

# I·N·V·E·N·T·I·O·N

NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

FALL/WINTER 1995

## Thomas Edison State College president assists in the transformation of South African university system

BY LINDA HOLT



**D**r. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College has been selected by the American Council on Education (ACE) as a partner in the transformation of the University of Transkei, Umtata, South Africa. Transkei, a former South African homeland, is the birthplace of South African President Nelson Mandela.

As the ACE Senior Associate working with Transkei, Dr. Pruitt spent two weeks providing strategic planning leadership to the South African university. He has been invited to return to review the university's final strategic plan.

Dr. Pruitt was selected by the University of Transkei from a group of higher education leaders nominated by ACE. During his stay in South Africa, Dr. Pruitt met with administrators, deans and faculty, and made recommendations for the formation of a strategic plan to guide the university in the future.

"South Africa is completely restructuring its system of higher education," Dr. Pruitt said after completing his initial

review of the university's new strategic plan. "Previously, Transkei was one of 13 universities and 'technikons' (technical colleges) established in the homelands to provide higher education to the black population. When the homelands were abolished under the new government, South Africa initiated the development of a comprehensive system to provide higher education to all of its people."

The University of Transkei is located in the eastern part of the Eastern Cape Region (formerly Transkei), an area of some 5 million people. The University today has approximately 6,500 students in Arts, Science, Economic Science,

CONTINUED P. 2



Katharine Wyland

Graduate Anthony Lessa gets a pat on the back from son Jonathan just prior to the Thomas Edison State College Twenty-Third Annual Commencement at Shriner's Auditorium in Trenton on Oct. 22.

## Thomas Edison State College vice president receives award from Italian-American National Hall of Fame

**D**r. Natale S. Caliando, vice president for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison State College, received the Italian-American National Hall of Fame's 1995 Arts and Science Award. The award was presented at the Twenty-First Annual Induction and Awards Dinner at Bally's Grand Casino Hotel in Atlantic City, N.J. Presented for the first time last year to Dr. Nicholas DeProspero, a retired educator from Seton Hall, the award recognizes

Italian-Americans to their community, the country and the world.

"It is great to be recognized by an organization that does so much for the community," said Dr. Caliando. "I am truly honored to be receiving this award. My gratitude goes out to my parents, friends and associates who have been an integral



executive vice president of the Thomas Edison State College

Foundation, Inc., and is a board member of the Trenton YMCA. Dr. Caliando also is a member of a Mercer County (New Jersey) Task Force created by County Executive Robert D. Prunetti to develop initiatives to prepare the county's workforce for the 21st century. Before joining the Thomas Edison staff in 1991, Dr. Caliando held senior leadership positions with Suffolk University in Boston, Mass., and the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, R.I. He is the father of four sons.

The Italian-American National Hall of Fame honored another member of the Thomas Edison State College family. Maurice Perilli, chairman of the board, Roma Federal Savings Bank, and member of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation Board, received the Humanitarian Award at the event. ♦♦

The award recognizes Italian-Americans for their contributions to humanity through education, arts and sciences.

Italian-Americans for their contributions to humanity through education, arts and sciences.

The Italian-American National Hall of Fame, founded in 1975, is dedicated to recognizing and perpetuating the memory of the consistently outstanding contributions by

part of my successes over the years."

Dr. Caliando is responsible for development, communications, alumni affairs, admissions services and the Center for Corporate and Public Partnerships at Thomas Edison State College. He also serves as

## Thomas Edison State College graduates a record 983 at 23rd annual commencement

**A** total of 983 men and women from throughout the nation affirmed that it's never too late to earn a degree when they graduated from Thomas Edison State College, "one of the brighter stars of higher learning" (*The New York Times*), on Sunday, Oct. 22. The College holds its one annual Commencement each October to enable its adult graduates to attend their children's and grandchildren's graduation ceremonies in the spring.

Some 190 members of the Class of 1995 marched down the aisle at Shriner's Auditorium on Clinton Avenue during ceremonies. This year's class of adult learners came from eight states, including California, Florida, Michigan and New Jersey, and as far away as Thailand and British Columbia. Many had used the latest techniques in "distance learning" to complete degrees independent of time and place.

Mr. George L. Fricke of Basking Ridge, N.J., chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, greeted the graduates and their spouses, children, grandchildren and other relatives and friends during the Commencement ceremony.

A national leader in innovative approaches to learning, Thomas Edison brings higher education directly to adult students wherever they live or work. More than 8,500 students from every state and 70 other nations complete associate and baccalaureate degrees through the variety of options including examinations, Guided Study, the On-Line Computer Classroom, Contract Learning, Portfolio Assessment, evaluation of knowledge acquired at work or in the military, approved telecourses and other means.

The College has pioneered the electronic delivery of academic services through its Computer Assisted Lifelong Learning (CALL) Network, which opens access to higher education to adult students throughout the nation. The College offers 11 degrees in more than 100 areas of specialization. This January, the College will welcome its first graduate students to the Master of Science in Management program. Using advanced technologies, the College also enjoys partnerships with New Jersey community colleges to ensure that their graduates may complete baccalaureate degrees without leaving their home counties. ♦♦



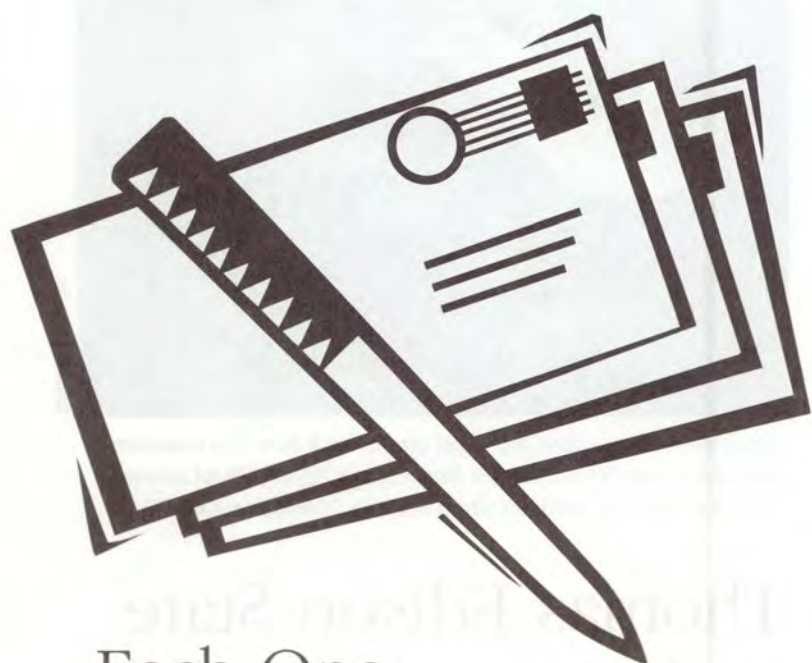
# Dr. Sonja Eveslage "on loan" as director of Graduate Studies

Dr. Sonja Eveslage of Wyncote, Pa., associate vice president for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison State College, is "on loan" to the Division of Academic Affairs as director of Graduate Studies to begin the new Master of Science in Management (MSM) program.

Dr. Eveslage earned her Ph.D. in Administration of Higher Education from the University of Minnesota and has taught in graduate education programs at five different universities. She currently serves Temple University as an adjunct professor of Adult Education. In addition, Dr. Eveslage serves on the NOVA Southeastern University adult and higher education faculty. Her role at NOVA is to direct students completing the Major Applied Research Project, the final project for the Ed.D.

"We are pleased to be able to offer Dr. Eveslage's considerable experience to the MSM program," said Dr. Natale S. Caliendo, vice president for Public Affairs. "Her background in graduate education are helping to shape this very important initiative.

The MSM is first being offered in January 1996. ♦♦



## Each One, Reach One contacts many

Thomas Edison State College's Each One, Reach One campaign is reaching more and more prospective students. Through this program, alumni are encouraged to spread the word about Thomas Edison to others who might benefit, as they did, from the College's programs and services. A number of alumni have done just that—returns from the Each One, Reach One program continue to grow. Referrals from alumni are a large part of the inquiries received by the College.

Help others benefit from Thomas Edison State College's adult-centered education. 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 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.

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  
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Questions? (609) 984-1150

The Alumni Each One, Reach One Campaign Reaches Out!

## South African...from p.1

Law, Education, and Medicine and Health Sciences.

One of the greatest challenges faced by the South African government was how to plan for the educational needs of the future. The ACE program, developed at the request of the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Ford Foundation, is providing South Africa with the guidance and support of some of America's senior higher education experts in strategic planning.

### Pruitt as educator

In making his appointment, Robert H. Atwell, president of ACE, cited Dr. Pruitt's status as an "outstanding American educator...(and a) successful leader...with broad experience in strategic planning."

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

Beginning his higher education career in 1968 as an instructor at Illinois State, Dr. Pruitt subsequently served as dean of students at Towson State University in Towson, Md., and held three vice presidencies—at Morgan State University, Tennessee State University and with the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning—before accepting the presidency at Thomas Edison in 1982.

Among his many professional and civic activities, Dr. Pruitt serves as the chairman of the Oversight Committee for the Capital Redevelopment Corporation in Trenton, a member of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity for the United States Department of Education, and on the boards of trustees of The Center for

Analysis of Public Issues and The Union Institute. He is a member of four boards of directors: New Jersey Division, American Cancer Society; SEEDCO, New York, N.Y.;

Jews. He has received numerous other awards and citations for service.

He is listed in *Who's Who in America*, *Outstanding Educators of America*, *Leaders in*

Under Dr. Pruitt's direction, Thomas Edison State College has emerged as the national leader in higher education for adults.

Mercer County Chamber of Commerce; and Mercer Medical Center. He also serves on the Board of Managers of the Trenton Savings Bank, and is an Advisor to Group XV of the Kellogg National Fellowship Program, Battle Creek, Mich. As a board member with the Mercer County Chamber, Dr. Pruitt chaired the Education Committee, which completed a two-year study of the Trenton public school system. He is a member of the Commission on Education Credit and Credentials of ACE and has served on and chaired many other boards, councils and committees during his distinguished career.

Dr. Pruitt was named One of the Most Effective College Presidents in the United States by the Exxon Education Foundation in 1986. He received the Doctor of Public Service, honoris causa, in 1990 from Bridgewater State College in Massachusetts and received an honorary doctorate and the Alumni Achievement Award of Illinois State University. In 1992, Dr. Pruitt received the Humanitarian Award of the New Jersey region of the National Conference of Christians and

Education, and *Who's Who Among Black Americans*. In 1993, he was named Educator of the Year by Black New Jersey Magazine.

### Leading higher education

Under Dr. Pruitt's direction, Thomas Edison State College has emerged as the national leader in higher education for adults. The College offers 12 degrees at the associate, baccalaureate and master's level, and provides a variety of methods through which adults can reach their educational goals. These methods include testing, independent study and assessment of knowledge. The College has pioneered the electronic delivery of higher education through the Computer Assisted Lifelong Learning (CALL) Network and offers courses to students worldwide via the On-Line Computer Classroom. The College's public service mission is implemented through the Institute for Public Policy, which includes the Trenton Office of Policy Studies. Under Dr. Pruitt's leadership, the College's enrollment has grown to more than 8,500 students from every state and 70 other countries. ♦♦

## The Schumann Fund gives \$25,000 grant to Institute for Public Policy at Thomas Edison

Thomas Edison State College has received a grant of \$25,000 from The Schumann Fund for New Jersey, Inc., in support of the Institute for Public Policy, a nonpartisan, independently funded research office whose mission is to provide policy analysis and other technical assistance to decisionmakers in the public and private sector.

The Schumann Fund is a tax-exempt, private foundation, which awards grants for programs that focus on early childhood development, environmental protection and public policy.

"This grant acknowledges the truly outstanding accomplishments that have been made possible by the support of The Schumann Fund and others on behalf of the citizens of New Jersey through the Institute for Public Policy," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College.

John Thurber, executive director of the Institute, added, "This grant will help the Institute to work together with leaders in government and business to develop applied, hands-on strategies for managing change."

The Institute focuses on building the capacity of local governments, businesses, nonprofit organizations, associations and community groups throughout the state to make sound policy decisions, and to plan and implement sound solutions to community problems. The Institute provides high-quality and precisely tailored research, policy advice and organizational support.

"Commitment to public policy and public service is an important part of the Thomas Edison State College mission," said Dr. Natale S. Caliendo, Thomas Edison's vice president for Public Affairs. "This grant will help us to continue our service to the community." ♦♦





Katharine Wyland

## Social Security commissioner addresses Thomas Edison State College commencement

**S**ocial Security: Will it be there when you need it?

This and other issues were met head on by Dr. Shirley Sears Chater, commissioner of Social Security for the United States of America, when she addressed the largest graduating class in Thomas Edison State College history on Oct. 22.

Chater told the graduating class of adult learners that Social Security will be there for them "...and for young people, your children and your grandchildren," calling it "the most popular domestic program we have in the United States."

Chater brings a lifetime of leadership and public service experience to a position that has been frequently described as one of the most complex and challenging in the federal government. She heads an agency that delivers benefits each month to more than 48 million people. Chater is responsible for 65,000 employees who serve the needs of 24 million visitors

each year to the Social Security Administration's (SSA) 1,300 field offices. These employees also answer 64 million phone calls annually on the agency's toll-free telephone lines.

The recipient of an honorary degree during the commencement ceremony, Chater is no stranger to education. Before joining SSA, Chater was the president of Texas Woman's University. She has served as the chair for the Texas Health Policy Task Force; as an associate with the American Council on Education, Division of Academic Affairs and Institutional Relations; and as senior associate of the

Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges. She was vice chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of California-San Francisco, and held faculty appointments there in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and the School of Nursing, as well as in the School of Education at the University of California-Berkeley.

A native of Pennsylvania, Chater received her B.S. degree in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania. She holds an M.S. degree in nursing from the University of California-San Francisco and a Ph.D. in

education from the University of California-Berkeley. She also holds a certificate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sloan School of Management.

Among her honors, Commissioner Chater has been elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. She is a member of the National Academy of Public Administration and the National Academy of Social Insurance.

In closing, Chater told the class of 1995, "This is one of the most creative, most innovative ways to graduate from college," and praised graduates for their hard work and initiative. ♦♦

### CORPORATE-HIGHER EDUCATION COLLOQUIUM EXCERPT

## Will You Survive in the Contemporary Organization?

BY BARBARA W. EKLUND

In the past, the unwritten rules of employment pretty much guaranteed employees that if they did good work, played by the rules and were loyal, they could be lifelong employees of an organization and expect good pay, fringe benefits and perhaps even a health care package that covered them

today must understand the current unwritten contract, which often includes many of the following elements:

☛ Employees will be treasured and appreciated, but must understand that their position will be tenuous at times when their organization is buffeted by global or national competition.

this fact.

☛ When employers' needs change, you may be asked to leave through no fault of your own.

☛ The company expects enthusiastic, committed effort and will do a better job of matching pay to performance.

☛ When you leave, you will probably go to a smaller company or non-profit sector, or work freelance or as a consultant.

☛ This is not the contract we expected, but it is not a bad deal.

"In the old culture," Jud added, "employees were expected to pick a specialty and become competent at it. There was a narrow ladder." He summarized that the understanding was that if you paid attention to your boss' needs, were political and cautious, learned all the rules and were loyal, you would probably move up when your boss did.

According to Jud, the new culture—what is required to make it today—is initiative, self-direction, responsibility and accountability. "People do not pay for effort—they pay for outcomes, for value that has been added," Jud believes. He told the audience to be alert to the world and changing needs, form networks and partnerships ("look around to see who the other smart players are") and be the source of your own satisfaction.

Jud conceded that often within an organization, there are people high up in management that operate in the old culture, so the cultures merge, and often send out mixed signals.

So who will survive in

tomorrow's organization?

"People who are open, composed and not afraid to take calculated risks," Jud believes. He added that Type A personalities, (driven, highly competitive, perfectionists) will have a hard time. People who succeed will be easy going and willing to make changes, will set realistic limits, invest in play and diversions, be good managers of time and money, will periodically

re-examine their life and work actively to improve their mental and physical health. ♦♦



Employees who are to survive in organizations today must understand the current unwritten contract...

in retirement.

According to Robert A. Jud, a resource development executive who is president of his own firm, those days are gone. Jud's experience includes many years as a human resource executive for major companies. Today, his firm focuses on the design and implementation of programs which revitalize the survivors of large-scale corporate change and which help managers lead effectively in the aftermath of those changes

Jud shared his insights during the Thomas Edison State College 1995 Corporate-Higher Education Colloquium, "Tomorrow's Organization: Will You Be Ready?" held October 20 at Caesars Atlantic City. Over 120 corporate and higher education leaders attended this year's event, which continues to grow in reputation and stature each year.

In Jud's experience, employees who are to survive in organizations

☛ Your job is not guaranteed, but your chances of survival are better if your critical skills are valuable to the core of the organization, you understand that your skills must change and that it is your job to keep your skills fresh.

☛ If you work hard, you will be paid well and the company will invest in your growth.

☛ The company will provide mentoring and coaching.

☛ There is less chance of a promotion up the ladder, but you will have opportunities to move laterally and you will not be bored.

☛ Your growth and your learning are your responsibility.

☛ You will have a broader array of benefits than your parents had, but you will have to make choices.

☛ Lifetime careers are no longer the norm or desirable. Both sides must acknowledge

*INVENTION* is published quarterly for the students, alumni and friends of Thomas Edison State College. Please direct any inquiries or suggestions for future articles to the managing editor.

#### INVENTION

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Photos by Linda Soltis unless otherwise noted



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## SHINING STARS...

BY LINDA SOLTIS

*Dr. Michael D. Reynolds B.A. '80 is someone who has looked to the stars. The recipient of the Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement, Reynolds' love of the heavens and space exploration started as a first grader with the 1961 launch of space ship carrying Alan Shepard. It wasn't long after that his interests in the sciences bloomed.*

After completing high school, Reynolds considered majoring in music and was awarded a community college scholarship for playing the saxophone. However, the music of the heavens continued to call, and he found himself back in the sciences.

Receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Natural Sciences from Thomas Edison State College placed Reynolds at a professional turning point. His family noted that he was an enthusiastic communicator and good with people and suggested that he ought to try teaching for a while. After a short stint in the private school arena, Reynolds accepted a position teaching high school chemistry and physics at his Florida alma mater. In the meantime, Reynolds went back to college to earn an M.Ed. in Science Education from the University of North Florida.

What was obvious to Reynolds' family—his ability to relate to others—was soon clear to his students and fellow teachers. He began to receive recognition for his teaching. He was selected as the 1985 Florida Chemistry Teacher of the Year by the American Chemical Society, the 1986 Florida State Teacher of the Year by the Florida State Department of Education and was a National Finalist in the NASA Teacher in Space Program.

Following the 1986 Challenger space shuttle accident in which teacher Christa McAuliffe lost her life along with six other astronauts, Reynolds was given an opportunity to take a two year sabbatical and travel to schools and special interest groups to speak about the importance of education and space exploration. At the same time, he began work in the doctoral program at the University of Florida.

"Speaking to kids after the terrible Challenger accident was difficult," Reynolds admitted, "but it was something I felt like I needed to do.

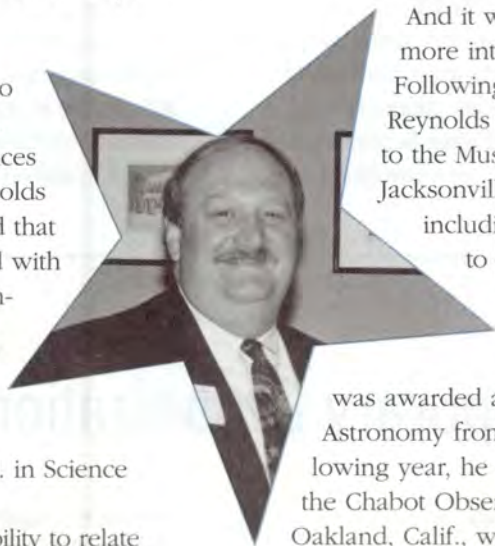
And it was amazing how many kids were more interested in space after Challenger." Following two years on the lecture circuit, Reynolds was assigned by his school district to the Museum of Science and History in Jacksonville, Fla., where a new addition, including a major planetarium, was about to open. He was appointed planetarium director and led the planetarium through a successful opening.

In December 1990, Reynolds was awarded a Ph.D. in Science Education and Astronomy from the University of Florida. The following year, he was appointed executive director of the Chabot Observatory and Science Center in Oakland, Calif., where he is leading the effort to build a new state-of-the-art facility which is scheduled to open in 1998.

Reynolds interest in astronomy and space exploration has also prompted him to write about the stars. In addition to many articles, he co-authored the book *Observe Eclipses* which was released last May and has received excellent

reviews in astronomy circles. He has completed a second astronomy book, a university lab book, that will be out later this year.

The opportunity to complete his B.A. at Thomas Edison State College opened up an entire universe for Mike Reynolds. The support of his family, in particular his wife, Debbie, and children, Aimee and Jeremy, has been paramount. Finally, the opportunity to provide others with a view of the universe has been exciting and worthwhile, especially for the future of our country: our children. ♦♦



*Christopher Wynings BSBA '82, the recipient of the Award for Outstanding Service to the Alumni Association, was born in Little Rock, Ark., but has spent most of his life in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.*

*For the past 30 years, Wynings has lived in East Windsor, N.J., with his wife, Barbara, and their two sons and two daughters. His hobbies include softball, volleyball and working with computers; his volunteer work includes the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association.*

Wynings is a project manager for the Workstation Support Department at Educational Testing Service (ETS), Princeton. He started at ETS as an electronic technician 29 years ago, progressing through a variety of engineering positions while earning his associate's in Data Processing from Mercer County Community College.

"Over the years, I saw that I was getting as far as I could go in electronics at ETS," Wynings explained. "When I received my associate's, it gave me the chance to change my career path."

His educational journey played a key role in his career advancement. About the time his BSBA was completed at Thomas Edison, Wynings was offered a manager's position at ETS. His most recent promotion coincided with the receipt of his Master's in Management Science from Trenton State College.

Wynings' first involvement with the Alumni Association was with the Alumni Annual Fund Phonathon, but his full time involvement was the result of receiving a letter asking him if he would be interested in an associate's or director's position on the alumni board.

"I had been involved in some other activities that were winding down, so I found that I had some time available to devote to the Alumni Association," Wynings recalled. "I wanted to help individuals become aware of the College's services and promote the College, as well. I thought getting involved would be a worthwhile thing to do."

In January 1993, Wynings became an associate director. A few months later, he became a director and, shortly after that, acting treasurer for the remainder of the year. Wynings was elected treasurer in 1994, serving for two years. He also participated on a number of different committees during that time. In 1994, Wynings was awarded the Alumni Association TEAM (Thomas Edison Alumni Merit) Award for his leadership and management as Alumni Association treasurer.

As busy as he is with work and family, Wynings still finds time to have an impact at Thomas Edison. "The main thing is to give it a try," he said of volunteering for the Alumni Association. "Involvement can be whatever you want it to be depending on the time you have available. All you need to do is get out and give it a try."

Fortunately for the Alumni Association, that's exactly what Chris Wynings did. ♦♦

## alumni happenings

### Financial Planning Seminar:

A total of 84 persons attended the four seminars. Topics presented included estate, retirement and investment planning. Evaluations indicated the overall excellence of these programs. Barbara Aikins, assistant director of course administration, DIAL, attended the seminar held in Cherry Hill on Oct. 16 and was the winner of the \$100 raffle drawing provided by the Savino Agency. The seminars were co-sponsored by the Alumni Association.

### November Phonathon:

13 alumni and student volunteers participated in the follow-up Phonathon to call alumni that could not be reached in the spring. Results: 112 new pledges and \$4,080 raised.



# Forty-Nine Arnold Fletcher award recipients honored at Commencement

Thomas Edison State College honored 49 baccalaureate graduates who received the Arnold Fletcher Award during the College's 22nd Annual Commencement Ceremony in October. The New Jersey recipients are: Peter Alfinito of Willingboro, Cynthia S. Brown of Jackson, Cheryl Felsenthal of Passaic, Esther Gersten of Lakewood, Pamela A. Johanson of Flemington, Muriel G. Willich-Kennedy of Chester, Linda Beedie-Grashorn of Milford, Georgina M. Boesch of Hoboken, Peggy A. Flower of Red Bank, Kenneth Lee of Middletown, Ralph Ruffolo of Somerdale, Ronald Torretti of Mt. Laurel, Daniel DeMora of Swedesboro, Adrienne Mosley of Andover, Mary Ellen Hess of Bayville, MaryBeth Kohler of Keyport, William Hickey of Pilesgrove, Barbara Moore of Wildwood and John A. Miller of Pitman.

Other award recipients are Dominique Bee of Novato, Calif.; Gary F. Bonanno of El Cato, Calif.; James E. Booth of Kansas City, Mo.; Regina D. Daniel of Las Vegas, Nev.; Adina Y. Finkelstein of Woodmere, N.Y.; Francis Mezzatesta of Dublin, Pa.; Patrick J. O'Connor, stationed in England; Michal Rosen of Jerusalem, Israel; Carin Rothchild of Johannesburg, South Africa; Lea Rowe of Baltimore, Md.; Marianna K. Siblani of St. Clair Shores, Mich.;



Nine Fletcher Award winners pictured from the left are (front row) William Hickey of Pilesgrove, N.J.; Gordon Andrews of Conquitlam, Conn.; and Michael Kosallo of Black Lick, Pa.; (second row) Daniel DeMora of Swedesboro, N.J.; and Kenneth Lee of Middletown, N.J.; (third row) Adrienne Mosley of Andover, N.J.; and Barbara Moore of Wildwood, N.J.; (back row) Peter Alfinito of Willingboro, N.J.; and Millard Hanbury of Bel Air, Md.

Robert P. Berry of Litiz, Pa.; Stewart J. Flemming of Columbus, Neb.; Sally J. Jones of Dresher, Pa.; Nancy L. Vegager of Portland, Ore.; Leo Eggert of Perrysburg, Ohio; Parke Adamson of Temperance, Mich.; Gordon Andrews of Conquitlam, Conn.; Craig Ash of Ft. Wayne, Ind.; Joseph Baumgardner of Crystal River, Fla.; William Byrne of

Arlington, Mass.; Gerald Crump of Lynchburg, Va.; Millard Hanbury of Bel Air, Md.; Michael Kosallo of Black Lick, Pa.; Francis Mastrangelo of Pineville, Pa.; Jose Mejia of Newport News, Va.; Stanley Nolan of Colchester, Conn.; Gloria Strickland of Savannah, Ga.; Joseph Witkins of Cary, Ill.; and Dudley Young of Clovia, Calif.

The award recognizes Thomas Edison baccalaureate graduates for exceptional achievement in independent learning. Students selected have demonstrated excellence and have earned a large number of credits using one or more of the innovative forms of learning recognized by the College. These forms include testing, Guided Study, the On-Line Computer Classroom, Contract

Learning, Portfolio Assessment, evaluation of knowledge acquired at work or in the military, approved telecourses and other means. The award is named in honor of Dr. Arnold Fletcher, vice president for Academic Affairs at Thomas Edison State College from 1973 to 1983. Fletcher Award recipient Mosley, a member of the Class of 1995, spoke on behalf of this year's class. ♦♦

## Planned giving opportunities

There are many ways for individuals to support their favorite charities and alma maters. Appreciable assets such as stocks, bonds, gifts of cash or certificates of deposits, or real estate may be given to an institution. If you are learning now about financial, insurance, retirement and estate planning and are interested in creating income streams, gaining tax-advantages and making contributions, then planned giving may be the avenue for you.

Planned Giving Opportunities can offer a donor personal and philanthropic satisfaction while at the same time offering tax-advantages. Options for Planned Giving Opportunities include: Bequests, Charitable Trusts, Life Insurance Policies and Pooled Income Funds. If you are interested in learning more about how to make secure financial decisions while making a philanthropic gift, please call (609) 984-1588 or write:

Office of Development  
Thomas Edison State College  
101 W. State Street  
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## applause...applause...

**'80** James V. Curcio (BSAST) of Plainfield, N.J., received his Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Studies from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Curcio is a manager of packaging engineering at L'Oreal.

**'81** Marco Meirovitz (B.A.), along with Paul Jacobs, former director of Test Development and Research at Thomas Edison, and Norma Levine, has developed a new thinking skills program called ThinkAbility. Released by Learning, Inc., a division of Lawrence Erlbaum Associates (LEA) of Hillsdale, N.J., the program contains a Teacher's Manual, Student Workbooks and Game Kit.

**'85** Casimer J. Smerecki (BS) of Inverness, Fla., is seeking election to the post of Supervisor of Elections for Citrus County, Florida, in 1996 elections. Smerecki retired from the Middlesex County, N.J., prosecutor's office as a detective sergeant in 1987 and worked part time for a year as a homestead fraud investigator for the Citrus County property appraiser.

**'88** Vera Tehayel (A.A.) of Kenilworth, N.J., received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Kean College in May 1995. She began pursuing her Master of Liberal Arts at Kean in September.

**'89** Lea Bayer Rapp (B.A.) of Sayreville, N.J., the 1994 recipient of the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association's Award for Professional Achievement, has received the top national honor for Individual Achievement-Print, from the National Federation of Press Women, for the second consecutive year. An author and journalist, Rapp received the award for her 1994 New Jersey Monthly magazine cover story on education. She has also won state and regional honors this year, including the North Jersey Press Club's Hildy Johnson Award for top story of the year.

**'90** Daniel D. DelGesso (B.A.) of Collingswood, N.J., was awarded his Doctorate in Education degree from Temple University in May 1995. DelGesso taught full-time in Temple's teacher education program while completing his doctorate. He also received his Master's in Education degree from Temple in 1991. Both of DelGesso's graduate degree programs at Temple University were completed on scholarship.

**'93** Navy Ensign Travis N. Goodwin (BSAST) recently graduated from Officer Candidate School at Naval Aviation Schools Command, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla., and was commissioned to his present rank.

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Michael Vecerkauskas (ASAST) is serving forward deployed in the Adriatic Sea near Bosnia aboard the guided missile cruiser USS South Carolina as part of the USS American Battle Group. Vecerkauskas and fellow sailors have been helping to enforce the no-fly zone over Bosnia.

**'94** Linda Jedju (B.A.) of New Lisbon, N.J., has been recognized in the Silver Anniversary Edition of Who's Who in the East and recognized in the sixth edition of Who's Who in American Nursing. Jedju is a nationally published writer and a registered nurse certified by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Ivana Suchy (BSAST) of Garfield, N.J., has been recognized in Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Suchy recently signed a contract with a major U.S. publisher for his book on Die Design (a projected 650-750 page book on sheet metal stamping).

**'95** Judith R. Gottlieb (BSBA) of Landing, N.J., administration manager for GPU Service Corporation in Parsippany, N.J., was honored at the sixteenth Annual Tribute to Women and Industry (TWIN) Award Dinner in May. The award is presented annually to outstanding women who have made significant contributions to the success of their companies.

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.



## Thomas Edison/NJIT HINT study receives New Jersey Government 2000 Award

The Healthcare Information Networks and Technologies (HINT) project, a collaborative study by Thomas Edison State College and New Jersey Institute for Technology (NJIT), received the first New Jersey Government 2000 Conferee Award at the New Jersey Government 2000 Conference.

Senator Robert E. Littell presented the award to Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, and Dr. Saul Fenster, president of NJIT. Sen. Littell recognized the College's HINT study for identifying \$760 million in administrative cost savings that can be achieved through the use of computer networks using electronic data interchange for the transmission of medical information and the processing of health care claims in New Jersey. Dr. Pruitt noted: "This translates into the equivalent in annual healthcare savings of \$100 for each resident or \$370 for each family in New Jersey. This represents a savings greater than the recent state income tax reduction."

Sen. Littell continued, "Technology has transformed the delivery of healthcare to our citizens, providing us with the best medical services in the world. This same technological ability needs to be applied to our healthcare industry to insure that it is being managed economically." Greater reliance on technology can also help to reduce fraud and waste, improve the confidentiality of medical information, and assist in eliminating unnecessary tests and procedures.

An innovative feature of the HINT study was the development of the first statewide survey in the nation to determine the current level of usage in information technologies, associated costs and potential barriers to the use of information technology in New Jersey. The HINT statewide survey revealed four major advantages of processing healthcare claims by electronic means: electronic claims have a lower processing cost per claim; a lower rejection rate for initial claims; a lower rejection rate for follow-up claims; shorter turnaround period on accounts receivable than paper claims.



*The Healthcare Information Networks and Technologies (HINT) project, a collaborative study by Thomas Edison State College and New Jersey Institute for Technology (NJIT), received the first New Jersey Government 2000 Conferee Award at the New Jersey Government 2000 Conference. Senator Robert E. Littell (center) presented the award to Dr. George A. Pruitt (left), president of Thomas Edison State College, and Dr. Saul Fenster (right), president of NJIT.*

Only a small percentage of healthcare organizations in New Jersey make use of electronic healthcare claims. The survey revealed that 150 million healthcare claims are processed annually in New Jersey, with 85 percent of those processed by paper methods.

The report recommends that New Jersey move quickly to develop a standardized medical payment form and an open automated communications protocol that will allow for quick, accurate and economical processing of medical bills and medical-related information by computers.

"We are pleased at the successful outcome of the HINT study, and the recognition of that success through this award," said Michael J. Scheiring, vice president and treasurer, who directed the study for Thomas Edison State College.

At the request of the State Legislature and Governor Whitman, Thomas Edison State College and NJIT will act in advisory capacity to the Department of Health and State Division of Law and Public Safety in the development of a statewide healthcare information network and be facilitators in moving the adoption of the HINT report's recommendations for administrative efficiency in healthcare delivery in New Jersey.

"The HINT project is yet another way that the College fulfills its mission of quality and service to the community," said Dr. Natale S. Caliendo, vice president for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison. ♦♦

## Dr. Patricia Sparks is academic dean

Dr. Patricia Sparks has been appointed academic dean at Thomas Edison State College. In making the announcement, Dr. Jerry Ice, vice president and provost at Thomas Edison, said Dr. Sparks' appointment represents "an important step in the College's academic future. Pat Sparks is a dedicated educator who has made significant contributions in the area of adult higher education. Thomas Edison State College students will benefit from the knowledge and expertise she brings to the College community."

In her current role in the Division of Academic Affairs, Dr. Sparks directs the College's Academic Programs staff and activities relating to academic work. She is also responsible for the formulation, evaluation and administration of the College's academic policies and procedures, and for the development and administration of all programs to serve the needs of the College's students.

Dr. Sparks, who, for the past



10 years, was the dean for Distance Education and professor of Health Care Administration with Saint Joseph's College in Standish, Maine, brings to this position a wealth of knowledge and experience. She was responsible for the academic and administrative management of Saint Joseph's Distance Education Programs. Dr. Sparks received her MPH degree in Health Care Administration from Boston University School of Medicine and her Ed.D. (1966) and M.Ed. (1968) from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pa. She is a member of the National University Continuing Education Association (NUCEA),

Association for Continuing Higher Education (ACHE) and American Council for Education National Identification Program (ACENIP).

Among her many civic activities, Dr. Sparks has been on the board of trustees for two major hospitals in the Portland area and is the past president of Rotary International in Windham. She was on the Windham Adult Education Advisory Council and is a Literacy Volunteer. Dr. Sparks has authored articles in a number of publications, including *American Independent Study News*, *Adult Assessment Forum* and *Journal of Continuing Higher Education*.

"Thomas Edison State College is one of the nation's leading institutions for nontraditional education," said Dr. Sparks. "In serving as the College's academic dean, I look forward to the challenges associated with meeting the diverse learning needs of adults within the state, nationally and internationally." ♦♦

### CORPORATE-HIGHER EDUCATION COLLOQUIUM EXCERPT

## A Call for Corporate Social Responsibility

BY BARBARA W. EKLUND

Corporate social responsibility is more than just saying your organization does the right things, an occasional gesture motivated by public relations, or giving money to the most current socially correct charity.

"Corporate social responsibility is making business decisions using a process that fairly addresses the competing claims of all the companies/constituents, and implementing policies and practices that consistently meet and exceed ethical, legal, commercial and other expectations that society has of business," according to John O'Connell, president of Renewable Energy Development Corporation. O'Connell, who is working to start up a local chapter of the national organization Business for Social Responsibility (BSR), who participated in the Colloquium.

O'Connell's presentation was packed with defining the characteristics of an organization with social responsibility and included many examples. "Doing the right thing is just common sense because it is a winning situation for everyone," O'Connell believes. He added that many of these "enlightened" companies are very successful.

"The reality is, that if you had invested in a socially responsible

Doing the right thing is just common sense because it is a winning situation for everyone.

fund you would have outperformed the stock market in the last nine months," O'Connell pointed out. He added that this would have been true over the last five-year period as well.

O'Connell believes that social responsibility begins with whom you hire and includes all aspects of the organization, including:

- providing a healthy and safe workplace.

- being aware of environmental concerns.

- establishing purchasing practices that also include how your source of supply operates.

- investing company resources according to socially responsible standards.

- committing to customers and supporting the community.

- establishing a code of ethics.

- appointing a diverse and independent Board of Directors.

- applying values and standards consistently.

- defining a corporate culture, implementing and monitoring it.

- maintaining good relationships with suppliers, customers and competitors.

- demonstrating respect for human rights.

- producing goods and services that exceed customers' expectations.

- responsibly managing defective products.

- developing advertising that is honest, accurate and responsible.

BSR is open to companies that have a commitment to more responsible business policies and practices. There are over 800 members nationwide. Dues vary depending on the size of the organization and members have access to information, education and technical assistance to help them implement more responsible policies in their own business. BSR's telephone number in Washington, D.C. is (202) 842-5400. ♦♦





Cliff Moore

Dr. George A. Pruitt (center), president of Thomas Edison State College, meets with Spirit of Edison Award winners James Kilgore (right), president and publisher of *The Princeton Packet Inc.*, and Steven E. de Souza, '76, (left), Hollywood screenwriter, at the Gala.

## Hollywood screenwriter and newspaper publisher honored during Science Fiction, Fantasy & Fun Gala

Steven E. de Souza, '76, screenwriter of the *Die Hard* films, *Judge Dredd* and *The Flintstones*, and James Kilgore, president and publisher of *The Princeton Packet Inc.*, were honored with the 1995 Spirit of Edison Awards during the Thomas Edison State College Foundation's Gala. The Spirit of Edison Awards recognize a graduate of Thomas Edison State College and a national business leader and for creativity, commitment and entrepreneurial spirit.

### de Souza creates magic on screen

One of the first graduates of Thomas Edison State College, de Souza received his B.A. in 1976. He has had a diverse career in print and broadcast media for over 26 years. In the 70's, he was a screenwriter for *The Six Million Dollar Man*. During the mid '80s, de Souza was the creator or producer of *Supercarrier*, *Knight Rider*, *The Renegades* and *The Powers of Matthew Star*. He was the writer and director of MTV's *Halloween*, and HBO's *Tales from the Crypt* in 1991.

As a screenwriter, de Souza has worked with major studios such as Universal, Paramount, Warner Brothers, Tri-Star and 20th Century Fox. Recently, he was screenwriter and director of the film *Streetfighter* with Jean-Claude Van Damme and the late Raul Julia, and screenwriter for *Judge Dredd* with Sylvester Stallone. In addition to working with Bruce Willis on the *Die Hard* movies, and Eddie Murphy and Nick Nolte on *48 Hours*, de Souza has work with other superstars. He was the screenwriter for *Commando* and *The Running Man* starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, *Ricochet* starring Denzel Washington, and for *The Flintstones* starring John Goodman and Rick Moranis. A native of Philadelphia, where his parents still reside, de Souza lives in Santa Monica, Calif. He has two children: daughter Amy is 22, and son David is 17.

### Kilgore's mission: education through information

Kilgore has been with *The Princeton Packet* for over 19 years. He is the son of Bernard Kilgore, former chairman of Dow Jones and architect of the modern *Wall Street Journal*. Kilgore's father bought *The Princeton Packet*, New Jersey's oldest weekly, in 1955. *The Packet* group had seven papers when James Kilgore became general manager in 1979; now, it has 13. Over the years, Kilgore has held a number of positions at newspapers including reporter, ad salesman, business manager and managing editor.

In accepting the award, Kilgore said, "Our mission is to educate the community we serve. We strive to provide information that individuals need to know about their neighborhoods, government, their joys and their tragedies. Our goal is to make a better place to live."

Kilgore believes that newspapering is a public service that deeply affects the communities it covers. Kilgore's commitment to community service, however, goes beyond the dissemination of information. He has held directorships with the American Red Cross; Urban Journalism Workshop Advisory Board; Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce; and Princeton Area TWIN Program Advisory Board. He is the former president and chairman of the New Jersey Press Association, and a member of many newspaper industry associations. Kilgore is a captain in the United State Army Reserve and a member of the Rotary International in Princeton. He received his B.A. in economics with honors in 1971 and his MBA in 1973 from Stanford University in Stanford, Calif. Kilgore and his wife, Denise, have twin sons, Michael Bernard and Matthew Tecumseh. They reside in Princeton, N.J. ♦♦

## A toast to those who made it possible

This year's successful Gala was co-chaired by S. John Quattrone, president of S. John Quattrone Associates, Lawrenceville, N.J., and Andrew J. Brown, vice president of Total Research Corp., Princeton, N.J. These two dedicated individuals were assisted by a large cast of loyal Thomas Edison supporters.

### Committee:

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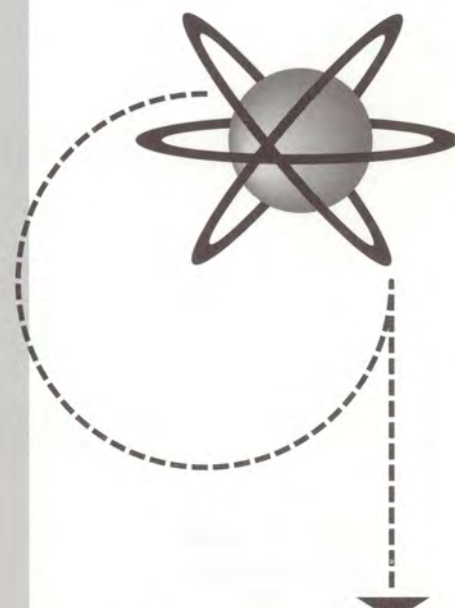
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Christian Yegen

### Special thanks:

David Sarnoff Research Center for printing the ad journal  
CoreStates for printing the invitations  
Deborah Aguiar-Velez for handling the Silent Auction

### Silent Auction stars:

Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association  
Graycar Travel Agency/Continental Airlines  
Princeton Marriott Hotel  
Capitol Car Wash  
Hamilton Jewelers  
Rita Novitt  
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Thomas Edison State College Gala Committee



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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. ♦♦

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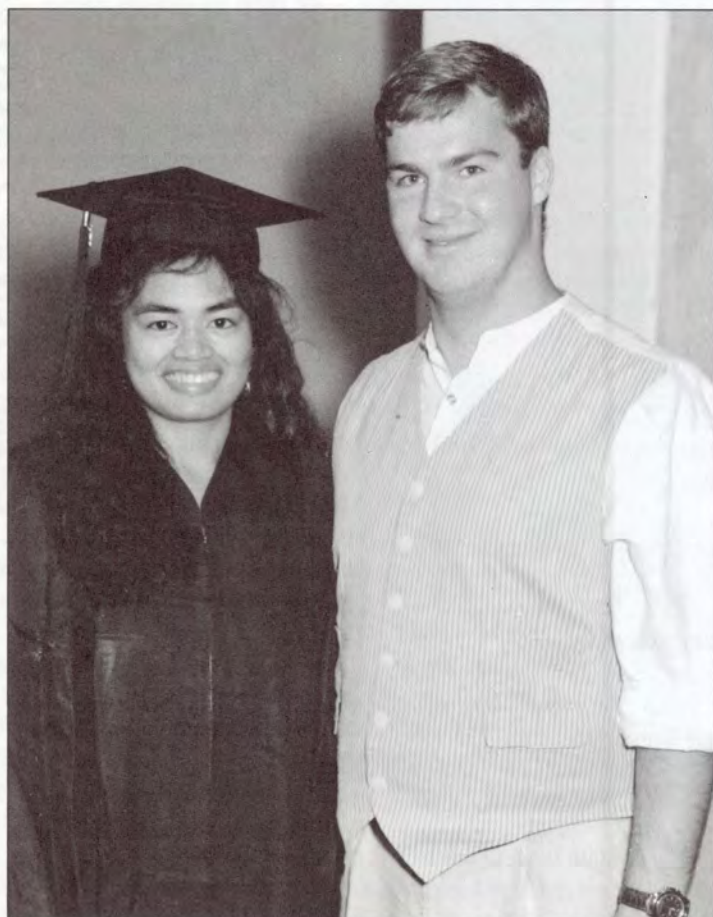
2000 Award  
New Jersey  
HINT study receives



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NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

FALL/WINTER 1995



Katharine Wyland

*Graduate Vivian Dagan and her friend David Tolmie are all smiles at the Thomas Edison State College Twenty-Third Annual Commencement at Shriner's Auditorium in Trenton on Oct. 22.*

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