

# Capital Campus

OCTOBER 2013

## Getting to Know the New Deans

### *Dr. Michael Williams Shares His Vision for the School of Business and Management*

**D**r. Michael Williams was recently named dean of the School of Business and Management at Thomas Edison State College.

"We are thrilled that Dr. Williams accepted the position of dean at the College and look forward to beginning a new era for our business and management school," said William J. Seaton, provost and vice president. "He brings a tremendous track record of growing enrollments and developing effective academic programs and will play a critical role in helping us achieve our strategic goals and serving adult learners interested in business programs at the undergraduate and graduate level."

Prior to this position, Williams was associate dean of the MBA Program at Thomas Edison

State College. Previously, Williams was the dean of the Graduate School of Business and professor of Business Management at Touro College in Brooklyn, N.Y.; prior to that, he served as faculty chair for graduate programs in human resource management, leadership and organizational development in the Graduate School of Business and Technology at Capella University.

"This appointment as the dean of the School of Business and Management is a wonderful opportunity to shape the direction of the school, enabling it to become a premier provider of practitioner-focused business education for adult learners," said Williams. "Thomas Edison State College is dedicated to providing a high quality and customizable degree program that prepares students for in-



**Dr. Michael Williams**

creasingly complex roles in corporations and organizations. We provide students with valuable skills and credentials similar to those at other institutions; but can do so in a way that complements today's demanding lifestyles."

➡ Page 3

### *Dr. John O. Aje Welcomes Opportunity to Shape the Direction of the School of Applied Science and Technology*

**D**r. John O. Aje was recently named dean of the School of Applied Science and Technology at Thomas Edison State College.

"We are delighted that Dr. Aje has accepted the position of dean and we are eager to move forward to a new era for our applied science and technology school," said Provost and Vice President William J. Seaton. "He brings an impressive leadership record, holding top-level administrative positions as well as developing effective academic programs for applied technology students. Dr. Aje will

play a critical role in helping us achieve our strategic goals and serving adult learners at the undergraduate and graduate level with innovative educational opportunities aligned with the needs of the global economy."

Prior to joining the College, Aje served as the associate dean for Academic Affairs of the University of Maryland University College, the Graduate School, in Adelphi, Md.

Additionally, Aje was the chair and collegiate professor for Technology and Engineering Systems Department as well as acting chair



**Dr. John O. Aje**

➡ Page 3



## Moodle Lunch and Learn

The Thomas Edison State College myEdison® portal has a new look and so much more, and the team behind Moodle's development unveiled several new and upcoming learning environment features and tools at the August Lunch and Learn.

Staff from the **Center for Learning and Technology (CLT)** and the **Office of Management Information Systems (MIS)** demonstrated the new Thomas Edison State College portal and highlighted several new features of the College's learning environment that uses the Moodle learning management system.

The portal site features layers of blocks including the "My College Courses" block to access courses in Moodle and BlackBoard. The "My Resources" block provides access to many different student resources including the HelpDesk, the GPA calculator, academic calendars, the College store, and many

student forms. Online Student Services is also available through the portal, and students will be able to access their TESC Google Account through the portal as well. The new portal was launched for students in May 2013, and is currently available to staff.

The CLT team highlighted several features in Moodle that are available to students right now, including the recent activities block, the upcoming events block, the portal block, the latest news block, and the course completion status block. The CLT team also demonstrated how to export your course calendar to the student's personal TESC Google account calendar for personal time management.

The CLT team also unveiled several upcoming features in the Learning environment, including the new Joule Grader feature and the Learning Outcomes system featuring rubrics.



Presenters, pictured from the left, are Matthew Cooper, associate provost, CLT; Amanda Piccolini, instructional design coordinator, CLT; Richard M. Barry, instructional designer, CLT; Chip Stoll, associate director, Information Technology and Strategic Initiatives, MIS; and Aaron Appelstein, instructional designer, CLT.

## Back To School Supply Drive a Success

Staff from Thomas Edison State College and its affiliate the New Jersey State Library donated school supplies and backpacks that were distributed to Trenton neighborhood children just in time for the new school year.

Sponsored by the American Federation of Teachers AFT Local 4277, the annual Back To School Supply Drive committee members distributed backpacks filled with notebooks, binders, pencils, pens, rulers, scissors, etc., to 173 local children who began attending prekindergarten through eighth grade in early September. Distribution was held at College's Academic Center, located on West Hanover Street, in August.



School Supplies Program Committee Members

"We had an overwhelming response from the community this year," said Tanisha McKinnis, chair of the Back To School Supply Drive committee. "As always, the generosity of the staff of the College and the Library was outstanding and we were able to accommodate all the requests for supplies again this year. It is so rewarding to see the faces of the children as they pick up their new backpacks full of school supplies."

Pictured, from left, are committee members Deborah Ware, Lauren Hoffman (College staff member's daughter), Annie McKithen, Rosmarie Briggs, McKinnis, Regina Roberts and Kayana Howard. Not pictured are committee members Li-yun Young, Kejo Samuels, Andrew Budgal, Pam Tenaglia, Kathleen Brommer, Natasha Zaleski and Michael Martucci.

## Kuser Grandson Tours Renovated Mansion



Robert Kuser Jr., the grandson of Rudolph V. Kuser, former owner of the Kuser Mansion, toured his family's former residence recently with Human Resources Program Assistant Melissa Van Aken. Since Kuser was unable to attend the open house, he was taken on a private tour of the property. As part of her preparation for the open house, Van Aken framed pictures of the original house obtained from the architects and placed them in the respective areas of the renovated mansion. Kuser and his wife, Mary Kay, toured the Carriage House and the Kuser Mansion reviewing each photograph and identified pieces of furniture from the original house. Interestingly, when Rudolph V. Kuser's wife, Johanna, sold the mansion in 1941, she moved to Glen Cairn Arms. Although Robert Kuser Jr. was born after the mansion was sold, he visited over the years with his father. The Kusers expressed their gratitude to Dr. George A. Pruitt for all his work on revitalizing the city of Trenton.

## Meet the New Deans

Williams continued from Page 1

Williams earned a PhD in educational leadership and an MS in human resources management from the Fordham University Graduate School of Education, an MS in labor and employment relations from the Rutgers University School of Management and Labor Relations, and an MBA from the DeVry University Keller School of Management.

Aje continued from Page 1

of the Technology and Engineering Systems Department for University of Maryland University College, the Graduate School.

"This appointment as the dean of the School of Applied Science and Technology is a wonderful opportunity to shape the direction of the school and enhance its status as premier provider of practitioner-focused applied science and technology education for adult learners," said Aje. "Thomas Edison State College is dedicated to providing a high quality and customizable degree programs that prepare students for increasingly complex roles in their future endeavors. The College offers students valuable skills and stellar credentials in a way that is flexible and complements today's demanding lifestyles."

Aje earned a DSc in engineering management and an MS in engineering management from the George Washington University, an MS in textile science/engineering from the North Carolina State University, and a BS in textile science/technology from Clemson University.

## Your Opinion Counts

The Division of Planning and Research has partnered with the Office of Human Resources to develop a training and development needs assessment survey for all staff. The survey, to be released in late October, will gather data to determine what training will assist individuals and the organization to accomplish the goals and objectives of the strategic plan. This assessment will help further strengthen employee and organizational knowledge and skills. Once training needs are identified, Human Resources will work with all divisions within the organization to determine/develop priority training opportunities. We look forward to your participation and feedback.

## Staff Activities

Patti Hunt, associate director, Office of Military and Veteran Education, served as College coordinator for the consolidated 2013 Fort Campbell (Kentucky) graduation recognition ceremony, Aug. 22-23. Hunt attended the ceremony, and advised nine Thomas Edison State College students and a prospective student. She also chaired the first board meeting for the newly established Mid South Advisory Council on Military Education (ACME). The non-profit organization is comprised of board members with representatives from six colleges and universities from the Kentucky area, four of which offer online programs to the military.

Ellen Coleman, associate director, Office of Military and Veterans Education, attended the Coast Guard Sector North Carolina Education Fairs, Sept. 17-19. Coleman also attended the Camp Lejeune Fall Education Expo on Sept. 25 and participated in the Navy Career Development Symposium at Camp Lejeune on Sept. 26.



Patti Hunt



Ellen Coleman

## Staff Honored at State of the College

At the Thomas Edison State College State of the College address, held at the New Jersey State Museum Auditorium on Sept. 9, Dr. George A. Pruitt, president, (second from left) recognized James T. Brossoie, director, Office of Management Information Systems; Linda Meehan, chief of staff, Office of the President; and Debbie Lutz, secretarial assistant, Office of the Provost and Vice President, for 30 years of service to the College.



## College Staff Participates in the YMCA's Trenton Y5K Marathon



The Division of Community and Government Affairs was one of the sponsors of the Trenton Area YMCA inaugural Trenton Y5K held on Sept. 21. The event benefitted the YMCA Strong Kids Campaign, which provides youth opportunities to live healthier, happier lives and grow into productive adults. Pictured from the left are staff participants Kayana Howard, Jasmine Bundy, Tricia Graff, Kristin Gonzalez, Dennis Devery and David Hofstiezer preparing for the run at Riverview Plaza.



## Welcome New Staff



Antonetta Armstrong has been appointed program assistant in the Office of Marketing and Publications. Armstrong is located on the 1st floor of the Canal Banks Building and may be reached at extension 4017.



Megan Grandilli has been appointed graphic designer in the Office of Marketing and Publications. Grandilli is located on the 1st floor of the Canal Banks Building and may be reached at extension 4013.



Ishiya A. Hayes has been appointed associate fellow in The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy. Hayes is located on the 2nd floor of the Kuser Mansion and may be reached at extension 4254.



Nina Shi has been appointed program assistant in the Center for Learning and Technology. Shi is located on the 2nd floor of the Townhouses and may be reached at extension 2137.



Dr. Jerry W. Thomas has been appointed assistant vice president for Student Affairs in the Office of Learner Services. Thomas is located on the 1st Floor of the Academic Center and may be reached at extension 3237.



Mei Yin has been appointed Web developer in the Office of Communications. Yin is located on the 2nd floor of the Kelsey Building and may be reached at extension 2057.

## Trenton Half Marathon

*Save the date*

The **Division of Community and Government Affairs** invites staff to join the College in support of the 2nd Annual Trenton Half Marathon on Saturday, Nov. 9. Through its sponsorship, the College has received 10 complimentary race registrations for employee participation.

Even if you are not a runner there are other ways to become engaged with this exciting community event. In addition to the half marathon, there will be a 10K run, a finishers' festival at Rho restaurant, a Kids Run and a partnership with Disney's Magic of Movement program. There will also be a two-day Health Expo at the Lafayette Yard Hotel and Conference Center on Nov. 7-8. Please contact Kristin Gonzalez, associate director, Community and Government Affairs, to request further details on participating in any of these events. Registration is open now through Nov. 7. For additional information, please visit [trentonhalf.com](http://trentonhalf.com).

*Capital Campus* is produced by the Office of Communications at Thomas Edison State College. To submit a story idea for the newsletter or for more information, please contact Linda Soltis at extension 2065.

## Dress For Success



The Women's Professional Network of Thomas Edison State College members (from left) Terri Tallon, Office of Military and Veteran Education; Cathy Punchello, Office of the Registrar; Kristin Gonzales, Division of Community and Government Affairs, Melissa Maszczak, Office of the President, and Jaclyn Joworisak, Office of Development, collected and sorted donations slated for distribution by Dress for Success Mercer County. Donations from the College's September event will provide work-appropriate attire to low-income women in central New Jersey who are seeking employment or who otherwise could not afford the essential apparel to make a positive first impression. Please visit [dressforsuccess.org](http://dressforsuccess.org) to locate your local chapter or visit LinkedIn and search: "The Women's Professional Network of Thomas Edison State College," to find out more.

## Reading for a Cause



Some College's staff spend their lunch hours reading – but, not for pleasure or self-improvement. Their reading will improve the lives of others. Pictured, from left to right are, Dennis Devery, vice president, Division of Planning and Research, along with Office of Development staff Misty Isak, director; Jaclyn Joworisak, advancement associate; Jennifer Guerrero, associate director; and Fred Brand, director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, who devote their lunch hours to bringing publications to life through audio recordings for the New Jersey State Library Talking Book and Braille Center in Ewing Township. Staff interested in volunteering may contact Karen Carson, Talking Book and Braille Center, via email at [kcarrson@njstatelib.org](mailto:kcarrson@njstatelib.org) or visit [www.njstlib.org](http://www.njstlib.org), for more information.