

INVENTION



The Newsletter of Thomas A. Edison College

Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Volume 3 Number 2

Fall 1978

Founding President Resigns

Fletcher Named Interim President, Search Committee Formed

Dr. James Douglas Brown, Jr., resigned in July as president of Thomas A. Edison College. In making the announcement of Dr. Brown's resignation, Richard Pearson, chairman of the College's board of trustees stated that Brown is leaving the presidency, which he has held since the College's founding in 1972, to pursue research and writing in the area of non-traditional study.

"We have a deep appreciation," Mr. Pearson said, "for his fine leadership in the founding of the College, fostering its growth and developing it to the status of a fully accredited state institution. We will all miss him personally and professionally for his fine leadership role."

In recognition of his service to the College, the trustees have granted Dr. Brown a one year leave of absence, from June 30, 1978 through June 30, 1979. During this period, Dr. Brown will hold the title of President on-leave at the College.

During the intervening period, Dr. Arnold Fletcher, vice president of

Academic Affairs, has been named acting president of the College until the board of trustees names a successor to Dr. Brown.

A Presidential Search Committee, consisting of four trustees Ms. Eleanor Spiegel, George Hanford, Alan Ferguson and Ms. Allison Jackson; one senior staff member from the College, Ms. Jean A. Titterington; one member representing the Academic Council, Robert L. Goldberg; and one alumni representative, Ms. Nancy Ann Kopp is conducting a nation-wide search for a new president. Ms. Eleanor Spiegel is committee chairman.

Dr. Fletcher has been at Edison since 1973. He received his B.S. and M. Ed. degrees from Temple University and earned his Ed.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1957.

Dr. Fletcher has previously served as Dean of Faculty at both West Chester State College in Pennsylvania and Wilmington College in Delaware. Between these stints, Fletcher also served overseas as President of the American College of Monaco. Before entering the field of administration, he had been professor of music at West Chester State College. He and his wife Toni have a son and a daughter.



Commencement speaker, Dr. Martha E. Church offers congratulations to Edison College graduates.

423 Mid-Career Adult Graduates Honored

Commencement Speaker Stresses Life-Long Learning

Dr. Martha E. Church offered congratulations to the graduates of Thomas A. Edison College for their perseverance in attaining "A degree — with a difference." Dr. Church cited Edison College and the New Jersey Department of Higher Education for their pioneer efforts in non-traditional higher education in her address to the graduates at Edison College's sixth annual commencement ceremonies on Sunday, October 15.

In 1975, Dr. Church became the first woman to be named president of Hood College since its founding in 1893. She noted that, "In a declining youth market, adults of all ages can make higher education once again a growth industry. This has set the stage for an exploration of some of the issues involved in lifelong learning, a movement which spurred the establishment of Thomas A. Edison College."

Dr. Church commented that the student appears to come first in non-traditional structures. She continued, "Such is the case for each student at Edison College. You have a right to be proud of your hard-earned degrees. You have had to do all the work, much of it on your own. This is the key to the difference between an Edison degree and other degrees. Edison is designed to serve your needs within a context of high standards."

Trenton mayor, Arthur J. Holland, delivered the welcoming remarks to

the graduates, college staff, and guests. He noted that the College will move its offices back to Trenton in the spring into the Kelsey Building which is currently undergoing extensive renovations.

During the past year, 250 students earned associate degrees while 173 earned baccalaureate degrees. Seventy-five percent of Edison College students are New Jersey residents.

Delivering brief addresses on behalf of their fellow graduates were Rita R. Cronin of Morristown and Harvey W. Myers of Somers Point. Ms. Cronin, a grandmother and self-employed title examiner, recounted how she began her college studies just one year ago and having successfully completed requirements for her A.A. degree intends to pursue a bachelor's degree.

Mr. Myers, a regional staff nurse for the New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services and the first Edison College student to earn a B.S. degree in Human Services, spoke about the unique role of Edison College and related how much his degree means to him. Mr. Myers has just been accepted into the Master's program at a state university in the field of health care administration.

Congratulations to the graduates were also offered by Richard Pearson, chairman of Thomas A. Edison College Board of Trustees, Matthew J. Quinn, Director-Office of State College, New Jersey Department of Higher Education, and by the Registrar and Director of Admissions, Thomas P. McCarthy.



Extensive renovations are underway on Trenton's historic Kelsey Building, future headquarters of Thomas A. Edison College. James Humphrey, Director of Administrative Services and Thomas P. McCarthy, Director of Admissions and Registrar survey construction progress.

College Plans Move

Trenton Mayor Arthur J. Holland and Edison College jointly announced that the College will move its headquarters into Trenton's historic Kelsey Building in mid 1979.

The announcement came 67 years after the Kelsey Building, an imposing five-story structure located on the corner of West State and Willow Streets was dedicated.

The Kelsey Building, which has been designated a State and Historic Site will become the permanent home of Edison College. The entire interior of the building will be refurbished to meet the administrative needs of Edison College. Work is already underway and will cost approximately \$1,108,000.

Originally built by Henry Cooper Kelsey as a school of industrial arts for the City of Trenton, the Kelsey Building had been until 1972, the "family home" for what is known today as Mercer County Community College. In 1947 the School of Industrial Arts became Trenton Junior College and School of Industrial Arts. In 1967, this was merged with the newly established Mercer County Community College and in 1972 that institution moved to its new campus in West Windsor and Hamilton Townships.

The Kelsey Building has been vacant since then except for the last several months when a small contingent of the State Department of Taxation temporarily utilized the first and second floors.



Rita R. Cronin, A.A.



Harvey W. Myers, B.S.

Education Hotline Opens Trustees Appointed



Education Hotline Information Specialist, Lazaro Alvarez, meets New Jersey Congressman, Edward J. Patten, during opening ceremonies for the Hotline.

Chancellor of Higher Education T. Edward Hollander announced the establishment of a Statewide Information Network for Education (SINE). Among the Network's major components is the Education Hotline, a joint project of the New Jersey Department of Higher Education and Thomas A. Edison College.

The Hotline was officially opened October 2 during a press conference at the College. United States Congressman Edward J. Patten from New Jersey's 15th district took the first official Hotline call. During the press briefing, Congressman Patten answered questions regarding his role in securing the appropriation of federal funds for the Education Information Center (EIC) program.

Citizens interested in obtaining information about the availability of postsecondary education in New Jersey, opportunities for financial aid, and

tional alternatives which best meet their needs. "Too often," Hollander said, "people fail to avail themselves of existing opportunities because no one took the time to steer them in the right direction. By devising this network, the Department of Higher Education and Thomas A. Edison College hope to remedy this situation."

In addition to answering specific questions, the Hotline will place callers in touch with institutional representatives, distribute written materials to callers, and provide further relevant information through a weekly newspaper column.

Funding for the Hotline is provided through the New Jersey Department of Higher Education under Title I of the Higher Education Act (University Community Services). Education Information Center program funds through the U.S. Office of Education, and State funds.



Education Hotline press briefing: Left to right — Heather S. Kostka, Dr. Fletcher, Congressman Patten, Haskell Rhett and Jean A. Titterington.

program offerings may do so by dialing, toll-free, 800-792-8355. The network, which will operate out of offices in Edison College, will also provide information on sources of academic and vocational counseling.

Jean A. Titterington, Director of Counseling and Information Services at Thomas A. Edison College, announced that Heather S. Kostka has been named Director of the Statewide Information Network for Education. Information Specialists for the Hotline are: Lazaro Alvarez, Toni Friedman, and Michael Klebanoff. (See page 3 for new Edison College Staff appointments).

In announcing the centralized information system, Hollander said that the Department of Higher Education and Edison College intend the Hotline to serve as the "critical first step" in helping New Jerseyans find the educa-



Congressman Edward J. Patten takes the first official Hotline call.

The State Board of Higher Education appointed Robert H. Taylor and John F. Kuemmerle to the Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison College. Approved by Governor Byrne, the appointments were effective, August 1978. Taylor will serve a five-year term on the Board while Kuemmerle fills an existing vacancy for a three-year term.

A native of New Jersey, Mr. Taylor is Executive Director, Administrative Systems, Plant Engineering, and Regional Staff Operations Division at Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill.

In addition to his trustee duties at Edison College, Mr. Taylor represents Bell Laboratories to the Research and Development Council of New Jersey. He is a member of the honor societies Sigma Xi and Tau Beta Pi.

Mr. Taylor and his wife Eleanor live in Basking Ridge. They are the parents of three sons.

Currently Vice President of Guardian Life Insurance Company, Dr. Kuemmerle earned his B.A. from William and Mary, his M.B.A. from the University of Maryland and his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota.

In addition to his trustee duties at Edison College, Mr. Kuemmerle, a resident of Cranford, is President and Director of Lakeland Colony Corporation and a director of Randomatic, Northwest Electronics, St. Anthony's Printing and Introl, Inc.



Frances Christovich chats with Martha E. Church following graduation ceremonies. Frances is Edison's first student to complete an associate in arts degree with an emphasis in Histotechnology. She was honored for this accomplishment at the National Society for Histotechnology Convention held in Oklahoma City in September.

INVENTION

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INVENTION, the quarterly newsletter of Thomas A. Edison College, the New Jersey State College for External Degree Programs, is printed and distributed each January, April, August, and November to students, alumni, and friends of the college. INVENTION is published at the administrative offices of Thomas A. Edison College, Forrestal Center, Princeton, and mailed at the bulk-rate in Trenton, NJ.

Editor, Mary U. Skelton
Director of Public Relations
and
Publications



Dr. Robert Kirkwood, keynote speaker, addresses CAEL convention while Dr. Fletcher listens.

CAEL Conference Held

Representatives of Thomas A. Edison College played a major role in a two day regional conference on the assessment of experiential learning on October 5-6 in Mt. Laurel, New Jersey.

Sponsored by the Middle States Steering Committee of the Council for the Advancement of Experiential Learning (CAEL), Edison College's Director of Academic Programs, Dr. Laura Adams, served as conference coordinator. The conference brought together educators from eight states to explore the needs of colleges and universities regarding the evaluating for credit of college-level learning acquired outside of the traditional classroom setting.

Welcome remarks were delivered by Edison College acting president, Dr. Arnold Fletcher, who is currently serving as Regional Manager for CAEL. Conference keynote speaker was Dr. Robert Kirkwood, executive director, Commission on Higher Education, Middle States Association of Colleges

and Schools. Dr. Kirkwood spoke on "Accreditation, Quality Control and Experiential Learning."

Following informal workshop presentations, Dr. John Strange, associate executive director of CAEL, addressed the conference on "The Institutional Development Program and New Direction for CAEL."

At the end of the conference, Dr. Fletcher commented, "As a charter institution in the CAEL organization, Edison College has taken a leading role in its development. We view this activity as a logical extension of the mission of the College, namely, to make higher education more accessible and meaningful to the life-long learner."

Founded in 1974, CAEL was developed as a cooperative effort by Educational Testing Service of Princeton and a group of non-traditional institutions, including Edison College. Membership has now grown to include over 250 colleges and universities throughout the country.

Bergen County and Edison College Work Together Through CETA Programs



Edison College student, Mary O. Wyckoff, left, talks with Robert F. Lynch and Hattie V. Cooper about her participation in the CETA program.

Mary Owens Wyckoff, author of a delightful new cookbook, *The World of Cooking*; George Moorehead, Bergen County Energy Conservation employee; and Claude Wilson, supervisor of summer playground activities share three things in common. They are students of Thomas A. Edison College, Bergen County residents, and participants of CETA assistance.

CETA was developed "to provide job training and employment opportunities for economically disadvantaged unemployed and underemployed persons and to assure that training and other services lead to maximum employment opportunities and enhance self-sufficiency by establishing a flexible and decentralized system of federal, state and local programs."

Three years ago a cooperative effort was initiated between Edison College and CETA programs throughout New Jersey to make the services of the College available to CETA participants.

Since then, nearly 500 students have been enrolled in the College as a result of this effort with CETA and other programs designed to assist special segments of the unemployed or underemployed. Under the leadership of Robert F. Lynch, Chief - Bureau of

field and Edison College often provides the most appropriate means of fulfilling this need. Another Bergen CETA participant commented, "At age 49, taking a test to indicate what you know is vastly more efficient than sitting through months of classes. Experience should be a substitute for a degree... actually it should be better, but many employers are short sighted. In our society the "union card" of a degree is needed."

Several students from Bergen County have already completed their degree requirements at Thomas A. Edison College and others will do so soon. Students have earned credit for their previous knowledge in such areas as a second language as well as college level knowledge acquired through previous employment.

Statewide, 50 students in this program have been awarded a degree by Edison College, including a student who completed his entire Bachelor of Arts Degree using only the testing and individual assessment process offered by the College.

Many students who have yet to complete their degree already reflect the positive effect which enrollment in the College has meant for them. During a recent meeting with an Edison College counselor, one program participant commented on his involvement with the CETA program. "I would like to take the time to thank you for all the help and encouragement I have received this past year. With your help, I hope to at least receive an A.A. degree under this grant. I would not have been able to do this without this help and encouragement. This has certainly put my life in a different perspective and I now feel my future looks bright."

Jean A. Titterington President of AAENJ

Jean A. Titterington, Edison College Director of Counseling and Information Services, has been named President of the Association for Adult Education for New Jersey for the 1978-79 academic year.

The 600 member association is designed for individuals, institutions and organizations concerned with advancing educational opportunities for the adult and continuing community education. Representing the State of New Jersey, Ms. Titterington just returned from Portland, Oregon where she attended the National Adult Education Conference.

Within the State association a special section is devoted to Counselors of Adults. Edison College staff members: Annette Singer, assistant director of counseling services and F. Louise Perkins, academic counselor serve as chairperson and secretary, respectively for this state section.

New Staff Appointments



From left: Nancy D. Blinderman, Thomas M. Eklund and James R. Allen

Thomas P. McCarthy, Registrar and Director of Admissions, announced the appointment of three transcript evaluations. They are James R. Allen, Nancy D. Blinderman, and Thomas M. Eklund.

Prior to joining Edison College, Ms.

Blinderman was an admissions counselor for Ramapo College. Mr. Allen formerly was director of Black Studies and Instructor of Political Science at Trenton State Prison and Mr. Eklund was employed by John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY.



Left to right: Heather S. Kostka, Michael Klebanoff and Lazaro Alvarez

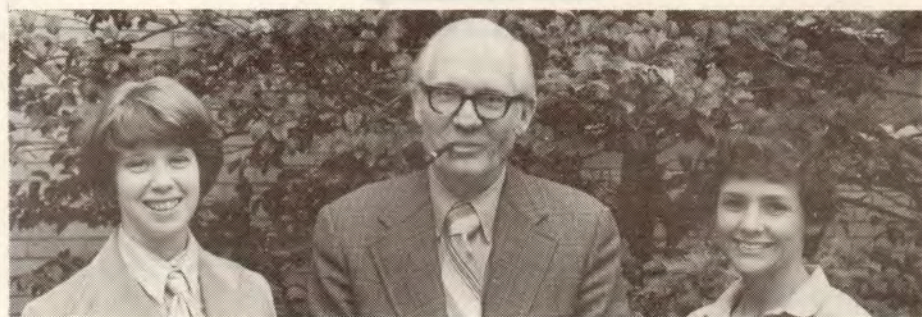
Ms. Jean A. Titterington, Director of Counseling and Information Services, announces the appointment of four persons to staff the Education Hotline. (See story on the **Hotline**, on page 2).

Named as Director of the Statewide Information Network for Education (SINE) is Heather S. Kostka. Ms. Kostka previously was employed by Seton Hall as associate director of publications and prior to that by Edison College as an Academic Counselor.

Three Information Specialists were appointed to the Education Hotline.

They are: Lazaro Alvarez, Toni Friedman, and Michael Klebanoff.

Mr. Alvarez comes to Edison College from the Newark Board of Education where he was a bilingual coordinator. Ms. Friedman formerly worked at the Camden Learning Center and Glassboro State College Urban Center. Mr. Klebanoff's prior experiences include Information and Advisement Specialist at Brookdale Community College and Social Worker for the Monmouth County Welfare Board.



From left: Diane E. Gruenberg, Dr. Arnold Fletcher and Mary U. Skelton

Dr. Arnold Fletcher, acting president, announces the appointments of Diane E. Gruenberg as Program Advisor and Mary U. Skelton as Director of Public Relations and Publications.

Ms. Gruenberg comes to Edison from Elizabeth Seton College,

Yonkers, where she was Director of the Weekend College for Adults and instructor of English. Ms. Skelton was formerly Director of Public Relations and Publications at Washington College in Maryland.

New College Catalogs Available

The College recently received shipment of its 1978-79 catalog. Because of the increase in postal rates, it is impossible for the College to send a copy of the new catalog to each student who ever enrolled in Edison College. However, if you would like a copy or know of someone who would, please fill in the coupon below and send it to us and we will be happy to forward a catalog.

THOMAS A. EDISON COLLEGE
FORRESTAL CENTER FORRESTAL ROAD
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08540

Attention-Registrar: Please send me a catalog.

MR. / MS. _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____



Edison College counselor, Angela Fontan, counsels CETA student, Claude Wilson.

Special Programs, Bergen County Community Action Program, and Hattie V. Cooper, public service employment counselor, nearly 100 of these students are residents of Bergen County.

For many of these students, working to complete a college degree has been a life long ambition. One Bergen County CETA student said, "Attending college has been a dream all my life, even in high school. However my family could never afford additional education and I had to work... I have always as an adult continued my education. This college program is a wonderful thing for a person like myself. I believe it will eventually bring me financial and career advancement."

A college degree is not only a personal goal but for many participants a vocational need. Often a degree becomes a necessity for a person to be able to continue in his or her chosen

Alumni Notes

Note: In each succeeding issue of INVENTION, space will be devoted to Alumni Notes. If you have news about yourself which you would like to share, please send it to: Editor, INVENTION, Thomas A. Edison College, Forrestal Road, Princeton, N.J. 08540.

Guillermo F. Batarse '77 has been accepted into the Master of Arts in the Humanities External Degree Program of California State University, Dominguey Hills.

Richard Holman '78 writes that he "has completed his first semester in the M.A.T. program at Rollins College... thanks to Thomas A. Edison College."

George R. Meisler '76 was recently the subject of a one-page feature story in the Sunday Home News Life Style section. Labor leader for 40 years, journalist, world traveler, mediator, teacher, Edison College graduate at 65 and diplomat at 67, Mr. Meisler just returned from Africa where he was on a special mission for the International Communications Agency of the Department of State.

James Kowalski '78 reports he was admitted to Rutgers Law School and is currently mid-way through first semester classes.

Remember . . .

Saturday, January 13

Alumni Association Meeting

at

Thomas A. Edison College

Forrestal Center, Princeton, N. J.

David Brown '78 is currently enrolled in Rider College in a Master's Program.

Rev. Peter Reynierse '76, Rector of St. James' Episcopal Church in Prospect Park, PA. has received notice that his biographical sketch is being included for the first time in the 21st edition of WHO'S WHO IN FINANCE AND INDUSTRY.

Joel B. Aronson '78 reports that he is now a full-time professor at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City where he teaches commercial photography.



1978 Edison College graduates pose for group photograph following commencement ceremonies on October 15. An 8 X 10 copy of the photograph may be purchased for \$5.00 from: Mark Czajkowski, 75 Patton Avenue, Princeton, NJ 08540.

Library Privileges Extended to Edison

As a result of meetings held with the Council of New Jersey State College and University Librarians, the College is pleased to announce that borrowing privileges are now available to Edison College students at the libraries listed below. Special conditions at certain libraries are noted. In all cases, students must present a current Edison College identification card at the main circulation desk in order to borrow books. Copies of library regulations should also be obtained at the circulation desk of the library used. Fines for late or lost books or materials will be the responsibility of students to pay to the library involved, and Edison College has agreed with the Librarians' Council to seal the records of any student who does not pay fines incurred.

Since public libraries are also available for use, you are encouraged to use these resources whenever possible and rely on the college and university libraries only for materials not available elsewhere so that these libraries can adequately serve both you and their own students. The College anticipates that the State college and university libraries involved will have positive experiences with our students so that these cooperative arrangements can be continued indefinitely.

State colleges with Special conditions, if any, noted in parentheses: Glassboro; Jersey City (Experimental basis); Kean (Will issue Kean Card); Montclair (No borrowing privileges; all in-library services available); Paterson; Ramapo; Stockton (Will issue Stockton Card); Trenton.

Other: College of Medicine & Dentistry of N.J., George F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences, Newark; New Jersey Institute of Technology (Personal as well as College ID); New Jersey State Library; Rutgers (includes Alexander in New Brunswick, Dana in Newark, & the Camden Arts & Sciences Library) (Letter from College that student is not currently enrolled elsewhere. No intra-library loan. Will issue Rutgers Card.)

Education Hotline
(800) 792-8355

Alumni Association Holds Meeting

The Alumni Association of Thomas A. Edison College held its annual meeting on Saturday, September 23, at Hominy Hills Country Club, Colt's Neck, New Jersey.

Items discussed during the regular business meeting included membership development, class rings, alumni news bulletin, Edison College graduation, incorporation and tax exemption, fund raising, social events, nomination and election of officers, and reports from current president and treasurer.

Guest speaker for the meeting was Herbert M. Groce, Jr., formerly vice president for human resources, College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Mr. Groce, an Edison College graduate, spoke on the needs and values of non-traditional education and the strengthening and participation of the Alumni Association in supportive activities of the College.

New officers elected by the Alumni Association are: president, John Beall; first vice-president, Gordon Beaver; second vice president, Hugh R. Crosson; secretary, Diane Burns and treasurer, Carl Buscher. The directors are: Edith Mark, George Meisler, Caroline Wade and Bruce Hubscher.

If you would like to join the Edison College Alumni Association, send a check in the amount of \$10 made payable to: Thomas A. Edison Alumni Association along with the coupon below to:

Mr. Carl T. Buscher, Treasurer
P. O. Box 30
Norwood, NJ 07648

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ HomeOffice _____
Degree _____ Year Graduated _____
Alumni Association Membership

Please Note: Several students have contacted the College asking for information about the Edison college ring. The College does not handle the sale of the ring. All requests for information regarding the ring should be directed to:

Mr. Gordon Beaver,
40 W. Lafayette Street,
Trenton, NJ 08608



Acting President, Arnold Fletcher, left, meets with John Beall, newly elected president of the Edison College Alumni Association.

KEEP IN TOUCH

If you move, change your name, or have some news to share with us, please fill in this coupon and mail it to:

Invention
Thomas A. Edison College
Forrestal Center
Princeton, NJ 08540

NAME _____

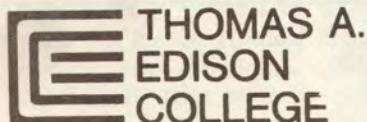
DEGREE/YEAR _____

ADDRESS _____

OCCUPATION _____
PERMANENT REFERENCE

Name and address of a friend or relative through whom you may be reached for an indefinite time.

OTHER NEWS Attached
Items you would like published in the Alumni News.



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