

Thomas Edison State College 101 West State Street Trenton, New Jersey 08608-1176

M E M Q R A N D U M September 3, 1992

TO:

Members, Board of Trustees

FROM: George A. Pruitt

SUBJ: President's Report

As is our tradition, the President's Report for the September board meeting is in the form of the College's Annual Report to the Board of Trustees. Normally, this section of my report would be used to clean up the tidbits that occurred during the summer since our last meeting. However, the adoption of the FY '93 budget by the Legislature, over the Governor's veto, was an event of major significance with far-reaching implications for Thomas Edison State College that requires special consideration.

The Legislature appropriated \$3,619,000 to the College for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1992. This represented a \$202,000, or approximately 5.3%, reduction from the previous fiscal year. On July 31, we were advised by the Office of Management and Budget that our appropriation would be reduced by an additional \$238,180 as a consequence of reductions to the appropriations to the interdepartmental accounts. Therefore, in a period of one month our appropriation was reduced by a total of \$440,180, or approximately 11.5%. The magnitude of this reduction, along with the timing of our notification, has created circumstances that will severely challenge the College during the FY '93 fiscal year.

I will brief you in some detail as to the steps we have taken in response to these reductions as well as to the anticipated outcomes and effect on operations. We have some hope that \$202,000 of these cuts will be restored sometime during the year. Our optimism in this regard comes from a commitment made to us by Senator Littell who expressed a concern that Thomas Edison State College was disproportionately affected by the reduction when compared with other colleges and universities in the state.

All of the budget scenarios we considered prior to the last Board meeting anticipated support levels minimally equal to those of FY '92. No one within the higher education community anticipated the depth and severity of the reductions finally passed into law. While Senator Littell's promise of assistance is a hopeful sign, the sky is clouded with ominous forecasts that the FY '94 budget year is shaping up to be as serious as FY '93. At the meeting, we will review with you our best judgment as to how the College might position itself to weather the fiscal storm in which we are engulfed. I look forward to seeing you there.

RESIGNATIONS

The following people have resigned from the College:

TOPS Michael Ash

Testing & Assessment
Development
Admissions Services Deborah Spirk

Ida Julian

Bernette Pettit

DIAL Candy Funk

Richard Hamilton Wenrich Green Testing & Assessment Admissions Services

RETIREMENTS

The following people are retiring from the College:

James Colaizzo Jean Cifelli **Admissions Services**

Management Information Services Administrative Services

James Humphrey