century."

The Salzburg Seminar, sponsored by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, has served since its founding in 1947 as an important international forum where world leaders in government, business, education, philanthropy and public policy come together to discuss emerging issues of a global nature. The seminar was at Schloss Leopoldskron, an 18th century castle just outside the city famous as the birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

For the past 12 years, Dr. Pruitt, a resident of Trenton, N.J., has served as president of Thomas Edison State

College. During the term of his presidency, the College has been in the vanguard of a select group of forward-looking institutions throughout the nation which recognize that mature adults are not best served by campus-based, traditional academic programs designed to accommodate 18- to 22-year-olds. To meet the need, the College offers many alternatives to adults who wish to pursue their educational goals, including distance learning technologies such as the On-Line Computer Classroom, Guided Study and Contract Learning; the Thomas Edison College Examination Program (TECEP); and Portfolio Assessment.

Dr. Pruitt received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Illinois State University, and his Ph.D. in higher education administration from the Graduate School of The Union Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio. He has received honorary doctorates from Illinois State University and



Dr. George A. Pruitt

Bridgewater State College. His leadership was recognized in 1986 when the Exxon Foundation selected him as One of the Most Effective College Presidents in the United States.

Prior Learning Assessment helps adult students get ahead

Many adult students thinking about returning to college may not be aware that, through prior learning assessment (PLA), they can obtain college credit for knowledge they have already gained through experience. Thomas Edison State College Portfolio Assessment is a popular avenue for adult learners who wish to use PLA.

Secretaries with 10 years of experience and dedicated gardeners may be able to translate their expertise into college credit for secretarial science or horticulture. When they do enroll in college, they may be able to save countless hours of unnecessary coursework by having their noncollegiate experience evaluated.

"We believe that all adult students possess at least one area of knowledge in which they can develop a portfolio for assessment," said Dr. Debra Dagavarian, director of Prior Learning Assessment at Thomas Edison. "Our task—one which is continually rewarding—is to help them achieve that goal."

Dean Ruth McKeefery is honored after 18 years of service



Ruth McKeefery

A fond farewell and some touching testimonials sent Dr. Ruth McKeefery, dean of the College, into retirement after 18 years of unswerving service to Thomas Edison State College. Dr. McKeefery retired on June 30, 1995.

"Ruth McKeefery is a pillar of the foundation on which this College has been built," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison.

In recognition of her noteworthy achievements, the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State College honored Dr. McKeefery by presenting her with the Distinguished Service award, and by

naming her Dean Emeritus, a first for the College.

"Ruth McKeefery is a pillar of the foundation on which this College has been built," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison. "Her competent, dedicated leadership has contributed in no small measure to the quality and fidelity of purpose for which this College is deservedly known. I am grateful for Ruth's generosity in sharing her many gifts with her colleagues, our students, this College and its president. While we will miss her greatly, she is richly deserving of a fulfilling retirement from a career very well done."

College staff celebrated Dr. McKeefery with a reception and moving, often poignant, remarks. The staff presented her with a globe, as well as a caricature depicting Dr. McKeefery on top of the world, to commemorate her many personal and professional international travels. Dr. McKeefery also was lauded by staff, faculty consultants, friends and family at a dinner-dance. Words of appreciation and respect were given by many, including her daughter, Dr. Virginia McKeefery-Reynolds. She was presented with a one-of-a-kind Thomas Edison State College clock, a letter from the governor of New Jersey, citations from the New Jersey State Legislature and a memory book of mementos from friends and colleagues near and far. An oil painting of Dr. McKeefery, which now hangs in the College's Academic Center, also was unveiled.

As dean of Thomas Edison, Dr. McKeefery's accomplishments were many. She designed several new degree

programs for the College, including the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Associate in Science in Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Associate in Science in Applied Science and Technology, and the Associate in Science in Public and Social Services. Most recently, she worked with Vice President and Provost Dr. Jerry Ice in developing the Master of Science in Management degree.

Dr. McKeefery has helped to extend the good name of Thomas Edison State College throughout the country and the world by serving on numerous committees and boards. Her commitment within the state of New Jersey includes committees such as Outcomes Assessment, Military Advisory Council, Associate Degree Development

At Thomas Edison, more than 6,000 credits are assessed each year. On the average, 2,000 courses are completed annually by students using the portfolio process.

College credits earned through prior learning assessment can be used toward a degree at Thomas Edison State College, and at more than 35 other colleges and universities throughout the state. At Thomas Edison, more than 6,000 credits are assessed each year. On the average, 2,000 courses are completed annually by students using the portfolio process.

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Come to an event that's out of this world . . .

Celebrate the ingenuity of Thomas Alva Edison and the 21st century college that bears his name at the Fourth Annual Foundation Gala. Guests will be transported to *Science Fiction, Fantasy & Fun* at the Hyatt Regency, Princeton, N.J., on Saturday, Oct. 14, 1995, where this year's stellar *Spirit of Edison* award winners will be honored. An exciting evening of dining and dancing will begin

with a cocktail reception at 7 p.m. This year, guests will be able to dock into the heavenly Silent Auction throughout the evening and take chances on some impressive items.

Beam in reservations now for this futuristic journey by calling the Thomas Edison State College Foundation, (609) 984-1588.

Reservations are \$125 per person. No space suits required . . . just black tie attire.



Thomas Edison State College's first Golf Classic is a hit

The birdies were flying at the Cranbury (New Jersey) Golf Club as a hundred golfers teed off to the First Annual Thomas C. Streckewald Memorial Golf Classic. Golfers were treated to a bar-b-que lunch and dinner, cool refreshments at select holes, contests along the course, a silent auction and a fun-filled awards ceremony as they helped to raise more than \$30,000 to benefit Thomas Edison State College.

The event, co-sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce of the Princeton Area, honored the memory of Thomas C. Streckewald, a College administrator and chamber president who was killed in an automobile collision, along with his Thomas Edison colleague Assistant Dean Thomas Eklund, on March 26, 1994.

"The College is pleased to be able to work with the Chamber of Commerce of the Princeton Area on this event honoring the memory of our colleague and friend," said Dr. Natale S. Caliando, vice president for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison State College.

Thanks to the dedicated committee who made the first tournament successful: Jim Clingham, who completed Streckewald's tenure as president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Princeton Area and now serves as its chairman of the board, chaired the event. Co-chairs of the committee were Dr. James Carnes, David Sarnoff Research Center; Owen Freeman, Commonwealth State Bank; and Richard J. Gillespie, The Gillespie Organization. Catherine J. Streckewald served as honorary chair. Committee members included Dr. Natale S. Caliando, Thomas Edison State College; Dr. Sonja Eveslage,

Thomas Edison State College; Maria Imbalzano, Stark & Stark; Robert Humes, American Re-Insurance; Cy Collins, Bell Atlantic, N.J.; Fay Wernik, Hyatt Regency; Rita Novitt, retired, Johnson & Johnson Co., Inc.; S. Jay

Nalli, IBM; David McDowell, Bohn Refrigeration Products; Harold Levenson, Oring, Levenson, Burness; Timothy Moonan, The Hibbert Group; Dr. Jerry Ice, Michael Scheiring, Frank Haggerty, Drew Hopkins, William

Watson and Philip Sanders, all of Thomas Edison State College; Barbara Cromwell, Summit Bank; Ellen Hodges, Chamber of Commerce of the Princeton Area; John Murat, National Westminster Bank; and Ellie Stevens, CoreStates.

"Four!" Winners hit it big at Golf Classic

The winning foursome was Jay Nalli, Tom Bartolaci, Susan McCredie and Jerry York. Second place went to Dr. James Carnes, Dave Ellison, Vince Boccanfuse and Bert Farletta. Closest to the Pin honors went to Tom Bartolaci. The Long Drive was hit by Dave Ellison.



Sponsorships put Golf Classic over the top

A deep debt of gratitude goes out to the Golf Classic's supporters:

Corporate sponsors:

AT&T Solutions
Brill & Truelove
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CoreStates New Jersey National Bank
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The Times (Trenton, N.J.)

Other donors, sponsors and advertisers:

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Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association
Thomas Edison State College Foundation
United Jersey Bank
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WPST Radio

Maureen McGuire appointed Director of Development at Thomas Edison State College

Maureen McGuire of Trenton, N.J., has been appointed director of Development at Thomas Edison State College. In making the announcement, Dr. Natale S. Caliando, vice president for Public Affairs, said McGuire's appointment represents "an important step in the College's outreach to the business and corporate communities. The College is fortunate to have attracted an executive of Maureen McGuire's stature."

In her current role in the Division of Public Affairs, McGuire will direct the College's annual fund appeals, major donor, planned giving and corporate

solicitation programs in addition to overseeing the Thomas Edison State College Foundation's Gala and Golf Classic.

"I am delighted to join the Public Affairs staff at Thomas Edison State College to advance the College's goals through resource development," said McGuire. "The innovative nature of this institution creates unique fund raising opportunities which I look forward to promoting on a local and national level."

McGuire, who had been director of Development and executive director of the Mercer County Community College

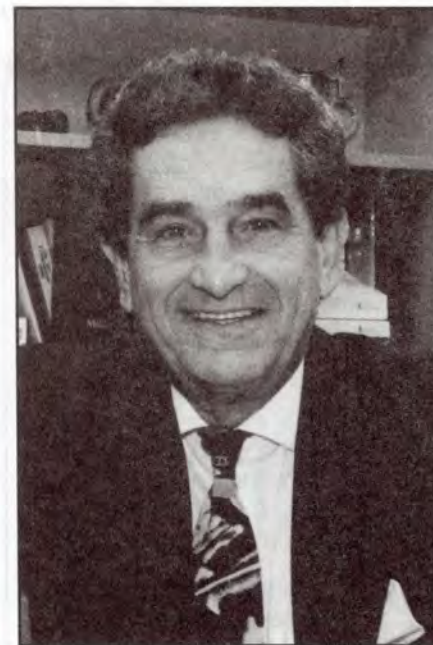


Maureen McGuire

Foundation for the past five years, brings to this position a wealth of knowledge and experience. She was responsible for MCCC's comprehensive fundraising program and for the implementation of its special events calendar. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Rutgers University. McGuire, a member of the National Society of Fundraising Executives, New Jersey Chapter, has been listed in Who's Who of Emerging Leaders in America, Who's Who of American Women and Outstanding Young Women of America.

Join the team and make a difference

by S. John Quattrone, president, S. John Quattrone & Associates



S. John Quattrone

It has been said, "One person can make a difference." That phrase is true for volunteers, business people and sports stars alike. Whether giving time to a charity, staying late at work to finish an important project or scoring an overtime goal, the efforts of one individual can help the team rise above the rest.

Alumni, students and friends of Thomas Edison State College can make a difference by remembering the College through a special bequest. A special bequest enables an individual to support the programs and services that Thomas Edison offers to adult learners throughout the nation and the world. A thoughtful bequest made now can benefit generations to come.

Make a difference and remember Thomas Edison State College through a bequest in a will. This can be done as an

outright bequest, a bequest of residuary estate, a bequest of percentage of residuary estate or a contingent bequest. These different options provide different levels of support for the College. In all cases, this support can be made in conjunction with support for family and loved ones. Those generous enough to remember the College in this special way become members in the new Thomas Edison Income Development League. The Thomas Edison Income Development League will have a place of distinction in the Foundation's Honor Roll of Donors listed yearly in *Invention*.

Many alumni and students support the College because it enabled them to pursue—and to achieve—the dream of a College degree. Friends often support the College's mission because they see the good work being done on behalf

of adult learners. Many support the College simply to leave a legacy toward educating adults in the future. The Office of Development at Thomas Edison State College can provide guidance and assistance to those interested in making a difference.

Join the team! For more information, contact the Office of Development, Thomas Edison State College, 101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176, (609) 984-1588.

S. John Quattrone is a member of the Board of Directors of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation, and co-chairperson of the Legacy & Planned Giving Committee. The Foundation is a nonprofit corporation affiliated with Thomas Edison State College which raises funds to support higher education for adults and other initiatives of the College.

Getting ready to manage tomorrow's organization

The promise of technology, the future of the workplace, career development, diversity, surviving organizational change and other current topics will round out this year's Corporate-Higher Education Colloquium theme:

"Tomorrow's Organization: Will You be Ready?" The Colloquium will be held on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Caesars Atlantic City.

Keynote speaker Dr. James Carnes, president and CEO of Sarnoff Research Center, Princeton, N.J., will share his insights on the future of technology and its impact on corporations and educational organizations. Dr. Carnes, a respected executive who holds a number of patents, is uniquely qualified to provide this fascinating journey into the future.

For the first time, a Pre-Colloquium Session, "Climbing Out of Our 20th Century Box," will be held the day before the Colloquium. Moderated by Wally Woods, a transition facilitator, the session will urge participants to explore how they learn and think, and how to question some of their perspectives. Woods will emphasize improving communications, planning,



Dr. James Carnes will keynote this year's colloquium.

teamwork and problem-solving. The Pre-Colloquium Session is offered to Colloquium participants only.

For registration information, please call the Office of Corporate-Higher Education Programs at Thomas Edison State College: (609) 633-6271.



Salem Community College became the 16th New Jersey community college to embark on a baccalaureate degree completion program with Thomas Edison State College. Participating in the signing of the New Jersey Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program (NJBDCCP) agreement are (l. to r.) Dr. Jerry Ice, vice president and provost, Thomas Edison State College; Dr. John Wilson, dean, Academic and Student Affairs, Salem Community College; and Dr. Linda Jolly, president, Salem Community College.

Aviation major soars at Thomas Edison State College

by Linda Soltis

More people are flying today than ever before. As the aviation industry grows and changes, and the skies become increasingly crowded, the need for top-level pilots, mechanics and air traffic controllers becomes vital. Thomas Edison State College has specializations in aviation that recognize there is a need for managing every aspect of air travel.

The aviation specializations are the largest and fastest growing majors offered at Thomas Edison. According to Associate Dean Dr. Susan Friedman, "Thomas Edison is meeting the professional advancement needs every day for air transportation career people through our specializations in Aviation Flight Technology and Aviation Maintenance Technology."

Under the aviation specializations, which are designed for pilots, and airframe and powerplant mechanics, individuals working in the industry can combine on-the-job training, correspondence courses and classroom instruction to earn a college degree. College credit is also awarded for a number of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) licenses. The Air Traffic Control specialization, deriving credit from the FAA certification, is designed for presently licensed air traffic controllers.



The credit required for the specializations in the Air Traffic Control and Aviation Maintenance Technology are completed by license as a full performance-level Air Traffic Control Specialist or an Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic, respectively. Credit for Aviation Flight Technology derived from pilot and flight instructor licenses depend on which ratings are held. Additional credit may be needed to complete the Aviation Flight Technology specialization, which can include courses in aviation safety, aircraft structure, airline operation, etc. Because the specializations are built into the Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Technology degree program, the student must also complete the core science and technology requirements and three additional semester hours included under the free electives. An associate degree is also available for pilots, airframe and powerplant mechanics, and air traffic controllers.

Fees at Thomas Edison are reasonable because most students pay only as they earn credit. In some cases, fees for out-of-state students are slightly higher. However, since July 1, 1995, an exciting new Comprehensive Fee Alternative has been added, which allows students to pay one fee for an entire year's worth of services. A complete listing of fees is included in the College's information package.

Anyone interested in more information about the College or the aviation specialization should contact the Office of Admissions Services, (609) 984-1150, or write Admission at Thomas Edison State College, 101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176.

Head and shoulders above the rest: Mike Arsics, champion of aviation

by Nina Malone

When staff at Thomas Edison State College say that Michael Arsics is single-handedly selling the College to the aviation industry, they aren't kidding. Arsics, a 74-year-old BSAST student, has the enthusiasm and energy of a fleet of jets and the determination of a fighter craft.

For more than 50 years, Arsics has been a licensed aviation mechanic. His licensure is from the Casey Jones School of Aeronautics, Newark, N.J. He also holds an airline transport rating as a pilot. He has served in the military, worked for major corporations such as General Dynamics, International Telephone and Telegraph, and Gulf and Western Industries, and has proudly flown around the globe. He has been lauded by the Flight Safety Foundation with the 1991 Joe Chase Award for outstanding dedication and contribution to the furtherance of safety through aviation maintenance. He also has been honored by the Teterboro Chapter of the Professional Aviation Maintenance Association with the 1992 Golden Award in honor of his 50 years of licensure. His goal now is to work to change the "mechanic" designation in his license to something that more

closely resembles what those who hold the license do: aviation maintenance engineer, with ratings in airframe and engines.

"The fellas who work on those machines are well-trained," Arsics said. "They have knowledge of physics and math, or they wouldn't be successful. Airplanes are designed by some of the best engineers in the world. The next critical step is keeping them air-worthy, and that's the mechanic's job," Arsics emphasized. "But, they are more than just 'mechanics.'"

Arsics is working with Thomas Edison State College to build bridges that can help those in the field to earn their degrees. "I'm a believer in Thomas Edison State College," Arsics stressed. "Thomas Edison is the answer, and people are interested. I want to see the young people get an opportunity to get out there and to get an education. They have licenses and they work hard."

Part of the pitch that Arsics is making is aimed at professional organizations and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). "A name change will give those in the field the incentive to go back and get more education," he explained.

"These guys deserve it. They continue to educate themselves to keep current and do great work for airlines and major corporations."

Arsics personal journey through Thomas Edison is, in part, to set an example for others. He is enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Technology (BSAST) degree. "I want to show others that they can overcome obstacles and gain the confidence to go back to school because they are bright and smart. They can do it!" he emphasized. Since Arsics holds a FAA Airframe and Power Plant Mechanics certification, he was able to enroll with 55 s.h. under his belt.

He credits Director of Enrollment Services Dr. Iris Saltiel and Associate Dean Dr. Susan Friedman with giving him the opportunity to pursue his degree and his interests in furthering his field. "I'm a firm believer in Thomas Edison; I'll do everything I can to help the College get the word out," he said.

Drs. Saltiel and Friedman think a lot of Arsics, too. He has been appointed as the student representative to the BSAST Degree Advisory Committee, which is the body that directs the requirements

of that program. He is also working with Dr. Saltiel to grow the enrollments in the aviation area. Arsics has been instrumental in setting up meetings between Thomas Edison State College, professional associations and the FAA. "Mike is one-of-a-kind," said Dr. Saltiel. "His assistance has been invaluable as we work to interest aviation professionals in Thomas Edison's program." Dr. Friedman heartily concurs.

Arsics is working hard to let everyone in his industry know what is available at Thomas Edison. What makes him unique is his spirit. It is the spirit of a man who has flown many flights from Teterboro, N.J. to London, to Zurich, across the Himalayas, through China, into Uganda and beyond. Mike Arsics sees the potential in every child who joins the Young Eagles to take an interest in flying and to make a career of it. He sees that same spark in every mechanic, technician and pilot: the potential to take well-honed skills and solid experience and to work toward a college degree. Arsics is doing that himself at Thomas Edison. And, if he has his way, so will every eligible professional in the industry.

Outstanding Advisors Nationally Recognized

Thomas Edison State College advisor elected to NACADA board of directors

Rosa Lee Eickhoff, senior program advisor at Thomas Edison State College, has been elected to the prestigious National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Board of Directors. Eickhoff, whose three-year term begins at the conclusion of the national conference in October 1995, will chair the "Advising as a Profession" Commission.

Eickhoff, a resident of Pennington, N.J., has been with Thomas Edison State College for over 11 years. Prior to her present position, Eickhoff was an evaluator with the College. Before moving to New Jersey, she was an elementary school teacher in Kansas and Missouri. Eickhoff received her Master of Science from Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kan., and her Bachelor of Science in education from the University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo. She holds the Life Teaching Certificate from Kansas and Missouri. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi (graduate honors society), Phi Delta Kappa (professional education fraternity), PEO (women's service fraternity), the Pennington Women's Club and ZONTA, Trenton Chapter.

"I am pleased—but not surprised—that Rosa Lee received this appointment," commented Dr. Jerry Ice, vice president and provost. "She is one of our finest, and will serve NACADA well."

NACADA is the foremost association on academic advising in the country. Chartered as a nonprofit organization in 1977, NACADA's mission is to promote quality academic advising and professional devel-



Rosa Lee Eickhoff

opment of its membership to ensure the educational development of students. It has over 4,000 members consisting of faculty members, professional advisors, administrators, counselors and others in academic and student affairs concerned with the intellectual, personal and vocational needs of students. In addition, NACADA represents academic advisors and serves as an advocate for academic advising. Each October, NACADA attracts over 1,500 attendees to its fall national convention. Officers, which are elected by the membership, are nationally recognized educators and administrator from across the country and Canada.

"Appointments such as these affirm our commitment to higher education and to the community at large," said Dr. Natale S. Caliendo, vice president for Public Affairs. "Rosa Lee is most deserving of this honor."

Thomas Edison State College advisor receives distinguished NACADA award



Patricia A. Jackson

Patricia A. Jackson, senior program advisor at Thomas Edison State College, has been selected to receive a Certificate of Merit for outstanding academic advising by the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA). Jackson will be honored and presented with the award at the President's Luncheon during the annual NACADA conference in Nashville, Tenn., in October.

Jackson, a resident of Mt. Laurel, N.J., has more than 25 years of experience in education. She has been with Thomas Edison State College for over seven years. Prior to joining the College, Jackson was director of Human Resource Development and director of the Bachelor of Health Science Program at Gwynedd-Mercy College in Darby, Pa. Jackson received her Master of Science from the University of Michigan and her Bachelor of Science from the Temple University in Philadelphia. She serves on College advisory committees for Applied Science and Technology, and Testing and Assessment, and has chaired or been a member of College search committees. Jackson also served as chair of the Focus on Students evaluation committee for the College's accredita-

tion review by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

"Pat Jackson is a student advocate and a first-rate advisor," added Dr. Jerry Ice, vice president and provost. "We are proud of her, and commend her on her achievement."

NACADA, in conjunction with American College Testing (ACT), established the NACADA National Award Program for Academic Advising in 1983 to honor individuals and institutions who are making significant contributions to the improvement of academic advising, and to disseminate information about these contributions to other professionals in the field.

NACADA is the foremost association on academic advising in the country. Chartered as a nonprofit organization in 1977, NACADA's mission is to promote quality academic advising and professional development of its membership to ensure the educational development of students. It has over 4,000 members consisting of faculty members, professional advisors, administrators, counselors and others in academic and student affairs concerned with the intellectual, personal and vocational needs of students. In addition, NACADA represents academic advisors and serves as an advocate for academic advising. Each October, NACADA attracts over 1,500 attendees to its fall national convention. Officers, which are elected by the membership, are nationally recognized educators and administrators from across the country and Canada.

"Advisors such as Pat are one in a million," said Dr. Natale S. Caliendo, vice president for Public Affairs. "We have many excellent advisors who, like Pat, offer our students personalized and professional services."

Prior Learning

(continued from page 1)

PLA requires the student to match his or her level of knowledge with course descriptions from the Thomas Edison State College database or the catalogs of regionally-accredited colleges. The student will present evidence or documentation, or agree to be tested, interviewed or evaluated on the performance of the particular skill or ability. A faculty member educated in that particular academic field will then evaluate the student's actual knowledge of the subject.

"At Thomas Edison, we acknowledge that adults have valid, college-level knowledge which is learned outside the classroom, and enlist faculty experts to evaluate that knowledge for potential degree credit," Dagavarian explained.

Faculty assessors of prior learning are selected on the basis of their expertise in the subject matter being assessed. They generally teach and have conducted research in the subject. Another factor in selecting assessors is their willingness to recognize "nontraditional" forms of learning as being worthy of yielding college credit as well as their commitment to the integrity of the assessment process.

"Steve's decision to use prior learning assessment to earn credit allowed him to keep control of the time he actually spent working on the portfolios while trying to juggle career, community and family responsibilities."

"Many of our students find that learning acquired as a result of professional experience or even a hobby can earn them credit," said Todd Siben, senior portfolio adviser. "One student that comes to mind is Steve Blum. He not only earned credit for the knowledge he had of advertising and media writing as a result of his years of copywriting for a national magazine, but he also earned

credit for his personal lifelong passion, astronomy.

"Steve's decision to use prior learning assessment to earn credit allowed him to keep control of the time he actually spent working on the portfolios while trying to juggle career, community and family responsibilities," Siben added. "Steve told me that being able to do prior learning assessment was a significant factor in helping him complete his degree. Currently, he is about a year away from completing his MSW degree at Fordham University."

In the assessment of prior learning, "college-level" refers essentially to knowledge an adult student has acquired through experience which is equivalent to that which is taught in a college classroom. College-level learning also often has theoretical, as well as practical, aspects.

In addition to writing a narrative, one method of supporting the demonstration of knowledge is to compile documents. Such documents may include training certificates, certificates of completion, licenses, resumes, job descriptions, work evaluations and letters of verification from employers. Other direct pieces of evidence such as reports, policy manuals, computer programs, novels, plays, poems, etc., written by the student may also supplement the documentation. For performance areas such as music or dance, audio or video tapes are essential; for craft areas, photographs of actual works are indispensable. Evidence of knowledge is limited only by a student's imagination.

The criteria used by assessors of experiential learning may vary according to the particular subject area being assessed. There are, however, certain general criteria nearly all look for: quality, directness, authenticity and breadth of learning.

"Until someone has attempted to develop portfolios for assessment, he or she may not know how rewarding the prior learning assessment process can be," Dagavarian said. "Imagine receiving college credit for knowledge one has acquired through everyday life!"

Each One, Reach One hits its mark

In the last issue of *Invention*, Thomas Edison State College's *Each One, Reach One* campaign was introduced. Through it, alumni were encouraged to spread the word about Thomas Edison to others who might benefit, as they did, from the College's programs and services tailored to adult learners. A number of alumni have done just that—returns from the *Each One, Reach One* program continue to come in.

To simplify the process, a coupon is included in this issue of *Invention*. Simply tear it out and pass it along to someone who can benefit from earning a degree at Thomas Edison State College. As many of the College's alumni already know, the variety of programs, many methods of earning 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.

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 _____

Questions? (609) 984-1150

Mail this coupon to:

Thomas Edison State College

Office of Admissions Services

101 W. State St.

Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176

The Alumni Each One, Reach One Campaign Reaches Out Once Again!

Thomas Edison State College vice president takes educational ideas to the People's Republic of China

Michael J. Scheiring, vice president and treasurer at Thomas Edison State College, was the only individual from New Jersey invited by the Ministry of China as a participant of the Citizens Ambassador People-to-People delegation. Scheiring and 16 other delegate members visited China to exchange information about higher education support services, distance learning and the use of technology with educators of the People's Republic of China.

As a member of the Citizen Ambassador Program delegation, Scheiring participated in a program with a tradition of extreme significance. Since 1956, the Citizen Ambassador Program of People-to-People International has endeavored to fulfill Dwight D. Eisenhower's commitment to improve communication among citizens of the world through the medium of education, technology, professional and education vocational exchange. Scheiring, as a member of the Education Support Service delegation, visited nine leading colleges and universities in the cities of Beijing, Kunming and Guilin as part of this program. Other delegates came from other institutions across the United States and the world including Canada, Hong Kong, Puerto Rico and the states of Ohio, Arkansas, Minnesota, California, Texas, Louisiana, Georgia, Indiana, South Dakota, Massachusetts, Missouri and Illinois. Delegate members included finance and capital facilities vice presidents, an architect, student housing and food



Michael J. Scheiring, vice president and treasurer of Thomas Edison State College, brings greetings to Steven S. Yan, director of the International Exchange Program at Yunnan University, which has a sister relationship with Trenton State College in New Jersey.

services directors and vendors which represented such diverse institutions as Tulane University, Georgia Southern University, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, University of Arkansas, Miami University and the University of Victoria.

"This was an excellent opportunity to share the education advancements we are making in the United States with educators from China," said Scheiring. "There are many changes taking place in education through the use of technology, and this program offers us the opportunity to share knowledge about educational support services and to learn about the challenges and issues facing our counterparts in a major foreign country." Scheiring added, "China is so unique and different to our way of life that I had to pinch myself... I knew I 'wasn't in Kansas anymore.'"

Dean Ruth McKeefery is honored

(continued from page 1)

Procedures and the Health Professions Education Advisory Council. In addition, she provided the leadership for the Statewide Testing and Assessment Center (STAC), growing the organization from 18 colleges to its current membership of 41 colleges.

Throughout the nation, Dr. McKeefery is well known for the work she has done with the military and the Department of Defense DANTES program. Through this national educational program, she has promoted testing, assessment and independent study. She has also worked with the American Council on Education on the review of educational programs at several military bases. Dr. McKeefery has also traveled around the globe to share her knowledge and expertise with international groups.

Dr. McKeefery is the epitome of a professional. Her contributions to higher education have been many.

Dr. McKeefery's most current achievement was the New Jersey Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program. As its architect, she gained the cooperation of

New Jersey county colleges and designed agreements to provide easier access to baccalaureate degrees for adult students who must complete a degree while remaining at home, continuing employment and maintaining family responsibilities. The program has been very successful—all New Jersey county colleges are expected to be on board by 1996.

On her retirement, Dr. McKeefery noted, "I wish I could have the best of both worlds and continue my work at Thomas Edison and also move to my new home in Orlando, Fla. I will miss my work at the College. I hope I will be able to continue to make a contribution to higher education through consulting work."

Knowing Dr. McKeefery, there will be more consulting and less retiring. Dr. McKeefery is the epitome of a professional. She is driven to work because she enjoys it. Her contributions to higher education are many and will continue to be many as she shares her time and energy with others. The entire Thomas Edison State College family—students, alumni, staff, consulting faculty, trustees, directors and friends—congratulates Dr. McKeefery on an exceptional career and wishes her the best during her retirement.

Change is good: new and improved specializations and options added

The Office of Academic Programs has announced changes to the specializations and options available to students in four Thomas Edison State College degree programs. The Bachelor of Science in Human Services (BSHS), Associate of Science in Public and Social Services (ASPS), Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Technology (BSAST) and the Associate in Science in Applied Science and Technology (ASAST) now offer different choices.

BSHS and ASPSS:

Administration of Justice: Designed for police, probation, corrections and private or government security.

Social Services for Special Populations: Designed for providers of social services to special populations in a variety of settings.

BSHS:

Mental Health and Rehabilitative Services: Designed for providers of services such as alcohol and substance abuse counseling, hotline services, services to mentally ill persons in a variety of settings, vocational and mental rehabilitation services.

BSAST:

Name changes:

Old name	New name
Aviation	Aviation Flight Technology Aviation Maintenance Technology
Computer Science and Technology	Computer Science Technology
Environmental Science and Technology	Environmental Sciences
Industrial Engineering Technology	Manufacturing Engineering Technology
Medical Laboratory Science	Clinical Laboratory Science
Nondestructive Evaluation	Nondestructive Testing Technology
Nuclear Medicine	Nuclear Medicine Technology
Radiologic Science	Medical Imaging
Respiratory Therapy	Respiratory Care

ASAST:

Old name	New name
Aviation	Aviation Flight Technology Aviation Maintenance Technology
Computer Science and Technology	Computer Science Technology
Environmental Science and Technology	Environmental Sciences
Industrial Engineering Technology	Manufacturing Engineering Technology
Nondestructive Evaluation	Nondestructive Testing Technology

Combined ASAST option:

Old name	New name
Civil Engineering Technology Construction	Civil and Construction Engineering Technology

In addition, there are changes in the general requirements for the BSAST and ASPSS. For questions about these or other degrees, contact the Office of Admissions Services, (609) 984-1150.

Degree changes went into effect on July 1, 1995.



One of our best . . .

by Linda Soltis

When Paula Vaughan '90 gets involved, she really gets involved. Vaughan, a very active member of the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association, has set a few ambitious goals—including fundraising and friend raising.

A strong supporter of the College, Vaughan is a member of the Patron's Circle which includes donors who give gifts over \$1,000. Her financial support of the College, however, is only the beginning. Vaughan, who is a vice president for Prudential, has volunteered her skills as a member of the Alumni Association's Major Donor Advisory committee.

Vaughan knows that it takes more than financial support to make an institution strong. In addition to her fundraising activities, she is friend raising for the College as co-chair of the Alumni Association Regional Meetings committee.

"There are two things I would like to accomplish as co-chair of the Regional Meetings committee," Vaughan said. "First, to revitalize the regional chapters in New Jersey and perhaps throughout the United States. And, second, to target alumni and students in corporate affiliates like AT&T, Prudential and

Nabisco, and establish chapters in those organizations."

Vaughan, who has been with Prudential for over 25 years, has been a vice president since 1987. Currently, she is in Change Management. It was her role in management that ultimately lead her to participate in the College's Alumni Association.

"I travel with Prudential and was at a nationwide program for women in leadership roles when I met Annette Singer (director of Alumni Affairs at Thomas Edison)," Vaughan explained. "I told her I wanted to be involved and the rest is history."

Singer, who recalls that meeting well, is impressed with the accomplishments Vaughan already has made on the Alumni Association's behalf.

"When I checked the records to see how long Paula has been serving on the Alumni Board, I had to check again," Singer noted. "She has only been active since 1994, yet it seems much longer. That's because she plunged right into her role as associate director by becoming active on the Regional Meetings committee. One of Paula's many contributions was adding the 'Changing Careers' information booth to the meet-



Paula Vaughan '90

ings. And, as chair of the Nominating committee, she is already planning new strategies to make that important committee more effective.

"Paula is an outstanding leader," Singer added. "She has a way of engaging her alumni peers and brings out the best in everyone."

Vaughan first learned about Thomas Edison State College when she heard someone from the College talking about its programs on a Sunday morning radio show. She had begun her education in 1966 and had credits equal to about two

and a half years of a college education when she enrolled in Thomas Edison in 1989. Using testing and the Program on Noncollegiate Sponsored Instruction (PONS), Vaughan was able complete degree requirements in less than a year.

"When I went looking for a way to get my degree, it wasn't to increase my chances of promotion, and it wasn't to change careers," Vaughan explained. "It was to give me a sense of accomplishment around what I want to be a lifetime of learning."

Vaughan, who considers herself a true animal lover, lives in Parsippany, N.J., with her dog and seven cats. She has a grown daughter, Marnie, who is studying culinary in Chicago, Ill. In her spare time, Vaughan likes to unwind with hand crafts including needle work and crocheting. But it is Vaughan's commitment to the College and its Alumni Association that's keeping her busy—and involved—now.

"Thomas Edison State College provided an ideal opportunity to mesh my education goals with a busy lifestyle," Vaughan said. "Belonging to the Alumni Association gives me a chance to help the College expand its reach and encourage others in their education pursuits."

APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE

'79

Master Chief Petty Officer Vaughn L. Brown (A.A.), recently retired from active duty after 24 years of service. Brown most recently served with the Naval Security Group Activity, Fort George G. Meade, Md.

'85

Martin E. Hill (BSAST) a native of Raleigh, N.C., has been named Circulation and Systems librarian at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Hill, after receiving his bachelor's degree from Thomas Edison State College in 1985, went on to complete his master's degree in Instructional Systems Technology and Computer Science from North Texas State University in Denton, Texas.

'91

Scott Pennington (A.A.) of Newark, N.J., received his degree while serving in the U.S. Air Force. Pennington later completed his B.S. at Southern Illinois University. He went on to receive his master's from Rutgers University. Pennington states, "I often wonder whether or not I would have been as successful had I not been introduced to Thomas Edison State College."

Marilyn B. Peterson (B.S.), of Lawrenceville, N.J., had her first single-author book published by the

Greenwood Press in 1994. *Applications in Criminal Analysis* is a text to be used in law enforcement and criminal justice academic settings. After completing her B.S. in 1991, Peterson went on to receive her Master's in Education from Seton Hall University in 1994.

Ron Secrest (BSBA) of Stafford, Va., received his Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Va. He is a member of the Archeology Society of Virginia and is the manager of the computer operations at George Mason University. Like Secrest, his wife Susan, is nearing completion of her B.A. at Thomas Edison State College.

'93

Helen Laesker (B.A.) is proud of how her Humanities degree helped advance her professional and artistic careers. As she was completing her degree, she was hired to the post of assistant to the dean of Faculty at Princeton University. On an artistic note, Laesker had paintings accepted for exhibit by the Princeton University League in 1994. She was also asked to chair the Princeton University League art committee as curator for the Dorothy Brown Gallery. This year, she was the first artist to have an exhibit at the new Barnes & Noble bookstore and café in the Princeton MarketFair. In addition, a series of Laesker's watercolor paintings will be

exhibited at the Glenwood Springs Art Center in Colorado, followed by an exhibit at the Aspen Institute in Colorado. Laesker states: "Thomas Edison helped me reach my goals."

'94

Richard H. Hendrickson (B.A.), of Linwood, N.J., was just awarded the Master of Divinity degree with honors from Bangor Theological Seminary, Bangor, Maine. Hendrickson received his B.A. in religion in 1994 from Thomas Edison State College. He has been appointed the associate pastor of the Central United Methodist Church, Linwood, N.J.

Jeffrey S. Wasserman (B.A.), of Louisville, KY, is a recent graduate of Thomas Edison State College with a degree in Religion. Since graduation, Wasserman has also graduated with a

Master's in Divinity in Missions from the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY.

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Timothy W. Wood (ASAST), recently reported for duty on the submarine Augusta, homeported in Groton, Conn. Wood completed his degree program while serving in the U.S. Navy.

'95

James Edwards (ASM), of Tuckerton, N.J., was elected treasurer of the New Jersey Association of Public Accountants. His duties will be to oversee the budget and finances of the entire state organization, along with overseeing duties of other various committees. Edwards earned his ASM in Accounting at Thomas Edison.

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.

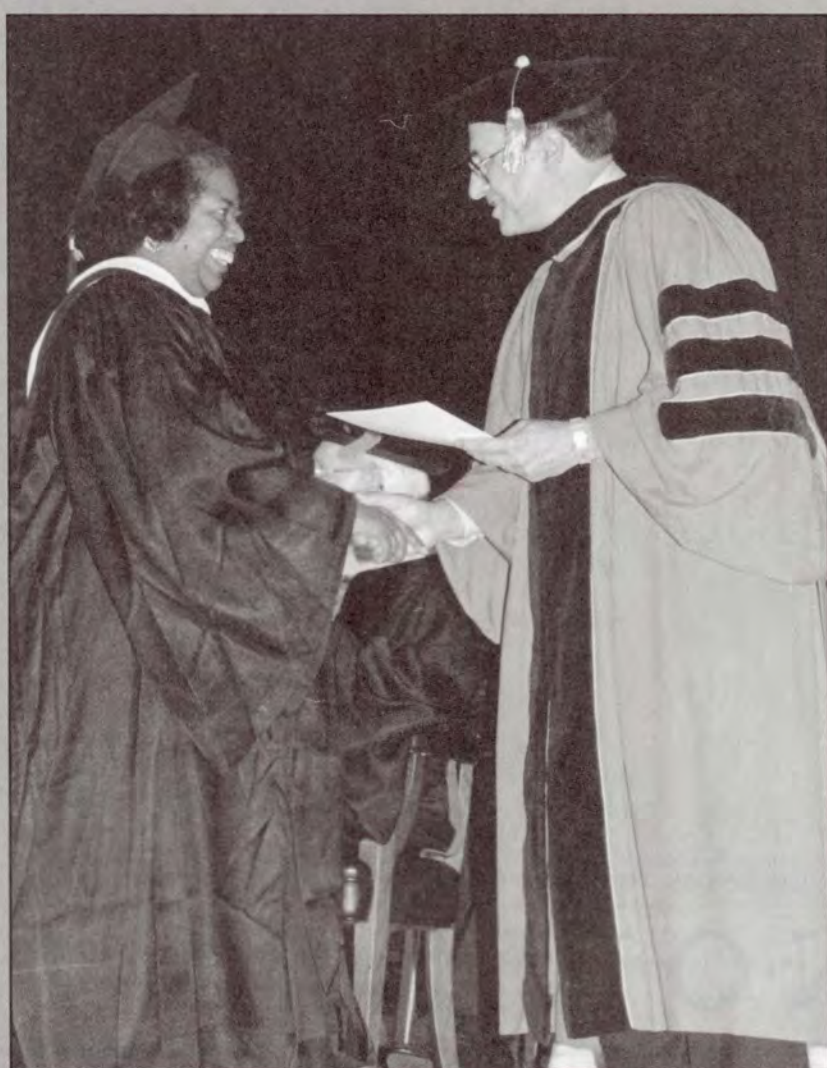
You may enclose a black-and-white photograph for consideration.

Please include your daytime phone number, Thomas Edison degree(s)

earned and year of graduation. Rest assured that your news will be published as soon as possible; however, due to our quarterly publication schedule, it may not appear in the next issue.

If you have comments about *Invention*, please address them to the managing editor, *Invention*, Thomas Edison State College, 101 W. State St., Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176. Suggestions for future articles are welcomed!

Highlights



Bettye Smith '94, celebrated her B.A. in Social Sciences and History as she received her diploma from Fred Abbate, chairman, Thomas Edison State College Board of Trustees, during last year's Commencement Ceremonies.



STUDENTS— We want you!

Graduates aren't the only ones who can get involved with the Alumni Association. Thomas Edison State College students are invited to participate in a number of Alumni Association activities, offering students the chance to meet and greet other members of the Thomas Edison family.

Opportunities open to students are the Alumni Annual Fund, Commencement and Regional Breakfast Meeting committees. For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs, Thomas Edison State College, 153 Halsey St., 5th Floor, Newark, N.J. 07102-2898, (201) 877-1450.

Web crawlers alert: Web page “under construction” at Thomas Edison

Attention Internet surfers: Thomas Edison State College's World Wide Web page is under construction. The page, which will serve as an entrance ramp from the Information Superhighway to the College, currently provides the basics about Thomas Edison's programs and services. Down the 'net road, it will provide even more information and access to “one of the brighter stars in higher learning” (*The New York Times*).

“The World Wide Web and Thomas Edison State College are a natural,” noted Dr. Natale S. Caliendo, vice president for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison. “We are pleased to be up and running on the ‘net.’”

Stop by the College's home page at <http://www.tesc.edu>. Stop back often, as the Web page will continue to grow and change.



Commencement '95: a time to volunteer

The 23rd Annual Commencement of Thomas Edison State College, to be held Sunday, Oct. 22, will offer many opportunities for alumni to get involved. This year's event will be held at the Shriner's Hall on N. Clinton Avenue and Wall Street in Trenton.

Each year, hundreds of graduates and their families, including children and grandchildren rooting for mom, dad and grandparents, gather in Trenton to celebrate dreams fulfilled.

Alumni are also a traditional part of the College's annual Commencement. Alumni volunteers participate by greeting and assisting the graduates as they gown-up for the ceremony, selling College and alumni souvenirs, and answering questions about the Alumni Association.

Interested alumni can contact the Office of Alumni Affairs for more information: (201) 877-1450.

Regional Meetings explore financial planning

The successful Alumni Regional Meetings program has expanded to financial planning seminars. In conjunction with The Savino Agency of Northwestern Mutual Life, the Alumni Association has planned four Financial Planning Seminars throughout New Jersey. Each workshop will include “Investing in the '90s,” “Estate and Insurance Planning,” and “Retirement Planning.”

A successful Financial Planning Seminar was already held on Sept. 19 at The Nassau Club in Princeton, N.J. Another is almost “sold out” for Sept. 28 at AT&T in Bridgewater, N.J. Two more are available: Oct. 16



at 6:30 p.m. at the Sheraton in Cherry Hill, N.J., and Nov. 4 at 9:15 a.m. at The Officers Club in Ft. Monmouth, N.J. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information or to register, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs, (201) 877-1450.

Invention is produced quarterly for the students, alumni and friends of Thomas Edison State College. Please direct any inquiries to the managing editor at (609) 984-4839.

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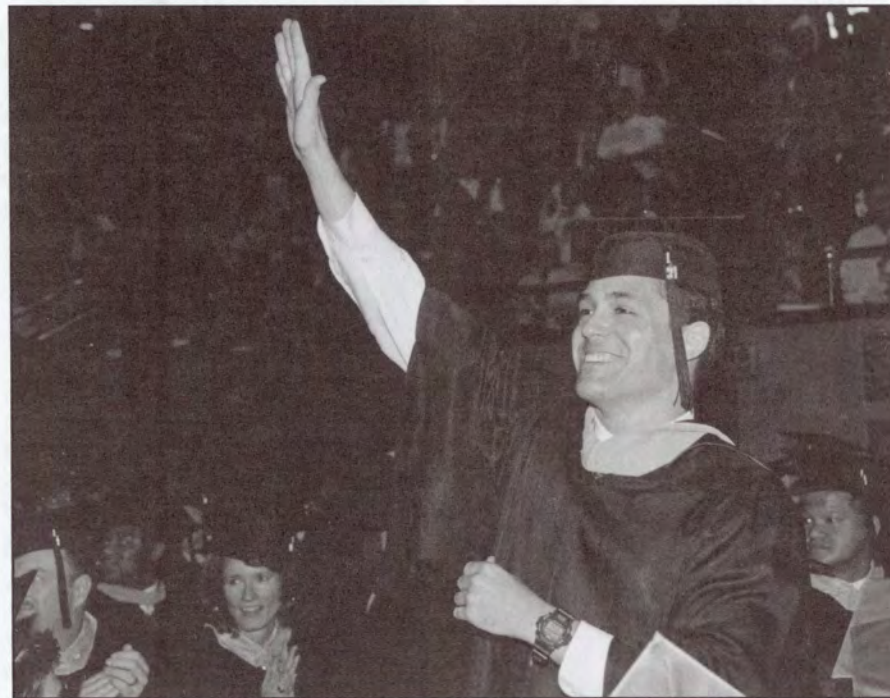
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NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

Summer 1995

Thomas Edison helps adult learners achieve through Portfolio Assessment, Aviation



Angel Diaz '94 celebrated his graduation at last year's Commencement Ceremonies. Each year, hundreds of adult learners realize the dream of earning a degree through Thomas Edison State College.

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Photo by Michael Matcho