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THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE NEWS MAGAZINE

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> Dr. George A. Pruitt President

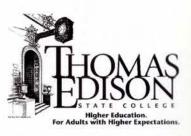
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AMessage from the President



Dear Alumni, Students and Friends,

At this time we take the opportunity to thank all those who have provided financial support to Thomas Edison State College. During the past year, many individuals, businesses, corporations and employees of the College have been most generous in their response to our fund-raising efforts. As a result, the College has been able to grow as never before, both in enrollments and in course offerings. In fact, we have doubled the number of courses that we offer online.

In this issue of *Invention*, you will read about the efforts of the College's Distance & Independent Adult Learning (DIAL) course development team to achieve their goal of offering all of Thomas Edison State College's courses online. DIAL's work is possible, in large part, through the generosity of donors, to whom we owe our thanks.

I would also like to thank all those who have worked so hard to ensure the success of this year's fund-raising efforts. The Thomas Edison State College Foundation Board of Directors has been especially effective in this regard. Under their leadership, the 2002 fund-raising campaign has been a great success. Last year at this time, the College's endowment was at \$1.6 million. Today it is at \$1.7 million. This growth is indeed extraordinary when you consider today's challenging economic climate.

We are grateful to everyone who has contributed to Thomas Edison State College, and are happy to report that we have had an increase of first-time donors this year. Whether you gave of your time at our Phonathon or sent in a donation, all of your contributions have been meaningful. Your ongoing support has allowed Thomas Edison State College to maintain its reputation as the premier institution of higher learning for adults. My heartfelt thanks to one and all.

Sincerely,

Dr. George A. Pruitt President



Thomas Edison State College and USDA's Graduate School Create Master's Degree with **Public Sector Auditing Focus**

Thomas Edison State College and the Graduate School of the United States Department of Agriculture's Government Audit Training Institute (GATI) have partnered to establish a comprehensive program leading to a Master of Science in Management degree with a focus in public sector auditing. The program is now open for applications and the new GATI courses offer a new degree opportunity for public sector auditors.

The degree program is designed to meet the needs of individuals engaged in conducting performance audits in the public sector. While it is anticipated that the majority of participants will be federal, state and local government auditors, the program is also designed to meet the needs of the private sector employee engaged in government audits.

"For too many years, the needs of the public sector auditor and government audit organizations have been overlooked," said Peter V. Aliferis, dean of curriculum of the Government Auditing Training Institute. "This program is structured to fill that gap."

Aliferis noted that the Master of Science in Management - Public Sector Auditing (MSM-PSA) program will have wide appeal among federal, state and local auditors from both the United States and abroad. The degree incorporates academic coursework, training and practical experience related to professional competencies. These competencies include: environment, professional expertise, communication, leadership and personal effectiveness.

"The Master of Science in Management degree in public sector auditing program offers a unique opportunity for public sector auditors," said Dr. Sonja A. Eveslage, dean of Graduate Programs at Thomas Edison State College. "GATI is well-known for the quality of its auditing programs and its preparation of auditors in the highest level positions. GATI's quality face-to-face courses integrate well with the online curriculum the MSM degree program provides."

Special assignment and assessment tools have been integrated into GATI's classes to evaluate performance in these programs. In addition, according to Aliferis, the new special seminar for public sector auditors and

the competency assessment portfolio will further ensure the academic rigor of the MSM-PSA program.

"Thomas Edison State College graduate students live across the country and around the world," said Eveslage. "The MSM degree program builds collaboration and networking into the online courses. Students build relationships that work for them in class and in their professional lives."

Dr. Sonja A. Eveslage, (left) dean, graduate programs and associate VP for new programs at Thomas Edison State College looks on as William J. Seaton, vice president and provost, places his signature on a partnership agreement between the College and the Government Audit Training Institute. Joining them (right) is Peter V. Aliferis, the Institute's dean of curriculum of the Government Audit Training Institute.

DR. JOSEPH YOUNGBLOOD II APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE JOHN S. WATSON INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY

Dr. Joseph Youngblood II of Philadelphia, Pa., has been appointed executive director of The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy.

Youngblood, previously an associate fellow and most recently a consultant with the Watson Institute, will oversee the nonpartisan independently funded research office whose mission is to provide public policy analysis and other assistance to government, community groups and the private Dr. Joseph Youngblood II sector. He is succeeding William



A. Watson, who retired from the post in January.

In announcing the appointment, Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College said, "Joe Youngblood has demonstrated exemplary leadership in education, in government and in the community. The College will benefit from the knowledge and expertise he brings to the Watson Institute."

An educator and administrator with a background in law, research and counseling, Youngblood brings more than 15 years of experience to the Watson Institute. Prior to this appointment, Youngblood was director of School Based Youth Services with the Trenton Board of Education as well as Trenton grant coordinator and project director of Leadership for Education Achievement in Districts (L.E.A.D.)

"Dr. Youngblood brings extraordinary qualifications to the task of providing vision and leadership for the Watson Institute and its public policy partnerships," said John P. Thurber, vice president for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison State College. "He is ideally suited to build on the pioneering work of Bill Watson in applying the resources of higher education to serve our communities."

Youngblood holds a Ph.D. in education, culture & society from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education in the Education Leadership Division in Philadelphia, a J.D. from the University of Iowa College of Law in Iowa City, lowa, an M.A. in education administration from the University of lowa College of Education and a B.S. in political science and English literature from Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Fla.

Message from the Chair

Dear Friend of Thomas Edison State College:



This past year was a very exciting and successful one for the Thomas Edison State College family. Thank you for your gifts and grants during 2002. The combined generosity of alumni, students, mentors, staff, Foundation Directors and College Trustees, as well as many corporations and foundations, generated more than \$423,000 in support of the College. For the first time ever, contributions from alumni totaled more than \$100,000. We are pleased to acknowledge the nearly 400 alumni who, in 2002, made their first contribution to the College. We hope that you will join the hundreds of others who contribute to our Honor Roll year after year by continuing your support of the Annual Fund.

Our enrollments are at an all time high and the College has doubled the number of online courses now available to students. The response to these new courses has been tremendous; to date, nearly 2,000 students have enrolled in online courses at Thomas Edison State College. The College is committed to developing more of these courses, as well as other academic resources, to keep pace with the growing demand of our students. Additionally, the College continues its partnerships with the

military and with corporations, which have also contributed to our expansion. We anticipate that this growth trend will continue as more adults learn about the many options available to them through the College. We would like to thank you for your continued advocacy and support, without which we could not have experienced such unprecedented growth.

Whether you contributed directly to the Annual Fund, made a gift in support of a specific program, or participated in one of the special events sponsored by the Thomas Edison State College Foundation, we thank you. We look forward to another exciting year, and invite you to join us once again by continuing your support in 2003.

Sincerely,



John P. Neary, Chair Thomas Edison State College Foundation

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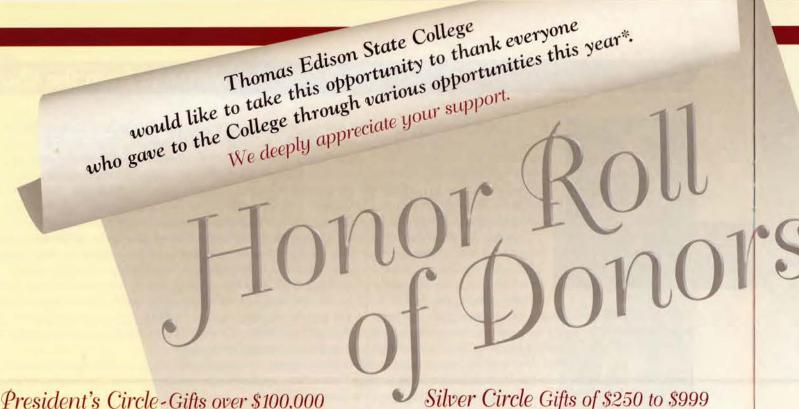
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Technological Advancement EXPANDS Thanks to the "D-Team"

here are not very many people who can truly get excited about an algebra test, but Thomas Edison State College's Dr. Henry van Zyl is one such individual. As the associate vice president for the College's Center for Distance & Independent Adult Learning (DIAL), van Zyl oversees all aspects of course development. According to van Zyl, while the College is making a big commitment toward increasing the number of online courses available to students, the development of mathematics courses has proven to be the most exhilarating task.

"The work we've done in the development of the math and accounting courses has been the most exciting," said van Zyl. When work is completed, it will be the first time that these types of courses will be offered online. Van Zyl credits DIAL's "D-Team," a

group comprised of four instructional designers, an exam project manager, and an academic editor, for the success they've achieved in this area.

"We had to resolve a number of issues as we approached this project," said van Zyl. For example, the grading of assignments and feedback from mentors plays a major role in the learning process for math and accounting students. In the typical classroom setting, the student would hand write the notation on paper and turn it in to the instructor, who would assign a grade based on the student's demonstrated understanding of the processes involved in solving a math or accounting computation.

"The challenge for us was to enable the student to write notation using a software application," said van Zyl. "We had to ensure that the student would be able to show the different steps involved in solving the problem, be able to send the assignment via the internet to a mentor, who will open the electronic file, grade it and send it back to the student without any of the file transfers becoming garbled."

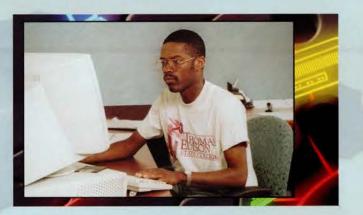
Always on the lookout for ideas, van Zyl found that students often came up with electronic methods to write notation on their own. "Our students have been ingenious," he said. During his research, van Zyl found some of the students were able to use various software applications to demonstrate notation. As a result, DIAL has identified ways that will allow the students to demonstrate their math and accounting knowledge in an electronic format. "This is quite a big breakthrough for us," said van Zyl. The first online mathematics courses became available to Thomas Edison State College students beginning with the March 2003 semester.

New Advances in Test Development

DIAL has recently launched significant initiatives in the area of test development. Under the direction of Dr. James Lehman, the staff recently announced a new pilot program for the TECEP® program. Students who take their tests at the College's testing facility in Trenton, N.J. may now take the "Principles of Management" TECEP® exam on a desktop computer. Dubbed the e-TECEP, the electronic version of the exam features the same questions and costs no more than a regular TECEP® exam, however, there are advantages to the new e-TECEP. Students receive their test score immediately upon completion of the exam. In addition, students will be given sub-scores for each topic area, which will help them to asses their strengths and weaknesses. The Office of Test Development & Independent Study hopes to offer additional e-TECEP exams after the pilot program is completed.

Another new development made available to students during this past year is the introduction of "Test Scheduler." The new service allows students coming to the testing facility in Trenton to schedule test dates from their own personal computer instead of having to telephone the Office of Test Administration. This new Web option allows students to view all available test dates for a specific semester, book a test time and date for each of their courses and receive an e-mail confirmation to verify their test date.

Another timesaving development is the introduction of newly designed test cover sheets. All undergraduate exams have new and highly functional covers. A barcode label on each exam will link to new scanning software in the

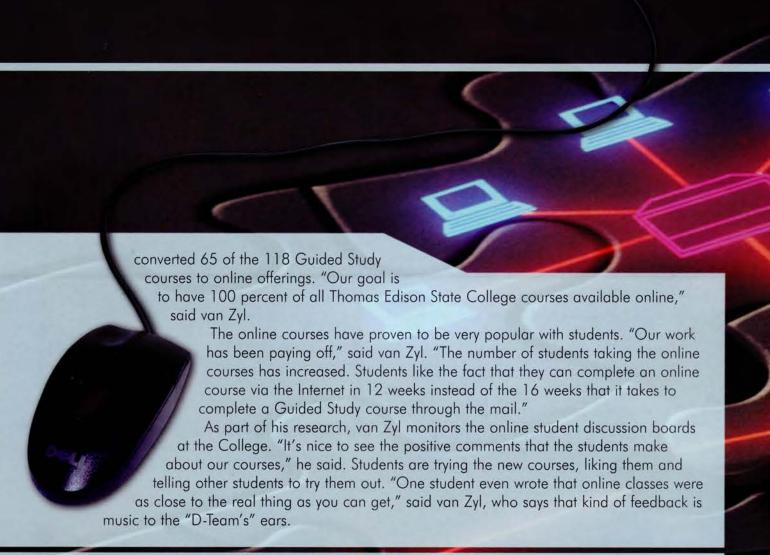


Office of Test Administration. The purpose of the labels is twofold: to speed the processing of exams once they are returned to the College and to provide information that will ensure that students take the correct exam. Information on each label includes the mentor's name, proctor, course code, title and semester, and the student name and ID number.

courses Increasing

Course development will play an important part in the growth of the College's online programs. According to van Zyl, to date his office has

Continued on page 18



Martinson Family Foundation Grant Funds Technology Course

Thanks to a generous grant from the Martinson Family Foundation of Lawrenceville, N.J., Thomas Edison State College will be developing a Web-based, interactive course in computer science that will be used in the Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Technology degree program.

"Interactivity will be a prominent feature of the new course," said William S. Seaton, vice president and provost at Thomas Edison State College. "We will utilize computer applets such as Java, Micromedia, Flash and other applications. The courses will be available through BlackBoard, the learning management system the College uses to deliver its courses via the World Wide Web."

Seaton also reported that the College is considering the use of high bandwidth applications in the development of additional courses. Such media would be delivered to students via CD-ROM that interfaces with the College's Web server, modeling the College's Master of Science in Management (MSM) degree program that is successfully in use. "Distance education is what distinguishes Thomas Edison State College from other institutions of higher learning," said Seaton. "We would like to thank our friends at the Martinson Family Foundation for their assistance and support of this effort."

Thomas Edison State College and Curves International, Inc. Develop Educational Partnership

DIAL Developing Online Courses for New Fitness and Wellness Services Program

Today, there is a growing emphasis on looking good, feeling good and living longer. Careers in the health and fitness field are experiencing tremendous growth. To meet the increased demand for fitness professionals with academic credentials, Thomas Edison State College and Curves International, Inc. have established an educational partnership in the area of Fitness and Wellness Services.

The program is the brainchild of H. Gary Heavin, founder and CEO of Curves International. A 2002 graduate of the College, Heavin was so impressed with his experience at Thomas Edison State College while working toward his Bachelor of Science in Human Services degree that he approached officials at the College to see if a joint program was feasible.

After several months of meetings and planning sessions between Heavin and representatives of several departments throughout the College, the Fitness and Wellness Services certificate program became a reality. Through the Thomas Edison State College Fitness and Wellness Services program, students have two educational options-a Certificate in Fitness and Wellness Services and an Associate in Science in Public and Social Services (ASPSS) degree.

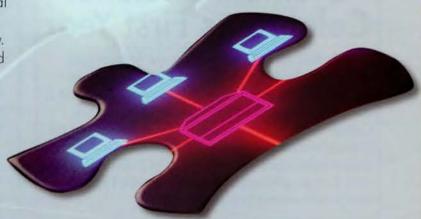
Since the program was announced at the Curves annual conference in November, the Thomas Edison State College Office of Admissions has seen an increased volume in inquires for the degree program



Dr. George A. Pruitt (left), president of Thomas Edison State College, and H. Gary Heavin, founder and CEO of Curves and an alumnus of the College, recently signed the partnership agreement at Thomas Edison State College's campus in Trenton, N.J.

in fitness and wellness, reported David Hoftiezer, Contact Center supervisor.

The certificate program is an 18-credit curriculum that includes instruction in nutrition, safety, CPR, First Aid, biomechanics of exercise, fitness principles and fitness assessment. The nutrition requirement is available now both as a TECEP® and a Thomas Edison State College course. According to Dr. Judith Krom, associate dean of the Human Services Degree Programs at Thomas Edison State College, several online courses are still in the developmental stage and are expected to be available in the spring 2003.



Alumni & Foundation News

Phonathon 2003

Do you like to chat with interesting people? We need your help! The 2003 Alumni Association's Annual Fund Phonathon will take place between May 5 - June 11. Funds raised during the Phonathon provide the means to support new course development, student support and the technology that enables the College to educate adults at a distance.

The Alumni Association is currently seeking volunteers to assist in this important effort. If you are local to the Trenton area or are willing to travel, please come join us!

The 2003 Phonathon is chaired by Thomas Kosdemba '97, and Michael Smilack '95. "There are always plenty of volunteer opportunities and you'll have a fun time while helping out your alma mater," said Kosdemba. If you are interested in assisting with the Phonathon, please call the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at (609) 633-8592 for more information.

New Student Lounge Unveiled

Students visiting the College or or attending testing sessions may now enjoy the recently opened student lounge. The room was opened to the public after an informal ceremony held in conjunction



with the January 2003 Alumni Association Board meeting.

Located adjacent to the Great Hall in the Townhouse Complex at 101 W. State St. in Trenton, N.J., the lounge will primarily be used by students as they wait to take their tests. Students and visitors to the lounge will find a display case filled with samples of Thomas Edison State College products. Visitors interested in making a purchase may place their orders by completing an order form and slipping it in a locked box.

"The room is very comfortable and should be relaxing for students as they do their last minute studying," said Edwin Irizarry '99, vice president of the Alumni Association. Irizarry reported that the Alumni Association Board has made a pledge to purchase decorations for the student lounge.

Online Newsletter Celebrates First Year

@Thomas Edison State College, the online e-mail alumni newsletter is celebrating its first anniversary. Beginning with a circulation of 1,300, the publication is now sent bi-monthly to 3,000 Thomas Edison State College alumni. If you are interested in news about the College, activities of the Alumni Association and other special offers and events of interest to Thomas Edison State College graduates, you may subscribe by sending your e-mail address to alumni@tesc.edu.

Save the Date

SMTWTFS The Alumni Association is hosting a Great Adventure Family Day on Sunday. June 29, 2003. For more information, please call the Office of Development 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 30 and Alumni Affairs or visit the College's Web site at www.tesc.edu/alumni. Details and registration information will be mailed in May and will be included in @Thomas Edison State College, the online e-mail alumni newsletter.

Alumni Association **Hosts Panel Discussion**

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The Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association hosted a panel discussion for those interested in pursuing a doctoral degree. Taking part on the "Earning Your Doctorate" alumni panel were William Reed. BSAST '94; MSM '98 and Ph.D. from the Union Institute; Edward Mulligan, BSHS '95 and DA from St. John's University; Frank Cutitta, BSBA '79, DPA from Nova Southeastern University; and Joseph Nuzzo, BA '97; MSM '99, currently completing his Doctorate in Education at Walden University. The panel discussion took place in January at Thomas Edison State College. It was attended by current students and alumni who are interested in pursuing their doctorate degrees at accredited universities.

"The discussion was very helpful," said alumna Linda M. Kelly BSBA '01 "What I brought away from the discussion were two main thoughts—you must be totally dedicated to the program and you need to have your family's full support."

The panel discussion was so successful that the Alumni Association plans to host another for those students and alumni interested in attending law school. For more information, contact Patricia Memminger, director of Alumni Affairs at pmemminger@tesc.edu or call the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at (609) 633-8592.

"Applause, Applause" "Applause, Applause"



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Syracuse University in Syracuse, N.Y., was recently profiled in the winter issue of Syracuse University Magazine, Since completing his degree at Thomas Edison State College, Brooks received a master's

nas Edison State College was founded in 2 for the purpose of providing diverse d alternative methods of achieving a collegiate education of the highest quality for mature adults.

> Please visit us at www.tesc.edu



Joseph Farinacio, '93, BA History Joseph Farinacio, a Christian author and speaker, recently published his first book, a Christian apologetic, entitled "Faith with Reason: Why Christianity Is True" (BookSpecs Publishing)

Thomas D. Maguire, '94, BA Humanities

On Nov. 2, 2002, Thomas Maguire was engaged to Joan Duggan, an elementary school teacher in Virginia.

Princeton University at the University Ombuds Office as a program coordinator. She received her undergraduate degree from Bloomfield College, Bloomfield, N.J. Tisdale-Walker and her family reside in Voorhees, N.J.

Alan Z. Yudkowsky, '86, BA Humanities

After earning his undergraduate degree at Thomas Edison State College in 1986, Alan Yudkowsky received his JD, cum laude, from New York Law School, New York, N.Y., in 1990 and was a member of the New York Law School Law Review from 1987-1988. He has been named a partner at the firm of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, LLP in Los Angeles, Calif. Yudkowsky chairs the law firm's Los Angeles Energy Practice Group.

Information for Invention

New Job? Promotion? Award? Marriage? Baby?

If it's news to you, it's news to us!

As a member of our family of Thomas Edison State College alumni, we invite you to tell us about the exciting things happening in your life. Let us know what's new with you since you graduated from Thomas Edison State College and we may include your updates in a future issue of Invention. Please tell us how your experience at the College changed your life. To contact us, please fill out the form below and mail it to:

Thomas Edison State College, Invention Editor, 101 W. State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608; fax it to (609) 984-1376;

or e-mail your good news to akrum@tesc.edu. You may include photos to accompany your news. All items will be published as space permits.

Thank you for this opportunity to better serve our valued Thomas Edison State College alumni family.

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Brooks. '94, BA Economics Arthur Brooks, associate professor of public administration in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public

Syracuse University in Syracuse, N.Y., was recently profiled in the winter issue of Syracuse University Magazine. Since completing his degree at Thomas Edison State College, Brooks received a master's degree from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Fla. and a Ph.D. from the RAND Graduate School of Policy Studies in Santa Monica, Calif...

Karen F. Brundage-Johnson, '00, MSM Karen F. Brundage-Johnson completed her doctoral degree in Education Administration at LaSalle University in Philadelphia, PA. She is a business consultant and educator specializing in career management, professional coaching and organizational management. Brundage-Johnson is also involved in a variety of community service projects benefiting women, children and the homeless.

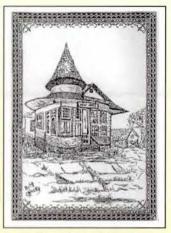
Rhonda Cobb, '02, AA Liberal Arts Rhonda Cobb made family history this past year when she graduated from Thomas Edison State College. She is the first to complete a college degree in her family. Cobb is currently working on a bachelor's degree and her goal is to continue to a master's degree.

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"New Hope Depot" by Ruth Olinsky

Ruth Olinsky, '84, BA Humanities

Ruth Olinsky recently self published "Book of Poems," a life's collection of works. The book also contains her own illustrations. She lives in Lawrenceville, N.J.

Carla Tisdale-Walker, '01, MSM

Carla Tisdale-Walker was recently appointed as the Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at Thomas Edison State College. Before coming to the College, Tisdale-Walker worked at Princeton University at the University Ombuds Office as a program coordinator. She received her undergraduate degree from Bloomfield College, Bloomfield, N.J. Tisdale-Walker and her family reside in Voorhees, N.J.

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Thank you for this opportunity to better serve our valued Thomas Edison State College alumni family.

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Lisa Marie Carlucci, MSM '01 Franco Paoletti, Ph.D., DIAL Mentor

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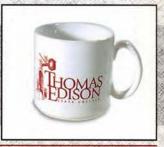
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C: Zippered black padfolio, includes 8 1/2" x 11" writing tablet. \$16.00



D: Porcelain mug in burgundy or white. \$7.50