

THOMAS A. EDISON STATE COLLEGE

EIGHTH COMMENCEMENT

September 28, 1980 The War Memorial Building Trenton, New Jersey

The
Eighth Commencement
of
Thomas A. Edison State College

3:00 pm September 28, 1980

The War Memorial Building Trenton, New Jersey

> Larraine R. Matusak Presiding

Everyone is cordially invited to attend a reception in honor of the Graduates immediately after the Ceremony in the Ballroom of the War Memorial Building.

ORDER OF CEREMONY

PROCESSIONAL

"AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL"

WELCOME

The Honorable Joseph P. Merlino President of the New Jersey Senate

OPENING REMARKS

Larraine R. Matusak President

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY

DEGREE RECIPIENT: THE HONORABLE

BRENDAN T. BYRNE

Arnold Fletcher Vice President for Academic Affairs

CONFERRING OF HONORARY

DEGREE

Larraine R. Matusak

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

The Honorable Brendan T. Byrne Governor

PRESENTATION OF ASSOCIATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

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CONFERRING OF ASSOCIATE

DEGREES

Larraine R. Matusak

RESPONSE FOR THE GRADUATES

Robert Francis Lynch Associate in Arts

PRESENTATION OF BACCALAUREATE

DEGREE CANDIDATES

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DEGREES

Larraine R. Matusak

RESPONSE FOR THE GRADUATES

Patricia Tryon Tindall

Bachelor of Arts

CLOSING REMARKS

Eleanor Spiegel Chairman, Board of Trustees

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RECESSIONAL

Everyone is asked to stand during the Processional, the singing of "America, the Beautiful" and the Recessional.

This program does not constitute the official graduation list. Official graduation is certified by the transcript of record.

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Hasanuddin Muhammad Abdur-Rahim Andrew Thomas Aguiar, Ir. Rasaki Bolaji Akodu Stephen Aniskevich, Jr. Hortensia Argüelles Dorothy R. Bailey Frank A. Banister Elizabeth Barta Fred Ellsworth Bassett, III Victor Sheldon Baxter Maureen Bayha Anne Marie Bazzell Robert Allen Berry Frank Bianchi Ralph Michael Bianchini Edward H. Blake Paulette Candice Blalock Errol N. Bowman Christine Ellen Boylan Paula Ann Bracken Valerie M. Bradley James M. Brandon Helen L. Brieger Arthur Arnold Brokaw Adelaide Elizabeth Brown Diane M. Brown Sandra Larsen Bruce Eleanor Marie Burrows Deborah M. Calabrese Alan Loren Callner Joyce Edmonds Camera John Francis Charboneau Gerald John Ciccanti Betty A. Cole Rita Coleman Kathryn T. Connolly Walter Scott Curtis John Cuthbert Lorraine Dacchille Bruce Carey Dalland Nina Danon Maria L. Darnell Willard Sylvester Davenport Thomas E. Davis Ioanne Marie DiNero Mary Catherine S. Lenihan R. Donnelly Monica Finan Donnelly

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HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT BRENDAN T. BYRNE GOVERNOR OF NEW JERSEY

"Our responsibility is to continue moving out of the shadow of the federal government, to address our own problems, to stand on our own feet and reach our own solutions."

These words from his State of the State address on January 8, 1980 summarize quite well who Brendan T. Byrne is: a man who has been and is responsible for his own actions and who does not fear to shoulder the responsibilities of the people.

A native of New Jersey, he began his collegiate studies at Seton Hall College in the early days of World War II, but soon left Seton Hall to enlist in the Army Air Corps. During his service in the Army Air Corps he won the Distinguished Flying Cross and four Air Medals.

After the War ended he returned to his native New Jersey and resumed his education, earning his baccalaureate degree from Princeton University and his law degree from Harvard University.

Upon returning to New Jersey he practiced law in Newark and East Orange for four years before joining the staff of Governor Robert B. Meyner. Since 1955 he has served New Jersey, and the nation, first as assistant counsel to the Governor, then as acting secretary and as a deputy attorney general before being appointed Essex County prosecutor in 1959, a post he held until 1968. It was in Essex County that his reputation as "the man the mob can't buy" took root.

Subsequent to his extensive work in Essex County he was named president of the Public Utilities Commission before being named as Superior Court judge for the State of New Jersey in 1970.

Reacting to the scandals which had rocked New Jersey's state government he decided to run for governor in 1973 and was elected with a record plurality of over 700,000 votes. Immediately after taking office he began to demonstrate with his actions the sincerity of his campaign promises of restoring integrity to state government. In 1974 he established the nation's first Department of the Public Advocate which serves as an ombudsman for citizen complaints against state government. He also created the nation's first Department of Energy, taking quick action in the face of the oil embargo.

In the face of much public negative reaction, he proposed and finally succeeded in having enacted tax reforms, which included the state's first income tax, to increase the state's share of public school costs that was mandated by the Supreme Court.

He has engineered reforms in the state's penal code, extended the urban aid program and established spending limits on state and local governments. In each instance he has acted in the public's interest, not his own.

Thomas A. Edison State College has, in a sense, grown up during his administration and like him has set its sights on serving the public in the best way possible. When contemplating awarding it's first honorary degree, his name was the choice of all. When faced with hard decisions he has consistently acted in the people's interest, not bowing to the pressures exerted on him from many directions.

It is thus our honor and privilege to bestow on the truly honorable Brendan T. Byrne, the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, with all the rights, honors and privileges pertaining thereto, and to have him give our Commencement address.

ACADEMIC HERALDRY: THE SYMBOLS OF LEARNING

While the current code concerning the types of academic costumes to be used by colleges in the United States dates from 1960, distinctive academic dress dates from the medieval universities of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. The college or university commencement procession today is a pageant, alive and bright with a dress and ceremony deep in the tradition of the oldest universities.

Academic life as we know it today began in the Middle Ages—with Bologna and Paris, Oxford and Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Louvain—first in the Church, then in the guilds. The teaching guild was the Guild of the Master of Arts, where the Bachelor was the apprentice of the Master and the dress was the outward sign of privilege and responsibility. The dress made visible, in color and pattern, the unity of men of like purpose. Twelfth century records of Oxford University carry this justification for academic dress; "It is honorable and in accordance with reason that clerks to whom God has given an advantage of the lay folk in their adornments within, should likewise differ from the lay folk outwardly in dress."

The principal features of academic dress are three: the gown, the cap and the hood.

Their design and heraldry were, from as early as the eleventh and twelfth centuries in the great European universities, the outward sign of the bringing together of students and privileged persons under the same discipline.

To preserve their dignity and meaning, it early became necessary for these universities to set rules for academic dress. American universities agreed on a definite system in 1895 and set up a suitable code of academic dress for the colleges and universities of the United States. In 1932 and again in 1959 the American Council on Education revised the code which, for the most part, governs the style of academic dress today.

The Gown. The flowing gown comes from the twelfth century. Many think it was worn in olden times as protection against the cold of unheated buildings. It has become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it completely covers any dress of rank or social standing underneath. It is black for all degrees with pointed sleeves for the Bachelor's degree; long closed sleeves for the Master's degree, with a slit for the arm; and round open sleeves for the Doctor's degree. For the Bachelor's or Master's degree the gown has no trimmings. For the Doctor's degree it is faced down the front with velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves, in the color distinctive of the faculty or discipline to which the degree pertains. Of late years, the official colors of the College may appear in the gown or its decorations.

The Cap. When Roman law freed the slave he won the privilege of wearing a cap. And so the academic cap is a sign of freedom of scholarship and the responsibility and dignity with which scholarship endows the wearer. Old

poetry records the cap of scholarship as square to symbolize the book, although some authorities claim that the mortar board is the symbol of the masons, a privileged guild. The color of the tassel on the cap denotes the discipline.

The Hood. Since almost all of the students and faculty in the medieval universities were clerics (minor church ecclesiastics) and were tonsured, the hood served to cover the shaved head from the cold of unheated buildings. Eventually the hood was superseded by a skull cap which evolved into a headdress more or less like those in use today. Heraldically, the hood is an inverted shield with one or more chevrons of a secondary color on the ground of the primary color of the college. The color of the facing of the hood denotes the discipline represented by the degree; the color of the lining of the hood designates the college or university from which the degree was granted.

The associate degree is a modern degree which dates back only several decades rather than centuries. In the hierarchy of the academic world, the associate degree is the modern entry point. Its equivalent in the guild of teachers would be that of a junior apprentice.

The Bachelor's gown is black. The hood is black with a white collar symbolizing the Bachelor of Arts, a gold collar the Bachelor of Science, and a brown collar the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. The primary color inside the hood is royal blue with the secondary color being gold.

The association's gown is grey. The hood is not worn by the Associate graduate.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The staff of Thomas A. Edison State College wishes to express its appreciation to the Charles Edison Fund for its continued support to the College. In addition to the Fund's monetary support, the Fund has also donated the bronze bust of Thomas Alva Edison which is located in the lobby of the Kelsey Building. The Fund has also provided a contribution for an attractive display for the bust.

The Charles Edison Fund bears the name of its founder, Charles Edison (1890-1969), son of Thomas A. Edison, who served as Governor of the State of New Jersey from 1941 to 1944.

The staff of the College also wishes to thank William C. Smith, the organist for the ceremony, and the Garden State Theatre Organ Society. Mr. Smith studied music at Bucknell University and has served as a church organist in the Trenton area for over ten years. Mr. Smith is a member of the Garden State Theatre Organ Society, which maintains the 16 rank, 3 manual, Moller organ in the War Memorial Building.

The Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving theatre organs throughout the state. The Society will be holding four concerts at the War Memorial Building throughout the next seven months. Information concerning the concerts is available in the lobby.

The able assistance of Frank Bodgan, Secretary of the War Memorial Commission, and his staff, is also appreciated.

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AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain.
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears.
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

Music by Samuel A. Ward Words by Katharine Lee Bates