



Capital Campus

Staff Newsletter of Thomas Edison State College • August 2010



Provost and Vice President William J. Seaton (left) receives a proclamation from Atlantic City Mayor Lorenzo T. Langford.

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~ William J. Seaton
Provost and Vice President

National Institute Celebrates 22nd Year 2010 Event Focuses on Future Visions

The National Institute on the Assessment of Adult Learning recently celebrated its 22nd year of providing an intensive learning experience for educators involved in the assessment of adult learning.

Participants from 27 states and 53 colleges and universities throughout the U.S. gathered in Atlantic City on June 9 for the three-day event, which featured dynamic keynote speakers and an enriching program of workshop sessions and learning exchanges.

This year's event, titled Future Visions, has evolved since its inception in 1988. Although the National Institute has continued to educate and provide networking opportunities for those who work in the field, it has expanded to include strategies for development and growth of assessment programs, student advising, faculty development, research, quality assurance as well as current issues and trends.

The event has transformed over time from a small think tank to a national event addressing a broad spectrum of topics and Institute event planners say that they have seen a threefold increase in attendance since 2000.

In addition to the information-sharing

and collaboration that took place, Atlantic City Mayor Lorenzo T. Langford presented an official proclamation to Provost and Vice President William J. Seaton proclaiming Wednesday, June 9, 2010, as Thomas Edison State College Day in Atlantic City and commended the College for its outstanding efforts to provide excellent educational and learning opportunities.

According to Seaton, it was the most significant National Institute conference to date. "The new direction taken in the program is reflective of the change affecting all of higher education and the overwhelmingly positive response from the participants," he said. "We look forward to continuing the Institute as a way of supporting our colleagues and providing a forum for new and innovative ideas."

According to participants and organizers, the program expansion, event format, location and superior accommodations all combined to create a enjoyable, comprehensive and informative experience. The feedback that has been submitted by conference attendees has been overwhelmingly positive and the majority of the participants plan to attend next year.

Focus On: Terri Tallon-Hammill

Adept at juggling many and various projects at home and at work, **Terri Tallon-Hammill** truly knows what it means to multitask.

As the executive assistant to the president and secretary to the Board of Trustees at Thomas Edison State College, Tallon-Hammill is charged with investigating issues that involve students, staff and policies as well as advising the president concerning matters requiring his personal attention. She also manages the logistics of all aspects of the functioning of the Board of Trustees.

"There are two things that make my job at the College so rewarding — the College's mission and my colleagues," said Tallon-Hammill. "I couldn't ask for a better group of co-workers to share my day with. Every day is a learning experience, and I wouldn't have it any other way."

Tallon-Hammill, who noted that she is very familiar with the role of being a mother, wife, employee and student all at the same time, said she can relate to the life of an adult student. She understands the thoughts, stresses and pressures that students at Thomas Edison State College may be experiencing.

"I know firsthand the challenges adult learners encounter," she said. "For students who reach my office, sometimes my experiences can be a good thing. There have been a lot of caring people who have helped me manage my goals along the way, and I like being able to help our students manage theirs."

Tallon-Hammill received her associate degree from Burlington

County College, her bachelor's degree from Holy Family University and her master's degree from Jones International University. As of July 7, Tallon-Hammill's dissertation for her PhD in management at Walden University has been accepted; she is currently waiting to defend it.



Terri Tallon-Hammill
Assistant to the President and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

In addition to working and studying, Tallon-Hammill is serving her sixth year as a committeewoman in Mansfield Township, Burlington County, N.J., where she serves on the municipal special events committee and environmental commission. She also serves on the Burlington County Route 130/206 Corridor Development Committee and has been a volunteer softball coach in the community.

"I'm a tree hugging, environmental, clean water, pick up your trash, animal loving, recycling nut," said Tallon-Hammill, who is currently working on a volunteer project to locate appropriate sites to replant 6,000 trees that were removed as part of the New Jersey Turnpike expansion.

Tallon-Hammill has also been running for more than 30 years and has competed in marathons, triathlons and biathlons.

Residing in a small hamlet called Hedding, which is part of Mansfield Township, Tallon-Hammill and her husband, Richard, own 14 acres of land, which they maintain as a part of a woodland management program through the state of New Jersey. They have three children: Dana, Sean Kathryn, and Joshua; twin granddaughters, Regan and Ryan; and a Chesapeake Bay Retriever named Hank.

College Develops New Master's Degree

This summer, Thomas Edison State College launched its latest graduate program, the Master of Science in Applied Science and Technology degree.

The program is designed to meet the advanced, multidisciplinary educational requirements of students interested in obtaining leadership positions in their chosen professions.

"This new graduate program provides advanced learning in the modern tools of business management, leadership, applied science and technology," said **Dr. Marcus Tillery**, dean of the School of Applied Science and Technology.

Thanks, Pam!



Celebrating the work of **Pamela Sims Jones** (3rd from right), LT '02, are (from left) **Diane Stratton**, LT '10; **Sharon Smith**, LT '09; **Cathy Punchello-Cobos**, LT '08; **Sylvia Hamilton**, LT '06; and **Juliette Punchello**, LT '08; (seated from left) **Nia Abuwi**, LT '10; **Linda Rosner**, LT '09; **Heather Brooks**, LT '07; and Leadership Trenton Associate Fellow **Connie South**, at Amici Milano on June 17. Sims Jones stepped down as director of Leadership Trenton in June. Hamilton has replaced her as the new director of the program.

oping the research analysis and critical evaluation skills necessary to support decision making and problem-solving required to lead today's technical enterprises." The degree is available completely online and includes two areas of con-

centration for students to select: The Clinical Trials Management Track and The Technical Studies Track.

Additional tracks are being developed and will be made available in the future.

Congratulations

Michael J. Scheiring, vice president and treasurer, and his wife, Marcia, became grandparents for the third time when daughter Kristy Scheiring and her husband, Manuel Jimenez, welcomed daughter Lyla Jane, their second child. Lyla Jane, who was born on July 5, joins 3 1/2-year-old big brother Benjamin, and 6-month-old cousin Julian, the son of Lauren (Scheiring) and Michael Wexler.

Jeff Lushbaugh, director of Website & Multimedia Production, and his wife Maria, welcomed Justin Robert to their family. Justin Robert, who was born July 12, weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces, and measured 20 1/4 inches. He joins twin big brother and sister, Ryan and Kara.

Golf Classic Raises \$30,000+



Michael J. Scheiring, vice president and treasurer; Carron Albert, former associate vice president for Administration & Finance; Liz Walsh; Marcia Scheiring; and Kib Walsh golf for the cause.

The Sixteenth Annual Thomas C. Streckewald Golf Classic, held on June 21 at Greenacres Country Club in Lawrenceville, N.J., raised \$30,510 for the Thomas Edison State College Foundation. Nearly 70 golfers attended the event and many staff participated or volunteered. Volunteers included **Anna Benitz**, **Laura Brenner-Scotti**, **Heather Brooks**, **Jeff Clark**, **Peter Gallagher**, **Mary Hack**, **Melissa Maszczak**, **Jennifer Montone**, **Linda Rosner**, **Kelly Saccomanno**, **Mindi Shalita**, **Linda Soltis**, **Jennifer Stark**, **Terry Thornton**, **Frank Tulli**, **Misty Isak**, **Jennifer Guerrero** and **Chris Miller**.

Staff Activities

Marie R. Power-Barnes, associate vice president for Public Affairs and director of Marketing, has been named to the Rider University College of Liberal Arts, Education and Sciences Liberal Arts Advisory Board. The board provides leadership guidance for strategic planning, creates student opportunities beyond the classroom and provides advice to promote Rider University's Liberal Arts programs.

John P. Thurber (right), vice president for Public Affairs, served as master of ceremonies for the official groundbreaking for the Mercer County Criminal Courthouse construction project. Thurber was recently elected chair of the Mercer County Improvement Authority. Also pictured (from left) are Mercer County Executive Brian Hughes, Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo and Superior Court Judge Linda Feinberg.



James M. McCarty, assistant dean, Heavin School of Arts and Sciences, has had the chapter (15), "Critical Thinking, Preparing Society's Decision Makers," published in the text book *Integrating Emergency Management Studies into Higher Education*, through publisher Public Entity Risk Institute in June. He also had an article, "Critical thinking for emergency managers" published in the *Government Security News* special supplement May issue titled: Essential Guide to Homeland Security Education.

The Office of Academic Advising kicked off its annual spring retreat at the Robert Wood Johnson Center, in Hamilton, N.J., on May 12, with an icebreaker and team building exercise. This annual event was organized by **Rhonda Beckett**, program advisor, who is leading the enrolled student orientation initiative.



Dr. Adrian Zappala

Dr. Adrian C. Zappala, assistant dean, Educational Leadership, Heavin School of Arts and Sciences, delivered two presentations at the ED-MEDIA 2010-World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia & Telecommunications in Toronto, Canada, June 29-July 2. "Meeting Concurrent Standards in the Online Preparation of School Leaders," discussed methods employed by an online graduate program in educational leadership to meet the standards of regional and national accrediting agencies and state licensure boards. "Cultural Influences on Student Retention in Distance Learning Environments," examined the influences on student retention in online educational environments. In addition, Zappala has written a paper related to the second presentation that was accepted for publication in the conference proceedings, which is peer-reviewed and published online. ED-MEDIA 2010 is an international conference, organized by the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE).

Welcome New Staff



Kristin Gonzalez has been appointed confidential assistant to the director of Community Affairs & Government Relations. Located on the 3rd floor of the Kelsey Building, Gonzalez may be reached at extension 2035.



Nina Keats has been appointed graduate program specialist in the School of Nursing. Keats is located on the 3rd floor of the Townhouses and may be reached at extension 3276.



Barbara Kleva has been appointed general counsel in the Office of General Counsel. Kleva is located on the 3rd floor of the Kelsey Building and may be reached at extension 2021.



Lewis Shena has been appointed director of Continuing Studies in the Watson School of Public Service & Continuing Studies. Located on the 2nd floor of Kuser, Shena may be reached at extension 2218.



Michael Sheridan has been appointed admissions counselor in the Office of Admissions. Sheridan is located on the 1st floor of the Canal Banks Building and may be reached at extension 3020.

College Staff Rowing For a Cure



Thomas Edison State College staff teamed up on June 6, for the Paddle for Pink Dragonboat Festival to help raise money and awareness for breast cancer research. This is the second year that College staff has participated. Staff team members pictured here are **Doray Burns**, evaluator; **Christine Carter**, evaluator; **Jared Carter**, MIS; **Lorilyn Lewis**, admissions counselor; **MaryBeth Lynch**, senior evaluator; **Suzanne McCartney**, admissions counselor; **Michael Patrick**, evaluator; **Linda Rosner**, admissions counselor; **Jocelyn Tucker**, evaluator; and **Deborah Ware**, financial aid, as well as family and friends. Not pictured are Director of Alumni Affairs **Roxanne Globis** and Senior Program Advisor **Todd Siben**.

Coming Soon to Your PC... Accessing Shared Data

By the end of the year, the Office of Management Information Systems (MIS) will rollout unified access to the **Department Shared Drives**. Staff will have a single S: Drive icon in 'My Computer.' Clicking on the drive will display the department shared folders that are available to access. Shortcuts to all folders can be created on the desktop for easy access. (Access to "My TESC Places" will be discontinued.)

Other Planned Microsoft Upgrades:

- **Office 2010:** During winter 2011, MIS will be upgrading to Office 2010. The upgrades will be rolled out by department. Training to highlight the new features and detail the differences from previous program will be provided as departments are migrated.
- **Windows 7:** As PC's are replaced at the College, staff will be upgraded to the Windows 7 Operating System.
- Online tutorials and videos will be available to assist staff with Microsoft product upgrades.

Please join MIS for a Lunch & Learn session to preview these upcoming enhancements -- date and time to be announced.



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.