

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



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THOM EDISC Higher Education

Art Director

KELLY SACCOMANNO LINDA SOLTIS

Contributors



Dear Alumni, Students and Friends,

Calvin Coolidge said, "No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave."

Once again, this issue of *Invention* is dedicated to those who support Thomas Edison State College and continue to value our institution and our unique mission.

This year, we are especially grateful to our supporters who helped the College expand programs and services while managing a 66 percent reduction in state aid.

The annual support we receive from individuals and businesses is critical to enabling the College to serve more and more students and continue our commitment to academic excellence and integrity.

An example of that excellence is illustrated in our cover story, which profiles Deborah Donnelly-McLay, '94, '95, an international pilot with UPS. Deborah describes how Thomas Edison State College laid the foundation for her professional and personal success.

Deborah's story illustrates the importance of Thomas Edison State College and the financial support we receive every year from our donors, including the Thomas Edison State College Foundation.

On behalf of the entire College family, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Foundation for its support and its extraordinary work on behalf of the Annual Fund, our special events and other development initiatives.

The Foundation is at the heart of these efforts and we are grateful for its support, just as we are grateful for the generous gifts made by all of our donors.

Sincerely,

Dr. George A. Pruitt

President

Cover Story: O

College Launches Accelerated Second Degree BSN Program

SECOND DEGREE PROGRAM TARGETS ADULTS INTERESTED IN EARNING BSN DEGREE IN ONE YEAR

he W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at Thomas Edison State College has launched an accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree program for adults who already possess a non-nursing bachelor's degree and are interested in becoming registered nurses.

The new Accelerated Second Degree BSN Program at Thomas Edison State College is an intensive, one-year program that will prepare graduates for the National Council Licensure Exam for RNs (NCLEX). Candidates are required to have previously earned all general education and science requirements (60 credits) prior to being admitted into the program. Students will complete the remaining 60 credits of professional nursing requirements through online and on-ground courses at Thomas Edison State College in Trenton, N.J., and clinical nursing experiences completed at Capital Health's facilities in Trenton and Hopewell Township, N.J.

"This is a demanding program for the serious student who wants to become a BSN-prepared registered nurse," said Dr. Susan M. O'Brien, dean of the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing. "The program makes it possible for people who already have a non-nursing bachelor's degree to enter a stable profession with many opportunities for professional growth."

The program marks the first time that Thomas Edison State College will offer classroom-based courses twice a week at its downtown Trenton campus. Students will complete a combination of online and classroom-based courses. Clinical experiences will also take place twice a week.

During their clinical experiences, students will care for patients under the guidance and supervision of master'sprepared clinical nurse educators at Capital Health.

Patricia Cavanaugh, RN, MSN, vice president of Patient Services and chief

nursing officer at Capital Health, said that preparing registered nurses who possess the BSN credential is critical for the profession, especially at healthcare systems like Capital Health, that earn Magnet Recognition for Excellence in Nursing Service, the highest level of recognition awarded by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

"It is not uncommon for nurses who earn their BSN and MSN to become leaders in the field," she said. "We are excited about this new program and the wide range of clinical experiences that students will have at Capital Health as they earn their BSN degrees and join our ranks as registered nurses."

The first cohort is scheduled to begin on Sept. 26, 2011, and complete the program on Sept. 25, 2012. Applications are now being accepted. For more information, contact the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at (609) 633-6460 or nursinginfo@tesc.edu.

W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing Holds 6th Annual Diversity Lectureship

The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at Thomas Edison State College held its sixth annual Distinguished Lectureship on Diversity in Nursing on March 18 at the New Jersey Hospital Association Conference Center in Princeton, N.J.

Dr. Beverly Malone, CEO of the

National League for Nurses, was the keynote speaker of the event, which focused on the influence minority nurse leaders will have on the future of their profession. The theme of this year's lectureship was The Power of Nursing: Mentoring the Next Generation of Minority Nurse Leaders Online.

Since 2005, the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing has provided online pedagogical skill-building to more than 90 minority nurse educators through its Online Minority Nurse Educator



College Expands Educational Leadership Program with District Leadership Area of Study

he Heavin School of Arts and Sciences at Thomas Edison State College has recently expanded its Master of Arts in Educational Leadership degree program with the recent launch of a District Leadership area of study that prepares students to become superintendents.

Students in the District Leadership area of study of the Master of Arts in Educational Leadership degree program will complete a 42-credit master's degree program and be eligible to earn supervisor, principal and school administrator endorsements in New Jersey.

The District Leadership area of study features two new courses not included in the curriculum for the original Master of Arts in Educational Leadership that focus on school administration and serving as a superintendent.

"The College is very excited to offer this new area of study to further prepare students for all such roles in K-12 educational leadership at both the building level and district level," said Dr. Adrian Zappala, assistant dean for Educational Leadership. "With this new area of study, our graduates will be able to simultaneously qualify for three administrative endorsements, enabling them to quickly advance in the field."

The College will continue offering the original 36-credit Master of Arts in Educational Leadership degree program with a Building Leadership area of study. Graduates of this program are eligible to earn supervisor and principal endorsements in New Jersey.

For more information, contact the College at edleadership@tesc.edu or (888) 442-8372.

College's Chief Information Officer Appointed to Cisco Systems Board

Drew Hopkins, chief information officer "It comes as no surprise that Drew's Systems, Inc. based in San Jose, Calif.

Members of the board are selected based on their understanding of the ways that technology impacts education or government entities and the unique perspective they bring to the group. Hopkins was selected by Cisco Systems, Inc. for his expertise in the use of A resident of Pennington, N.J., Hopkins information systems to promulgate has worked for the College since 1977. distance learning for adult learners and is expected to help the company better understand the adult higher education market and its demographics.

at Thomas Edison State College, has work in IT solutions and management been appointed to the Public Sector information systems for higher Technical Exchange Board for Cisco education attracted the attention of Cisco Systems, Inc.," said Michael J. Scheiring, vice president and treasurer of Thomas Edison State College. "We are proud to have him serve on their board and know he will contribute much. Drew's leadership in distance learning and technology is well recognized."

> He also serves on Hyland Software's Singularity Advisory Council, the Touchnet Customer Advisory Board and the Data- Drew Hopkins, chief information officer at tel Thought Leaders Community Board.



Thomas Edison State College



Spring Commencement

Thomas Edison State College's inaugural Spring Commencement Ceremony took place Saturday, April 16 at 2 p.m., in the historic College Avenue Gymnasium at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J.

Approximately 200 graduates from 21 states and their families attended the Spring Commencement Ceremony. Diane M. Costanzo, of Mount

professional growth," said Costanzo, the patient care administrator at Virtua Home Care. "You all know that life is a journey, and Thomas today's environment."



"While several of our courses were cutting edge and broadened our horizons, some of them taught us about the heart of humanity," she said. "As a nurse, the class that changed my life the most was Nursing Leadership in a Global Community. It made me aware that I can have a greater impact not just in my community, but in the world. That class taught us we can all make a difference, no matter who we are."

Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, welcomed the graduates into the "fellowship of the College."

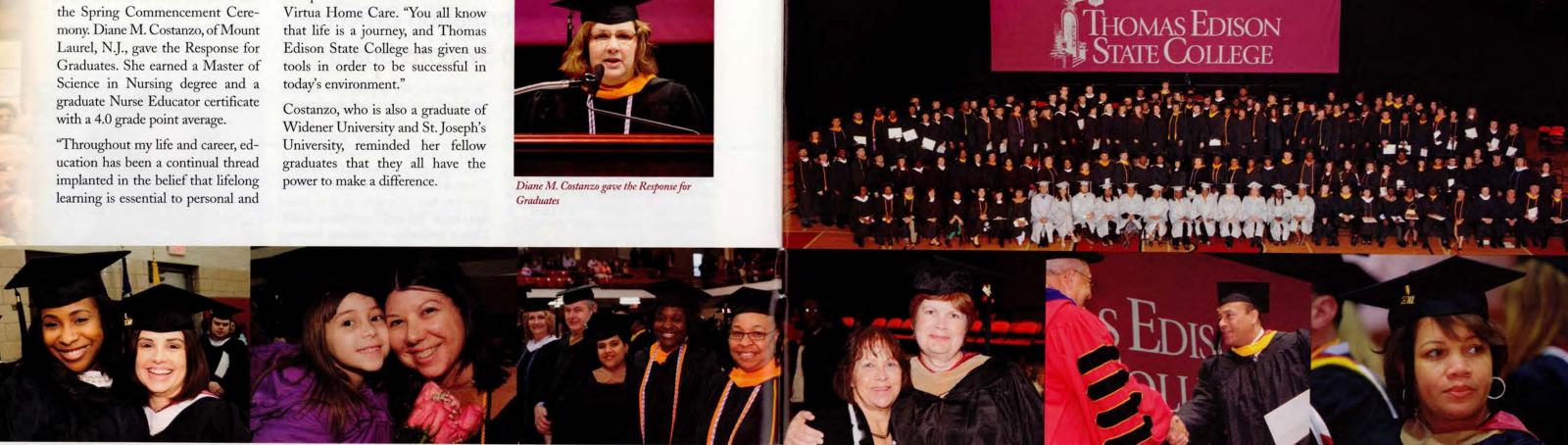
"Wherever you go, the College goes with you. Wherever you are at work, there is the College at work," he said. "I bid you farewell only in the sense that I pray that you may fare well. You go forth but not from us. We remain but not severed from you."

The College conferred 1,242 degrees as part of the 2011 Spring Commencement and has awarded more than 37,500 degrees since it began providing flexible, high-quality, collegiate learning opportunities for self-directed adults in 1972.

Dr. Buzz Aldrin was scheduled to receive an honorary degree but could not attend the ceremony due to an emergency medical issue.

The College established a Spring Commencement to better accommodate the growing number of graduates and their families who attend commencement. The College will continue to hold its Fall Commencement in October.

Visit www.tesc.edu/commencement to view a video of the Spring Commencement.







eborah Donnelly-McLay knows all about reaching new heights.

She transformed herself from a flight attendant to an international pilot with the world's largest package delivery company, an educator and a volunteer working alongside Nobel laureates to foster the next generation of scientists, engineers and mathematicians.

Donnelly-McLay flies for UPS and spends much of her time 30,000 feet above the ground, but her passion is firmly grounded in inspiring children. "I

feel very blessed for all the opportunities I have been given and hope to give back to our community and children worldwide by being a positive role model and mentor, especially for young girls," she said.

Donnelly-McLay noted that Thomas Edison State College laid the groundwork for her success. "Thomas Edison State College was the perfect fit for me. I was working full time as a flight attendant for Continental Express Airlines and pursuing my flight ratings and certificates," she said. "I was very



I was very successful
in the College's aviation program
because it allowed me to earn credit
for my flight ratings and through
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flexibility allowed me to accelerate
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successful in the College's aviation program because it allowed me to earn credit for my flight ratings and through the CLEP testing program. This flexibility allowed me to accelerate my education while I continued to work and fly. The classes in aviation were very interesting and excited my curiosity to learn more."

After earning her Associate in Science in Applied Science and Technology in 1994, her Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Technology in 1995 and completing her flight certificates and ratings, Donnelly-McLay became a full-time flight instructor and then a captain and FAA check airman for Continental Express Airlines.

In 1998, she began her flying career at UPS as a flight engineer on the DC-8. Since then, she was promoted to first officer on the Airbus A300/600 and Boeing 757/767 aircraft and today serves as an international pilot flying 757 and 767 aircraft to South and Central America.

As her career has progressed, so has Donnelly-MacLay's education. Donnelly-McLay earned a Master of Science in Aeronautical Science degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and is currently finishing a second master's degree in history from Harvard University and a doctorate degree in education from Nova Southeastern University.

"I try to be a positive role model for young students," said Donnelly-McLay, who is on the faculty as a professor at Everglades University in Boca Raton, Fla. "Teaching is a passion of mine and a way to give back some of the knowledge that I have gained throughout the years."

Donnelly-McLay's passion for teaching has led her to be active with several organizations focused on encouraging young students to become interested in science, technology, engineering and math, including the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education Coalition and FIRST (For Inspiration and

Recognition of Science and Technology) program.

Recently, she was appointed to the Strategic Board of the Molecular Frontiers Foundation, which promotes the understanding of the molecular sciences in society for children in conjunction with the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and Nobel Academy. In this capacity, Donnelly-McLay serves with 11 Nobel laureates in the sciences to promote science education for children worldwide, including third world countries.

This past June, she was asked to speak to the youth regarding her role as a mentor and role model, especially for females interested in science.

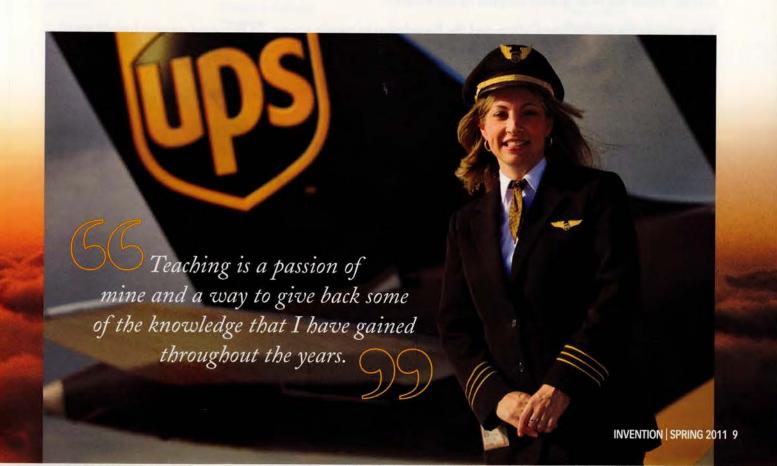
"Whereas schools often emphasize problem solving, Molecular Frontiers gives priority to asking good questions," she said. "The MoleClues website (www.moleclues.com) invites young people to submit questions about anything that may fall within the molecular realm, broadly defined, and all questions are considered for the Molecular Frontiers Inquiry Prize competition, with the chance of winning iPods and laptop computers."

Despite her busy schedule and being a mother of two young children, Donnelly-McLay is an active volunteer in her community, where she promotes career development for women in aviation and science.

She was recently appointed as a board member to the Boynton Beach YMCA and is also an active member and past president of the Boynton Beach/Lantana Rotary Club. Interestingly, Donnelly-McLay was selected as a Rotary International Youth Exchange student when she was 15 and visited Brazil. She said the trip had a tremendous impact on her.

"I owe thanks to my strong family, including my mother, my grandfather, my children and close friends, who have all helped me accomplish my goals," she said.

Donnelly-McLay lives in Boynton Beach, Fla.



MESSAGE FROM THE

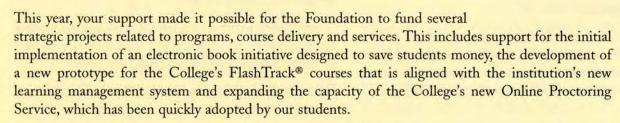
Honor Roll of Donors

Dear Alumni, Students and Friends,

It is once again my privilege to present the Thomas Edison State College Foundation Honor Roll of Donors.

On behalf of the Foundation, we extend our sincere thanks to everyone who provided financial support this year. We are particularly appreciative of your generous support in a year where we saw the College's state allocation get cut by 66 percent.

Perhaps more than ever, your contributions play an important role in helping Thomas Edison State College offer flexible, high quality programs for adult learners throughout the world.



Your support has enabled the College and the Foundation to remain strong. In fact, your support has helped Thomas Edison State College become the second largest college or university in the state. Now that is an example of things moving in the right direction!

Together, we are helping to build a stronger future for the College and the nearly 19,000 students we serve throughout the country and around the world.

For more information on the Foundation and how your support is funding College programs for adult learners, visit www.tescfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

Brian Malmey

Brian T. Maloney

Chair, Thomas Edison State College Foundation



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Assemblywoman Bonnie

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Yardley Country Club

John K. Walsh

Frank Tulli

Dr. Michael Toscani

Trenton Country Club

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Mark Cheaney ASAST'93, BSAST'94

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Ann Marie Keim BA'02

Ann Marie Keim is an IT security official, auditing systems for compliance at Kennedy Space Center in Florida, where, she noted, "dreams are launched!" Keim explained that not only does her job allow her to keep abreast of the trends in technology, but she also volunteers her time to support launches and landings of the space shuttles. "I get to see up close what most can only watch on TV," she added. Keim is currently pursuing a master's degree in cyber security from the University of Maryland University College.

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Steve T. Matsui BSAST'09

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Jeff Pickens BSBA'OO

Jeff Pickens has turned a hobby into a parttime business, launching Easy Pickens BBQ & More, a competitive BBQ team and catering service in southern New Jersey. By day Pickens is audit manager at Lockheed Martin in Cherry Hill, N.J.

Tom Purdom BA'77



Tom Purdom, a veteran science fiction writer, recently wrote his "literary memoir" *When I Was Writing*. The memoir takes the reader inside a writer's mind and tells how Purdom wrote some of the stories and

novels he's produced since he sold his first story more than 50 year ago. Purdom has taught some specialized writing courses at Temple University and Drexel University, before he earned his Thomas Edison State College degree and, he noted, "The experience convinced me a degree would be a useful credential."

Scott E. Rogers BA'04

Scott E. Rogers has been appointed and promoted within federal civil service to the position of supervisory contract specialist in the National Acquisitions Branch of the National Operations Center of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) at the Denver Federal Center. Rogers will be supervising the 10 contract specialists of the Construction Contracting Section acquiring construction services in support of the BLM's mission.

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Please send your news to invention@tesc.edu and be sure to include your first and last name, your address, your preferred phone, the year you graduated and what degree you earned. Updates can also be sent to:

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