

Capital Campus

APRIL 2012

Reorganization Focuses on Student Services

Division of Enrollment Management and Learner Services Announces Organizational Changes

As part of its ongoing quality improvement effort, the Division of Enrollment Management and Learner Services continues to evolve its structure to better serve Thomas Edison State College students.

In an increasingly dynamic and complex environment, the Division implemented staff changes recently to sharpen its focus on enrollment management and strategic partnerships; align strategic marketing and overall brand stewardship; continue to scale and evolve learner services; and strengthen its support for military and veterans.

"We will take care to ensure a smooth transition over the next few months," said **Dr. Mary Ellen Caro**, vice president for

provides the leadership for the College in supporting its existing partnerships and developing new partnerships.

Karen Hume has been named the associate vice president for Institutional Marketing and Publications, a new position. Hume assumes leadership for the institutional brand management of the College, institutional advertising, and content oversight and stewardship for all forms of publications. Reporting to Hume are **Lisa Fiorello**, **Glen Jacobsen** and **Chris Miller**.

Sylvia Hamilton continues as the associate vice president for Enrollment Management. Hamilton provides the stewardship for the enrollment management strategy for the College, which includes admissions, recruiting, the



Dr. Mary Ellen Caro

"These changes are part of our strategic evolution and ongoing commitment to deliver...quality customer service..."

*Dr. Mary Ellen Caro, Vice President,
Division of Enrollment Management and Learner Services*

Enrollment Management and Learner Services. "These changes are part of our strategic evolution and ongoing commitment to delivering the highest quality customer service and enrollment management."

The changes, which became effective April 2, include: **Janet Eickhoff** has been named the director for Strategic Partnerships. Working closely with the College's Schools, Eickhoff

development of the institutional Enrollment Management Plan, and targeted marketing plans, working closely with the deans and segment leaders. Reporting directly to Hamilton are **Juliette Punchello**, **David Hoftiezer** and **Michele Huntley**.

Louis Martini has been named the associate vice president for Military and Veteran Education. **Dr. Terri Tallon-Hamill** has

been named the director for Military Student Services and will report to Martini. Also reporting to Martini are **Kelly Parlante-Givas**, **Gerry Walsh**, **Ed Gall**, **Robert Burton**, **Charlene Martucci**, **Yesu Guadarrama**, **Allison Chambers**, **Alison Hansen**, **Ellen Coleman**, **Kim Scott**, **Patti Hunt** and **Maria Marte**.

Dr. Raymond Young continues as the associate vice president and dean for Learner Services, which continues to include learner support, financial aid, the registrar, evaluations, advising and test administration. Reporting to Young are **David Anderson**, **Sharon Smith**, **Maureen Woodruff** and **Elaine Scheff**.

Eickhoff, Hume, Hamilton, Martini, Young and **Sandy Holden** report to Caro and maintain their current office locations and contact numbers. Concurrent with this reorganization and in support of the College's increased need for market-based information, **Marie Power-Barnes** and her current

Focus On: Melissa Van Aken

No two days are the same in the Office of Human Resources, which is just fine with staff member **Melissa Van Aken** who keeps a hat for every role. A name high on the recognition scale due to her facilitation of things HR-related, Van Aken handles the flow with self-assurance (and headgear) to fit most any occasion.

"I can't let a holiday go by without wearing something festive on my head to commemorate it," said Van Aken, a native Trentonian. Photos on co-workers' desks attest to her affinity for flamboyant hats and festive headbands.

A full-time employee since 2008, Van Aken's introduction to the College began as a high school intern in the Graduate Programs area, and her poise still belies her young age. "People are typically surprised to hear that I am only 23 years old... but I will be 24 on July 26th," she noted. Prior to applying for her current position as principle clerk typist, she had been temping for her department.

Her day-to-day responsibilities can include tracking departmental budgets, purchase order and invoice processing, working with outside vendors, scheduling and planning College-wide events, creating offer of employment letters and administrative preparation for new hires, processing donated leave, assisting with the staff payroll process and facilitation of attendance, recruiting and hiring software platforms such as SoftTime and PeopleAdmin. Van Aken's dynamism

plays well with the spirit of collaboration in her department. "I try to be as well-rounded as possible and involve myself in co-workers' projects so I can jump in at any point," she noted. "One of my main responsibilities, and the best part of my job, is planning staff events. I especially enjoy the Ice Cream Social and annual holiday festivities, because I believe they definitely lift employee morale. I also enjoy the Weight Watchers at Work program because it's great to see the success of the people involved and how supportive participants can be for one other."

Mindi Shalita, director of Human Resources, noted, "Melissa is extremely creative and is instrumental in the success of the fundraisers and social events hosted by the Office of Human Resources. Her teamwork with staff is evident on a daily basis. Melissa also has excellent organizational and technical skills and helps our department wherever needed to get our jobs done in a professional and timely fashion."

Beside her obvious connection to staff, Van Aken can also identify with the College's most important population, its students. "I graduated from Mercer County Community College with an Associate in Liberal Arts degree and completed the College's Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology while working full time."

For Van Aken, her heart belongs to her immediate family as well as her boyfriend and his children. But a profile on Van Aken would



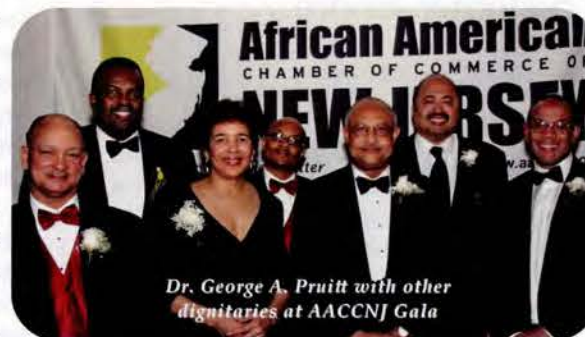
Melissa Van Aken, principle clerk typist in the Office of Human Resources

only be partial without mentioning the love of her life, her dog, Poptart. "My 'baby,' Poptart, is a Yorkie-Bichon and I absolutely adore her!" she enthused. Her affection for animals extends to a local dog daycare center. "I work 7 to 15 hours a week at All Good Dogs Daycare, a cage-free daycare and boarding center located in Lawrence, N.J.," said Van Aken, who also covets day trips and baking and decorating cakes. Her enthusiasm for volunteerism extends to fundraising and spreading awareness for local Cystic Fibrosis chapters and participation in American Cancer Society events with Poptart pitching in whenever she can. "Poptart loves getting dolled up for an annual dog walk to benefit homeless animals," she added.

Also a registered bone marrow donor, Van Aken reminds all employees who are able, to please give blood during the College's hosted blood drives.

Dr. George A. Pruitt Receives AACCNJ Award

President **Dr. George A. Pruitt** was honored recently by the African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (AACCNJ) with its Circle of Achievement Award for his work in higher education. The AACCNJ presented the award at its second annual gala, Feb. 18, at the New Brunswick Hyatt Regency. The event honors a select group of African Americans who have distinguished themselves through accomplishments in a wide variety of fields, such as business, public service, education, sports and entertainment.



Dr. George A. Pruitt with other dignitaries at AACCNJ Gala

ber of Commerce of New Jersey," said Pruitt. "It is a privilege to be acknowledged by this renowned organization for serving the needs of adult learners in New Jersey and throughout the world."

The AACCNJ is dedicated to economically empowering and sustaining African American communities through entrepreneurship and capitalistic activities within the state and via interaction with the

National Black Chamber of Commerce, Inc. Also honored were former New Jersey Attorney General Paula Dow; Champion Top Fuel Car Driver Antron Brown; and Fredrick S. Humphries Jr., vice president, U.S. Government Affairs for Microsoft Corporation.

continued from Page 1

Reorganization

responsibilities for market research and competitive assessment will transition to the Division for Institutional Planning and Research. Power-Barnes will continue to work closely with the Division of Enrollment Management and Learner Services as it strives to understand students' expectations and deliver the highest quality customer service.

The National Institute

Established by Thomas Edison State College and now in its 24th year, **The National Institute on the Assessment of Adult Learning** is the premier event for the assessment of adult learning, including the assessment of experiential learning. It provides a uniquely engaging and exciting learning experience for education professionals who are involved in prior learning assessment (PLA) and the assessment of adult learning. The National Institute is designed to promote networking and the continual exchange of ideas. In addition to the interactive and lectured sessions, the venue serves as a perfect setting for attendees to share experiences and network with colleagues.

The National Institute, *Tradition and Innovation in a Competitive Environment*, will take place June 6-8 (optional preconference workshop on June 5) at Caesars Atlantic City. Thomas Edison State College employees who have approval from their supervisors to attend as well as College mentors will receive significant discounts. For more information, please contact: ni@tesc.edu.

February Lunch & Learn



Dr. Susan Davenport, dean, Heavin School of Arts and Sciences; **Dr. Linda Mather**, president, Beacon Consulting and College mentor; and **Dr. Ray Young**, associate vice president and dean of Learner Services, reported to the College on preparations for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education's March accreditation visit during the February Lunch & Learn.

Staff Activities

Marie R. Power-Barnes, associate vice president for Marketing, attended the Stamats Adult Student Integrated Marketing Conference in Austin, Texas, Feb. 26-29, 2012.



Marie Power-Barnes

Sylvia G. Hamilton, associate vice president for Enrollment Management and Strategic Partnerships, was a panelist at Training magazine's 35th Annual Training 2012 Conference & Expo in Atlanta, Ga. Hamilton's presentation was titled "Meeting the Needs of Adult Learners Through Corporate/College Partnerships." The presentation highlighted the role an academic partnership can play in meeting the educational needs of corporate employees. The conference was attended by training and learning directors, chief learning officers and corporate university managers from the public and private sectors.



Sylvia Hamilton

College Gives Lessons on FlashTrack®

Representatives of the University of South Africa (UNISA), one of the largest distance learning universities in the world, recently visited Thomas Edison State College to learn how the College delivers courses via flash drives to students with little or no Internet access.

Educators from UNISA as well as North-West University in South Africa visited the College, March 22-23, to learn about its flash drive-based course delivery system, FlashTrack®. UNISA officials have recently adopted a curriculum program that calls for each of UNISA's colleges to develop online courses and courses with a similar structure that can be delivered in an offline setting. An important part of the program, which aims to help UNISA become Africa's premier distance education provider, is the use of a system similar to FlashTrack®.



Matt Cooper, inventor of FlashTrack® and director of Instructional Technology and Instructional Design and Development at the College, with Francette Myburgh and Gerda Mischke, of the University of South Africa.

"Large parts of South Africa do not have access to the Internet," said **Dr. Henry van Zyl**, vice provost, Center for Directed Independent Adult Learning. "Delivering an online course in an offline setting is appealing so they can provide courses to students in these areas with little or no Internet service. Our colleagues from South Africa are interested in learning how we developed our flash drive-based course delivery system and how a similar system can be applied to their online courses."

The College launched its first FlashTrack® courses in 2009, which delivered an entire course completely on a two gigabyte (2GB) flash drive and contain the same structure and functionality of a typical online course, but without the need for a constant online connection.

Welcome New Staff



Diana Delgross has been appointed clerk typist in the Office of the President. Delgross is located on the 3rd floor of the Kelsey Building and may be reached at extension 2017.



Elizabeth Gehrig has been appointed assessment development specialist in the Center for Directed Independent Adult Learning. Gehrig is located on the 2nd floor of the townhouses and may be reached at extension 2112.



August Stoll has been appointed associate director, Information Technology and Strategic Initiatives, Management Information Systems. Stoll is located on the 2nd floor of the Canal Banks Building and may be reached at extension 2555.

Polysomnography Programs Earn Accreditation

Thomas Edison State College's associate degree program and undergraduate certificate in polysomnography has recently been awarded initial accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

A peer review conducted by the commission's Committee on Accreditation for Polysomnographic Technologist Education focused on the College's 60-credit Associate in Applied Science degree in polysomnography as well as the 17-credit Undergraduate Certificate in Polysomnography and found the programs are in compliance with nationally established standards. The initial accreditation status is valid from March 16, 2012, until March 31, 2017.

"We are very pleased and excited that the polysomnography program has earned its initial accreditation," said **Dr. Thomas Devine**, acting dean of the School of Applied Science and

Technology at the College. "This accreditation validates that our program meets national standards of excellence and best serves adult learners interested in preparing or advancing in this allied health field."

Polysomnography is an allied health discipline focusing on the diagnosis of sleep disorders, such as sleep apnea, narcolepsy and insomnia. Thomas Edison State College developed its polysomnography program with sleep medicine professionals from Capital Health, based in Trenton, N.J.



Dr. Thomas Devine

Capital Health's sleep center in Hamilton Township, N.J., which is accredited by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM), is the first site where students will fulfill the clinical component of the program.

The College intends to work with other sleep centers that are accredited by the AASM to offer additional sites where students can fulfill the clinical component of the program.

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.

Be My Valentine!



Staff had the opportunity to send Candy Grams to colleagues during Valentine's Day. More than 160 staff participated. Picture are **Debbie Lutz, Robertson Bamfo, Ying Jiang, Michelle Leonard** and **Melissa Van Aken**. The fundraiser will help support the 2012 Thomas Edison State College Holiday Party.

Congratulations

Melissa Maszczak, confidential assistant, Office of the President, and her husband, Ross, are the proud parents of daughter Olivia Grace, who was born Feb. 24. Olivia Grace, who joins big brother Patrick, weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce.

Jaclyn Joworisak, advancement associate, Office of Development, and her husband, Dan, welcomed son, Spencer Daniel, on March 29. Spencer Daniel weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces, and was 21 inches.



Heather Brooks (left), associate director, Office of Human Resources, serves breakfast to **Linda Vasbinder**, chief of staff, Office of the President, at the Pancake Breakfast on March 29. More than 60 staff enjoyed sausage, eggs, coffee and juice in addition to pancakes at the fundraiser, which will help support the 2012 Thomas Edison State College Holiday Party.