

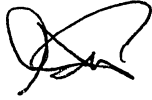


Office of the President
(609) 984-1105
Fax: (609) 989-9321
gpruitt@tesc.edu

MEMORANDUM

March 10, 2006

TO: Members, Board of Trustees

FROM: George A. Pruitt 

SUBJ: President's Report to the Board

Serving Students with Academic Programs to Meet Their Needs

In this section you will find individual reports on the activities of each of the College's Schools relative to the development of partnerships and curricula. Other activities undertaken by each School during the last quarter are also described here School-by-School. Information on enrollment counts is also provided School-by-School. However, that information is presented in the section headed "Assuring Quality through Planning and Research."

School of Applied Science and Technology

The Dean of the School of Applied Science and Technology continued to work on initiatives related to partnership development, curriculum development, mentor development, outcomes assessment, strategic planning, and representation of the College to external audiences in conjunction with the Corporate Choice Program.

Partnership Development

The Dean worked with New-Jersey-based Public Service Electric & Gas to establish the first Bachelor of Science experience in Energy Utility Technology for employees. An evaluation of company training for credit and a DACUM workshop have provided a unique position for the College in the utility industry. Our work with PSE&G and with the Utility Business Education Coalition has resulted in an invitation to submit a response to an RFP to provide a Bachelor's-degree experience to EPCE/CAEL industrial partners. The College is now through the second round of submissions and is approved

for the final round. The Dean and the Vice Provost developed a presentation on the proposal that will be made in Chicago at CAEL headquarters in January.

The Dean continued his participation on the National Diversity Council for NASCAR. The Dean and Provost toured NASCAR Technical Institute in Mooresville, North Carolina and met with staff there to facilitate the academic review of NASCAR Technical Institute/UTI training by Thomas Edison State College. The Dean also worked with the Hewlett-Packard Company and the Concerned Citizens of Tillery grassroots organization to address the digital divide and establish technology infrastructure in isolated communities. The Rural Technology Enterprise Group was formed out of this effort with the goal to establish a technology presence in many rural communities in North Carolina.

The Dean also continued his work with Muhlenberg Regional Hospital, Phillip Morris, Talecris Pharmaceutical, the National Guard at McGuire Air Force Base, and Bucks County (PA) Law Enforcement. In each case, he is building on partnership development to establish enrollment streams into the College's degree programs in science and technology. In partnership activities with other educational institutions, the Dean has worked with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Youngstown State University, New Mexico State University, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and the University of South Africa. This work is aimed at joint curriculum and program development for degrees in science and technology. The Dean also established relationships with various community colleges to foster program development and baccalaureate degree-completion opportunities here for community college graduates. Community colleges with which he worked during the past quarter are the community colleges of Appalachia, Essex County College, Mercer County College, and Middlesex County College.

The Dean also worked with staff at the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy to establish a funded study of the impact of the motorsports industry on the New Jersey economy, a national conference addressing technology and social change, and development of a database to increase government efficiency. Additionally, the Dean developed and delivered a workshop for the current class of Leadership Trenton.

The Dean was also active with a number of companies in conjunction with the College's Corporate Choice Program. He presented the Corporate Choice program to Pfizer's Human Resources Directors for Manufacturing and Scientific, Research, and Laboratory personnel. The Dean has had several follow up discussions with key decision makers and expects results soon. He conducted similar meetings and discussion with staff at Johnson & Johnson and Bristol Myers Squibb.

Finally, the Dean worked with the PC Age organization to establish an agreement supporting the AAS in Computer Studies in conjunction with the College's Office of Corpo-

rate-Higher Education Programs. The Dean also worked with this office to structure an agreement with the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Ironworkers to support the ASAST and BSAST in Construction.

Curriculum Development and Mentor Activity

The Dean began implementing the curriculum initiatives identified through the strategic planning process. Support for developing courses and programs will come through industry partnerships. Additionally, the Dean developed a proposal to establish an Area of Study in Energy Utility Technology under the Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Technology. The proposal was approved at the School's Curriculum Committee in October, 2005 and placed on the Academic Council agenda for the January, 2006 meeting.

The Dean reviewed the mentor hiring process and identified changes that will streamline the process. He also worked with the other Deans to establish proper evaluation mechanisms for mentors. Additionally, several new mentors have been brought on board for the School of Applied Science and Technology to address specific needs. The ability to identify qualified mentors for key areas has been one of the positive results of the partnership-building efforts in the School.

School of Arts and Sciences

Partnership Development

During the past quarter, the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences joined two colleagues, the Vice Provost/DIAL and the Dean of Applied Science and Technology, for the trip to University of South Africa (Unisa) in Pretoria, South Africa. The purpose of the trip was to update the existing partnership through a new Memorandum of Agreement between the College and Unisa. Discussions resulted in the proposed development of a "Bachelor's of Environment" degree program to be offered as a joint degree by both institutions. The program is mentioned in the updated partnership agreement. Other joint-degree programs are also being discussed. Research opportunities for mentors from both institutions may also result with the implementation of the new agreement. The new agreement allows for the leasing of courses, and this is a welcome opportunity for the School of Arts and Sciences. The Chinese language courses will address the need for offerings in this area, as the requests for Mandarin and Cantonese are increasing. These offerings will revitalize the Foreign Language degree programs and enhance our partnership with the Defense Language Institute.

Planning for a Web conference continued with colleagues from Bucks County Community College. The conference will be hosted by Thomas Edison State College for adult community college students at the nation's 10 largest colleges will be the target audience for the conference. The Dean and several colleagues also participated in a discussion with the Bucks County Police Academy leaders to form a partnership between the Col-

lege and the Police Academy to offer courses and evaluate the Academy's courses for credit.

Curriculum Development

The Dean met with the Curriculum Committee in October to discuss the proposed master's degree program for Math/Science teachers. The Committee unanimously approved the degree program and voted to move forward with the planning. Math courses that are offered as part of the College's General Education program were also discussed. The Committee agreed to the suggestion of having all math courses reviewed for accuracy and alignment on objectives. The Dean will form a team with mentors and a DIAL representative to begin the review process.

The joint-degree program with UNISA (Bachelor of Environment) was also considered by the Curriculum Committee. There were several ideas on ways to expand the learner-design area of the Environment degree. Degree requirements will consist of a group of "core" courses and a group of specialization courses in such areas as ecotourism, space, and terrorism. Curriculum subcommittees continued work on the Environment degree and on the different math models that might be used for College programs. The Graduate Dean also informed the Curriculum Committee about learning objectives and will keep the Committee updated as these objectives evolve.

The Dean also began exploratory discussion with her counterpart at Berklee College of Music, Boston. Under consideration is a partnership that would allow Thomas Edison State College students to take courses at Berklee. Finally, the Dean worked with the Dean of Nursing to create an adaptation of STA-201 as a required Math course for nurses. This course is now being offered as a pilot.

Mentor Activity

There has been a steady increase in the number of mentor applications. Our system for receiving and reviewing applications is working, but there is clearly a need for more assistance. Eight new mentors were hired during this quarter. The total mentor count is 209. The Deans are working on evaluations and quality-assurance guidelines for mentors, and these will be put in place soon. In conjunction with efforts on quality assurance, the Dean had begun a review process for all courses in the School of Arts and Sciences to ensure that course content and examination items are aligned and that mentors are scoring exams in a consistent fashion.

School of Business and Management

The Dean completed her assignment as Co-Chair of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee for the development of the College's Strategic Vision Plan and participated in the completion of the plan documentation. She is now leading the implementation of the Plan for the School of Business and Management. The Plan was developed with ex-

ternal market input from key business leaders, the School of Business and Management Curriculum Committee, and a cross functional team of College staff.

Partnership Development

The Dean was actively involved in the Corporate Choice outreach program as a member of the advisory team and as a representative for assigned corporations such as Lucent, Wal-Mart, AT&T, and MBNA. During the past quarter, the College responded to a Request for Proposal (RFP) for educational services to Wal-Mart employees and was accepted as a Wal-Mart preferred educational provider. Contract negotiations are proceeding for a targeted launch in January, 2006. Through this agreement, the College will join a few other institutions featured on the Wal-Mart employee benefit Web site, which will link to our Web site.

In addition, the Dean undertook Corporate Choice work with UPS, having presented a preliminary proposal to UPS executives regarding a BSBA program in operations management. A formal partnership agreement was also signed with the Center for Financial Training Atlantic States (CFTAS) in 2005. The Dean will also participate on the CFTAS regional advisory board.

Partnership activities with Essex County College progressed, as well. A graduate cohort of 17 students in the Master of Science in Management (MSM) program began its studies and additional information sessions on the MSM targeting local businesses and Essex students were conducted. Through this partnership, the Dean has also initiated discussions with the Yeshiva at IDT and Essex County College to build a curriculum pathway to the College's BSBA programs for students currently enrolled in the joint IDT/Essex associates degree program.

The Dean continued outreach activities with other New Jersey collegiate administrators and participated on a curriculum committee at the College of Saint Elizabeth. She also continued with outreach activities to the Business Deans of New Jersey colleges and universities and to key leaders in businesses and related organizations.

Curriculum Development

The Dean began curriculum development as articulated in the Strategic Plan for the School of Business and Management. Key initiatives include 1) refreshing the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) core, 2) assessing the feasibility of pursuing accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), 3) exploring the feasibility of a new undergraduate program in Leadership, 4) transforming the existing MSM, and 5) introducing new undergraduate and graduate areas of study in Project Management and Quality Management.

Under the Dean's direction, a team of mentors began working with staff in DIAL to develop new courses for the BSBA curriculum. These courses, acquired from Mind Edge,

are part of our accelerated course-development process. The six new courses are upper level ones in the areas of Marketing, Accounting, and Finance.

Updating of the current external licenses and certifications for which students may receive transfer credit in the BSBA program was also begun, along with a review of College undergraduate and graduate certificates. In addition, the Dean continued with the ongoing development of the Homeland Security certificate, particularly supporting the business-continuity focus of the program.

Development of learning outcomes for the School of Business and Management was begun. Initial, program-level outcomes were developed for the BSBA program and will be finalized in the School of Business and Management Curriculum Committee session in January 2006. The Dean participated in the Graduate School residency program, the Student Services Appeals Committee, Academic Council, Academic Policy Committee, Academic Affairs Committee, Graduate School Admissions Committee, and the launch of the Graduate School cohort at Essex County College in the orientation program.

Mentor Activity

As part of the implementation of the Strategic Plan, a comprehensive mentor quality assurance program will be launched in 2006. All Deans are continuing a review of mentor hiring practices and are conducting working sessions to streamline the current process. The Business Dean is conducting an ongoing monthly meeting to review the mentor load balance and assignments for the School of Business and Management. Efforts are also underway to refresh the mentor pool.

Heavin School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

General activities during this quarter included partnership development, development of curricula, and development of learning outcomes. The Dean also attended the New Jersey Association of Criminal Justice Educators meeting in October and worked with a mentor to assess the West Point Leadership and Command educational program. This exceptionally fine program was recommended for six credits for any of our students who have completed the program, and this recommendation was approved by Academic Council.

Partnership Development

The concentrated recruitment program with the administration-of-justice community is beginning to show some success, yielding enrollment increases in the Bachelor of Arts area of study in Criminal Justice. The Dean worked with the Dean of the School of Business and Management and the staff at Essex County College to allow ECC students to move smoothly from an associate degree into a baccalaureate degree and on to a master's degree. Thomas Edison State College is currently offering graduate courses at Essex and will begin to offer blended courses at the baccalaureate level in the fall of 2006.

A partnership between Thomas Edison State College and Western Iowa Technical College was also explored. After the curriculum has undergone its final review, a template will be designed which will demonstrate the articulation between the two schools. Articulation templates were also designed for programs in Early Childhood Education (Child Development Services) offered by Mercer County Community College.

Curriculum Development

The first two of the four courses comprising the Graduate Certificate in Homeland Security were offered during the fall term. There are five students enrolled in the first course and six students enrolled in the second course. Marketing this certificate to appropriate audiences, especially as an area of professional focus for the Master of Science in Management degree program, will be the next step.

Planning for the Master of Arts in Educational Leadership degree continues to move along swiftly. Skylight Pearson has begun development of the courses, and the Graduate School is establishing a structure for state and national certification. The request to offer a new degree was submitted to the state collegiate institutions for approval, and marketing design, including brochures and other written material, is underway. An advisory committee is in the planning stage. The State Department of Education continues to be supportive and encouraging of the College in this endeavor.

Work was begun to adapt four Federal Emergency Management Agency college-level courses for our students' use. These courses, which focus on emergency disaster services and homeland security, have been developed by the Higher Education Project of FEMA and are well thought of by the academic community.

A major thrust was the development of learning outcomes for the institution, all academic programs, and courses offered by the institution. This quarter's emphasis was on outcomes at the programmatic level. Outcomes statements written several years ago were reviewed and revised by the Dean and the Curriculum and Policy Committee of the Heavin School.

The capstone experience for students in Human Services degree programs, the practicum, will soon be "digitized," and work was begun on this project during the last quarter. When the digitization is completed, Human Services students will be able to register for and complete their practica online and have mentor involvement early in the process. Current practicum mentors will be trained in the new format and venue. This should lead to greater convenience for students and better quality practica.

School of Nursing

In addition to the partnership development and curriculum development initiatives described below, the School of Nursing has been active in community service, grant acqui-

sition, expansion of student recruitment out-of-state, and writing articles for publications. The School of Nursing offered assistance (in the form of financial aid and a waiver of the enrollment fee) to Registered Nurses pursuing a BSN degree who have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina. The School has also acquired a \$600,000 HRSA grant, which will be used to recruit and equip 45 minority nurse educators with online pedagogical skills. Implementation of the activities covered by the grant was begun this quarter and the School of Nursing was featured in an article in the Winter issue of *Minority Nurse*, which described the online education program. Out-of-state student recruitment has also begun, and currently there are students from 21 states, Guam, and various European countries enrolled. Finally, an article was prepared for submission to the magazines *Nursing Spectrum* and *Advances in Nursing* on the first induction ceremony for the College's Honor Society of Nursing and on the Regina Sanchez-Porter Award.

Partnership Development

Staff continued work with Trenton Psychiatric Hospital, Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in New Brunswick, Capital Health System (CHS), and St. Francis Medical Center in Trenton, and final agreements have been prepared for Nursing and Corporate Choice for Virtua Health System in Burlington. From the ongoing partnerships, CHS enrolled students now number 74, and approximately 14 students enrolled from St. Francis Medical Center.

New partnerships in varying stages of progress include those with Robert Wood Johnson in Hamilton, Saint Barnabas in Union, and AtlantiCare Mainland and City campuses. The New Jersey Workforce Project of Atlantic County, which includes Shore Memorial Hospital, Cape May Hospital, and Burdette-Tomlin Memorial Hospital, selected the College's School of Nursing to provide education to registered nurses from Atlantic County hospitals. A grant proposal was submitted to Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) by the New Jersey Workforce, and the School of Nursing wrote a letter of support and signed a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing to provide the BSN and MSN degrees for this project.

Curriculum Development and Mentor Activity

Plans for implementation of the Registered-Nurse-to-Bachelor-of-Science-in-Nursing/Master-of-Science-in-Nursing (RN-BSN/MSN) program and the Nurse Educator Certificate program continued, along with revision of the current RN-BSN courses and finalization of the MSN courses. Policies, applications, brochures, and Web announcements were finalized. Newly developed policies for the RN-BSN/MSN degree and Nurse Educator certificate program were also finalized and were presented at the School of Nursing Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Policy Committee.

The School of Nursing continued to recruit mentors. There are currently 50 mentors, approximately 85 percent of whom have doctoral preparation.

School of Professional and Continuing Studies

The School of Professional and Continuing Studies opened its programs (offered with Gatlin Education) for enrollment in October. The initial enrollments are building, and as of the end of the quarter, there were 13 registrations. Fine-tuning of processes related to registration and dissemination of information was completed, and application has been made for Veterans Affairs (VA) funding for the professional certificate programs.

Development of new programs is continuing apace. The Gerontology Program is now ready, and will be open for registrations in February. The Paralegal Program will open for enrollment in Fall 2006. The contractual agreement with the University of California-Irvine was finalized and submitted to College counsel for review. Negotiations are currently underway with another courseware/program provider, MindEdge, to enter a partnership enabling the School to substantially expand its offerings, particularly in the business area. As there is now a substantial and growing portfolio of professional certificate programs, corporate and organizational business programs will be pursued. The School will be working with the College's marketing department to develop a campaign to promote the College as a provider of corporate education and training.

Plans were also initiated under the Corporate Choice program to develop a relationship with United Parcel Service (UPS). There have been two meetings here in Trenton with UPS staff, and the prospect for substantial enrollments from UPS employees remains quite bright.

Learner Services

Registrar's Office

Registrations for the 12 traditional undergraduate terms, the 11 undergraduate eArmyU terms, the 12 undergraduate NCPACE terms, the three graduate terms, and the four certificates in Distance Education graduate terms were successfully processed. Course registrations for graduate, undergraduate and eArmyU and Navy Pace for this quarter totaled 6,810. Students continued to register for noncredit options through the School of Professional and Continuing Studies.

The College confers degrees four times a year. The Office of the Registrar reviews student academic records on a daily basis and sends degree-certification letters upon a student's certification for graduation so that pending graduates have official documentation for graduate school entry or for a prospective employer. Diplomas are sent to all graduates within one week of degree conferral. During this quarter there were 491 degrees awarded: 13.64 percent of the degrees awarded were associate's degrees, 86 percent were baccalaureate degrees, and .006 percent were master's degrees. A total of 44.25 percent of the graduates were enrolled at Thomas Edison State College for two years or fewer before being awarded a degree. The College held the Thirty-third Annual

Commencement ceremony on October 8, 2005, at the Patriot's Theatre in the War Memorial Building. A total of 337 graduates participated in the ceremony this year. This was the largest number of participants in the history of the College.

Thomas Edison State College is the certifying agent for the New Jersey State Professional Librarian Certificates. The College continues to partner with the New Jersey State Library and the Department of Education to establish procedures for the issuance of the certificates. During this quarter, 53 certificates were issued.

New Initiatives

The Assistant Registrar completed a workflow study of the applications and records management section of the office. The Registrar's staff also worked with other College staff to design and implement new processes to accommodate the Army's centralized tuition assistance management (CTAM) program. Live implementation will begin in April 2006. A plan is also being developed to prepare and digitize all current student academic records for the imaging initiative. The purging of non-enrolled student records is part of that preparation and is taking place in compliance with AACRAO recommendations and all federal and state policies.

The Office of the Registrar worked with the Office of Admissions in the testing of the online undergraduate application. Implementation of this new Web application will reduce manual data entry, as most fields will automatically populate into Colleague. It is anticipated that this system will be available for students during the third quarter.

Financial Aid and Veterans' Affairs

The number of students using financial aid to pay for their enrollment and registration continued upward. Use of financial aid increased by eight percent, and actual awarding of financial aid increased by 10 percent.

Students may not receive financial aid until they are reviewed for satisfactory academic progress (SAP). The Financial Aid Office performed a quality-control check of SAP for all students who had received awards during the 2005-2006 award year to ensure compliance with the SAP requirements. The Financial Aid Office also worked with the Registrar's Office on coding all past financial aid recipients who have withdrawn from a class so they may be cited in the Datatel SAP module. And, in conjunction with the Controller's Office and MIS, the College developed a system that automates and expedites the annual enrollment billing of financial aid students.

The Financial Aid Office, in collaboration with the Scholarship Committee, completed a uniform scholarship selection process. A total of eight recipients were chosen for the Wachovia scholarship, and six were chosen for the other named scholarships the College administers. Students can apply for scholarships by going to the online application on

the College's Web site. The next groups of scholarships will be awarded in May. Finally, working with the Controller's Office, the Financial Aid Office established a link to private-loan sources on our Web site for students who need bridge financing but do not want to go through the federal loan process.

Transcript Evaluation

First-time evaluations completed for the second quarter numbered 1,346, a small increase compared to the same time period in FY2005. Update evaluations numbered 1,510, a decrease when compared to the same time period in FY2005. A new procedure for processing degree changes was instituted: all degree/specialization changes, with the exception of those for EArmyU students, are now being handled by the advising staff.

Academic Advisement

During the second quarter, the advisement team responded to 4423 email inquiries, an increase of 32 percent over FY2005's second quarter (3334). This is likely due to the continued efficient use of the AVAYA interaction center and the ability of staff to respond to inquiries in less than two days. The number of phone inquiries (3871) for the quarter was dramatically higher (45 percent) than FY2005's second quarter (2653). The number of completed appointments (751) also increased, by 36 percent, over last year's second quarter. Students had to wait on average just over one day for an appointment. Although the Internet CHAT feature has been fully implemented and all staff have been trained, usage has been slow (31, total, for the quarter) and time consuming (average 10 minutes), as compared to a normal phone call (average of a little over 4 minutes).

Discussion was initiated with the College offices dealing with the military, testing, graduate studies, communications, and admissions to establish a formal liaison program. Together with the Registrar's and Evaluation Offices, the process through which student requests for degree and specialization changes are handled was streamlined. Work was also begun with the Office of Communications on the outline for a new online student orientation course that will offer an opportunity for students to quickly engage with the College.

Students with Disabilities

Accommodations were provided for two students and 18 guests during the College's Commencement ceremony on October 8, 2005. Special arrangements were also made for a student with multiple disabilities who attended the Awards Ceremony at the New Jersey State Museum Auditorium.

Contacts for the Office of Students with Disabilities increased during the second quarter. There was a 41-percent increase in student contacts over the second quarter of FY2005. Requests for ADA information increased 24 percent (from 21 to 26), and accommodations for the College's courses and testing increased by 35 percent (35 compared with 26). There were a total of eight new ADA-eligible students.

Academic Partnerships and Outreach

The Office of Academic Partnerships and Outreach finalized Letters of Understanding with Public Service Electric and Gas (PSE&G) and the Graduate School of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The following organizations and institutions were contacted to negotiate partnerships: Community College of Morris, Energy Providers Coalition for Education, Subaru of America, Northeast Pennsylvania Alliance, and Tobyhanna Army Depot. In collaboration with the New Jersey State Library and Rutgers University, the College also submitted a second grant application for one million dollars to the Institute of Museums and Library Services (IMLS).

Office of Military Education

The Office of Military Education had a very productive second quarter. The College had a strong increase in its numbers of students from military populations. The Military Degree Completion Program saw the strongest increases, with a 20-percent increase in applicants, a 100-percent increase in new enrollments, and a 40-percent increase in continuing enrollments for the quarter.

There was a steady growth in the Navy College Program Distance Learning Partnership, with a 12-percent increase in applicants, eight percent in New Enrollments, and 10-percent in continuing enrollments. The Navy College Program Distance Learning Partnership alone accounted for 51 percent of the applicants, 53 percent of the new enrollments, and 59 percent of the continuing enrollments in the second-quarter enrollments of the School of Applied Science and Technology. The Navy Program Distance Learning Partnership accounted for 20 percent of the applicants, 20 percent of the new enrollments, and 16 percent of the continuing enrollments for all of the Schools in the College.

There has been a 125-percent increase in undergraduate course enrollments in the eArmyU program so far this year, and this is the first time the College has added additional semesters to the program. In addition, the College had over 100 course enrollments in the Navy College Program Afloat College Education program.

More than 300 site visits were made to military bases to provide counseling and information sessions to Service members. A total of 20 Military Education Fairs were also attended at bases throughout the country, and the College also opened its first National Testing Center on a military base, at McGuire Air Force Base. In addition, the College is working with the Navy to open four National Testing Centers in Japan and Guam. Office of Military Education staff will be making site visits to these locations in conjunction with Navy Education Fairs during the months of March and April.

Office of Corporate-Higher Education Programs

During the second quarter, the Office of Corporate-Higher Education Programs prepared for and conducted four ACE evaluations; had four pre-evaluation meetings with

potential sponsors; had one post evaluation meeting with a new sponsor; worked on updating records and files from the 2005 Annual Audit; and met with Coordinator from New Jersey Place.

The following organizations had an ACE evaluation conducted during this quarter: COPE Institute; New Jersey Regional Council of Carpenters, Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee; United Association of Journeyman and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the U.S. & Canada; and Starting Points for Children, Inc.

The Director worked with the New Jersey Department of Labor/Workforce Development's State Employment and Training Commission, and this collaboration resulted in completion of ACE evaluations for four union apprenticeship programs. The Director also worked with the New Jersey Council of Community Colleges, through the New Jersey PLACE program. New Jersey PLACE negotiates and coordinates degree-completion initiatives with New Jersey's public colleges for apprentices who seek to earn a college degree using the ACE credit recommendations.

Graduate School

The primary partnership activity during the second quarter involved fostering relationships for the development of the new Master of Arts in Educational Leadership (MA EdL) degree program. The memorandum of agreement with the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors (NJPSA) association was signed, and LessonLab, a Pearson Education Company, began developing the courses described in the program proposal. Meetings were held with New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) about gaining approval for the program. After the appropriate internal approvals, the program proposal for the Master of Arts in Educational Leadership was forwarded to the Academic Issues Committee of the New Jersey Council of Presidents for the next step in the process.

In other developments, Graduate School staff participated in planning for the proposed certificate/degree in math and science for teachers, and the second course for the new Homeland Security certificate was launched. In addition, all alumni of graduate programs were contacted with an update on new offerings. Undergraduate students in criminal justice and emergency management were sent information about the Homeland Security certificate.

Directed Independent Adult Learning (DIAL)

The following activities took place during the quarter: one new course completed; 19 courses revised ; eight course conversions completed; 26 exams and answer keys edited; one ePack revision completed; and three TECEP examinations revised.

A total of 108 invoices/vouchers were processed, as well as 19,788 contacts with faculty mentors; 38,867 student contacts; 942 proctor contacts; 2,937 mentor payment vouchers processed; 1,388 videotapes duplicated; 168 audiotapes duplicated; 3,373 exams posted;

4,101 DIAL exams sent to mentors; 862 TECEP examination registrations processed; 593 TECEP examinations scored; 6,557 DIAL course examination administrations; 732 DIAL course examination administrations in Trenton, New Jersey; 3,554 proctor verification letters mailed; 110 ePack examinations graded; 386 prior learning assessment course registrations; and 319 Curves exams scored, entered and mailed.

Supporting Students and Clients via Constituent Partnerships

Outreach to Corporate Partners

The Corporate Choice program continued to grow, with twenty-five employees from Corporate Choice companies having applied to the College during the quarter. College staff also responded to a Request for Proposal from Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., and the College was selected for listing as an "education partner" on the company's employee benefits Web site (www.walmartbenefits.com). More than 360,000 Wal-Mart associates have currently registered for access to the Web site. Further, implementation activities include the creation of a Web page for Wal-Mart associates (www.tesc.edu/wal-mart).

College staff made a presentation on the relationship between Curves and the College to 6,000 Curves franchise owners in Las Vegas, Nevada, at their national convention. After the presentation, College staff spoke with a significant number of inquirers.

In other outreach activities, College staff conducted a Lunch and Learn session for 25 employees for Sun National Bank in Vineland, New Jersey; made a presentation to 24 employees of the Boys and Girls Club in Union, New Jersey; and attended Grainger's first Health and Wellness fair at its headquarters in Robbinsville, New Jersey. Presentations were made at the first AAA Mid-Atlantic Career Fair in Hamilton Township, New Jersey; the International Association of International Professionals (IAAP); the Volunteers of America organization in Collingswood, New Jersey; the Society of Human Resource Managers (SHRM) convention in Long Branch, New Jersey; Corporate College Services in Edison, New Jersey; the Latino Vision Council Annual Conference in Hightstown, New Jersey; and a Cultural Sensitivity Workshop in West Windsor, New Jersey. The College staff also attended the E-learning Showcase & Symposium in Washington, D.C. (as a GoLearn vendor); the Governor's Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Summit held in Princeton, New Jersey; and an educational event sponsored by the Fire Department of New York in Queens, New York.

Outreach to Community College Partners

College staff met with staff from the transfer offices of various community colleges and attended a number of events, including education fairs at Atlantic Cape County, Bergen County, Burlington County, Camden County, Essex County, Gloucester County, Mercer

County, Middlesex County, Union County, and, in Pennsylvania, Bucks County, Lehigh Carbon County, and the Community College of Philadelphia.

College staff also met with the nursing faculty at Bucks County Community College to discuss methods of completing baccalaureate nursing degrees and enhancing the transfer process for RNs to the College's BSN degree program.

College staff exhibited at the Higher Education Expo, an event targeted at adult students, held at the Teaneck, New Jersey, campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University, and provided information at Stockton College's Graduate and Professional School Fair. And College staff hosted the semi-annual meeting of the New Jersey Transfer Counselors' Association, which focused on how to improve education access for Latinos.

Marketing and Positioning the College

At the beginning of November, the College began working with a new advertising agency, Princeton Partners, Inc., and began development of a new ad campaign, using print, out-of-home (billboards and train car advertising), and radio. The advertising was aimed both at differentiating the College from its competitors and at catching the attention of potential students. All communications continue to articulate the message that Thomas Edison State College offers high-quality, client-centered, flexible educational opportunities to self-directed adults, while meeting expectations of its constituents.

The creative strategy of the train-card and billboard ads invokes "You've Waited Long Enough" as the message to prospective students. Additionally, a new 60-second radio spot was developed, based on the College's Commencement and using voices of "graduates" who offer their reasons for choosing Thomas Edison State College.

The College and Princeton Partners also developed a new fulfillment piece, "Going Back to Get Your Degree," which is sent to inquirers. The piece familiarizes prospects with the concept of going back to college, answers questions regarding the choices available, and provides photos and testimonials. The piece was developed using research results and information from market research on past campaigns and publications. Staff will track the efficiency of the campaign and will report on its results.

Prior to the launch of the advertising campaign, the College commissioned Carnegie Communications to test its creative concepts. A survey was made of recently enrolled Thomas Edison State College students. From this study, the College and the advertising agency were able to fine tune the new campaign based on direct end-user input.

Information Center

The Office of Admissions/Information Center's incoming call volume continues to run about 12 percent ahead of that for last year. The Center handles calls from prospects, applicants, and those seeking general information on the College.

Outgoing calls were also made to new applicants and enrolled students. The new applicant calls are made to welcome these applicants to the College and to guide them through the enrollment process. The calls to enrolled students involve motivating them to continue their enrollment by paying their second-year enrollment tuition.

One College Day was held during the quarter, and it attracted 63 attendants. College staff from the offices of Admissions, Academic Advising, and Financial Aid worked together to provide the prospective students with an information session to motivate these individuals to apply and enroll.

Public and Media Relations

The implementation of the College's new Communications Plan continued during the second quarter of FY2006. The plan includes targeted media outreach and strategic external communications aimed at prospective and current students. A similar communications plan is under development for the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy. Training sessions on the plans for College staff will also be scheduled.

The Office of Communications developed a revised template for mirror Web pages for the Corporate Choice program, as well as a video project to support the College's relationship with the motor sports industry. Development of the video involved participating in an event in Charlotte, N.C., in October and interviewing several individuals identified by Dean Tillery to be featured in the video.

During this quarter, the Office of Communications initiated the following publicity:

- Record-number of Graduates Earn Degrees at 33rd Annual Commencement
- Thomas Edison State College Honor Society of Nursing First Induction Ceremony Held
- Next Governor on Record to Make Higher Education a Priority (Op-Ed)
- Thomas Edison State College Hosts The Grande Ball—2005
- First Statewide Study to Focus on the Impact Child Care Industry Has on New Jersey's Economy (Watson Institute)

- Forum on Culturally Appropriate Practices in Health Care, Social Services, Early Education (Watson Institute)
- Thomas Edison State College Vice President Named President of Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey

The above activity resulted in several media placements for Thomas Edison State College, including coverage of the 33rd Annual Commencement in both of Trenton's daily newspapers (including one front page story); several localized placements on 2005 graduates in several dailies throughout the Delaware Valley; regional placement of an Op-Ed piece by the President that ran in the Philadelphia Inquirer and Trenton Times; advance and coverage of the 2005 Grande Ball; front page coverage of the Prudence Townsend Kelsey Room and the Kelsey Building in the Trenton Times; and coverage of a forum on culturally-appropriate practices, co-sponsored by the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy.

During this quarter, College staff updated the following directories and guides:

- Peterson's/Thomson Learning 2007 *Nursing Program guide* and Web site www.petersons.com.
- *Best Distance Learning Graduate Schools – Business and Management 2006* (Annual Enhanced listing with 200-word enhanced profile), The Virtual University Gazette, www.geteducated.com.
- Peterson's/Thomson Learning 2007 *Distance Learning Program guide* and Web site www.petersons.com.
- Completed updates to Peterson's/Thomson Learning 2006 *Distance Learning Feature Forum* Web site www.petersons.com.
- Fitzgerald's *New Jersey Legislative Manual*, The directory of state government, politics and public affairs.
- Vault College Buzz Book 2006.
- College Board Survey 2006.
- New Jersey Association of State Colleges & Universities Sourcebook 2006.
- NJ.com college and university search tool form.
- School Guide Publications print and online (www.schoolguides.com).

Publications

During this quarter, College staff completed production of the following publications:

- Nursing – MSN “Coming Soon” tri-fold
- 2005 Grande Ball ad journal
- 2006-2007 Program Planning Handbook
- Fall 2005 *Invention*
- General brochure for College

- Military Degree Completion Program – revised booklet
- Navy College program - new tri-fold
- 2006 Curves Brochure and Curves User Manual
- 2006-2007 National Institute Brochure

Other publication projects initiated during this quarter include:

- 2006-2007 Nursing Prospectus
- 2006-2007 Undergraduate Registration Bulletin
- 2006-2007 College Catalog
- 2006-2007 Graduate Prospectus
- Winter 2006 *Invention*
- Winter 2006 *Signals*
- Re-design of employee newsletter
- School of Professional and Continuing Studies – gerontology tri-fold
- School of Professional and Continuing Studies – paralegal brochure
- Graduate Certificate in Clinical Trials – new tri-fold
- Military Degree Completion Program - new tri-fold
- NJ Child Care Economic Impact Council (John Watson Institute for Public Policy)
– impact study cover and executive summary
- Admissions Packet for College Days
- 2006-2007 PLA Brochure
- Various ads for Marketing and ad journals
- Various PDF file updates for the website

E-mail Outreach

The message series targeting enrolled students continued to return excellent results. During the second quarter, View (Open) rates averaged 39.6 percent, an increase of more than five percent over the first quarter. According to our tracking data on electronic communications, View (Open) rates are higher for messages sent to enrolled students, who appear more likely to click on links that contain stories directly related to their experience at the College. Therefore, content for the *Insights* e-newsletter for enrolled students was modified to focus on College-specific stories in the second quarter. The Office of Communications will use this strategy to increase the View (Open) rates of the College's electronic communications for enrolled students.

The Admissions Marketing e-mail outreach campaign also continued to generate favorable response rates. View (Open) rates of 24 percent for prospects, 31 percent for Cost Calculator, and 46 percent for applicants are above industry average (21 percent). This average of 33 percent View (Open) rate for all three categories in the campaign indicates the College's messages continue to be welcome.

During the second quarter, the Office of Communications developed two additional electronic newsletters aimed at prospective students and applicants who have not yet enrolled. The newsletters contain stories directly related to taking the next step to enrolling, and feature interviews and stories with College staff, mentors, alumni, and students.

Web Site

During the quarter, the staff continued to update and enhance the Web site, adding custom pages for four new Corporate Choice partnerships, updating information on Financial Aid, and adding new information on Professional Certificate programs.

Alumni Affairs

Support and Service

During the quarter, College staff identified several new prospects for donor cultivation in targeted regions where there are large concentrations of alumni. One recent graduate informed staff that he has named the College as a contingent beneficiary of a large bequest. As the College moves forward with its plans to revise and upgrade the Web site, alumni profiles will be featured, along with features on select alumni identified during the initial Corporate Choice outreach project.

Alumni Activity

Cultivation of alumni ambassadors has produced good outcomes: 60 positive responses have been received from notable and influential alumni, nationally and internationally. Specific information on ways alumni can continue to promote their alma mater through the ambassador program at their jobs, within family circles, in various communities, and community organizations has been provided to this first group of ambassadors.

The creation of marketing packets for alumni ambassadors was also begun. The packets contain newly devised publicity brochures, a PowerPoint presentation, a frequently-asked-question sheet, and other pertinent College information. One ambassador, who is employed by Aramco in Saudi Arabia, has been particularly active in recruiting prospective students. As a result, additional conversations are scheduled with the supervisor for Continuing Education and Learning in Aramco's career development unit to plan tuition reimbursement and/or partnership initiatives.

Sheila Whistler, BSBA '03, alumna and retired Verizon employee, agreed to donate 50 hours of service to the College throughout 2006. The Verizon Volunteer Incentive Program recognizes employees' contributions of time and talent to nonprofit organizations where they live and work.

Alumni Giving and the Alumni Annual Fund

As of December 31, 2005, the Alumni Annual Fund raised \$85,550 in gifts through direct mail, the Annual Phonathon, and matching gifts from corporate employees. The Annual Phonathon generated \$38,964, with a 52-percent fulfillment rate.

Developing Ourselves to Serve Our Students

The Thomas Edison State College Foundation

The Foundation's unaudited combined fund balance as of December 31, 2005, totaled \$4,862,212, compared to \$4,339,013 for the same quarter last year. The Foundation's operating fund totaled \$641,755. The Endowment fund balance totaled \$3,297,912, with the quasi-endowment totaling \$821,194.

Development Activities

Major and Planned Gifts

A proposal to endow the School of Business at Thomas Edison State College was developed and delivered to an alumnus and his family in December of 2005. Further discussion and negotiations of the terms of the proposal will be ongoing.

Contact has been made with a number of donor prospects, and research is underway to identify still more among our graduates living in South Carolina, Georgia, and Northern Florida. The plan is to cultivate these prospects with the help of a Foundation Board Director who lives in the area. Major prospects for this initiative are being identified using online search tools and making use of the expertise of researchers at the New Jersey State Library.

Corporate and Foundation Giving

Two additional Foundation Board Directors have agreed to fund endowments and have signed endowment agreements. The Board's stretch goal is to raise \$1,000,000 through individual gifts of endowment, corporate matches, and public support.

During the last quarter of 2005, \$144,950 in foundation grants were obtained to support a variety of community based-programs in the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy. The search for a fulltime Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations in the Office of Development continued.

Annual Fund

The Annual Appeal for 2005 was a strong success. Although the unrestricted annual gifts total of \$108,252 was slightly less than last year's \$111,529, restricted annual gifts were up significantly, including endowment giving, which more than doubled from the

previous year to \$68,242. This important statistic reflects the emphasis the College has put on increasing the size of our Foundation endowment. We expect an increase in unrestricted giving in the coming year through improvements to the annual appeal delivery letter, Phonathon follow-up, and a timely personalized reminder letter to those who pledged a donation.

Special Events

In 2005 our two special-event fund raisers had an increase in net revenues when compared to 2004. The annual golf outing brought in \$39,509 and yielded \$19,829 after expenses. The increase in net yield was due largely to a successful effort to reduce costs. The 2005 Grande Ball was our most successful gala to date, bringing in \$119,001 and netting \$55,224 after expenses. There were 263 attendees and an unprecedented 163 silent auction items. The honorees were Helene Garcia, Vice President of New Jersey Community Leadership at Merrill Lynch, who received the Spirit of Edison Community Leader Award; and Frieda Applegate '85, who received the Spirit of Edison Distinguished Alumna Award. Marjorie Carnevale was the chair of the Gala committee for the second year in a row and deserves high praise for our success in both years. Foundation Board member Maurice Perilli was also a leader and an inspiration as the honorary Gala chair.

The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy

The Center for the Positive Development of Urban Children

The study, *"Benefits to All: The Economic Impact of the New Jersey Child Care Industry"* neared completion. A review team provided critical feedback, and the final edits began.

On December 12, 2005, the Institute, Children's Futures, the Child Care Connection, Horizon NJ Health, and the state Department of Health and Senior Services, (DHSS) Office of Minority and Multicultural Health co-sponsored a special forum entitled *"Building Culturally Appropriate Communities of Practice: Moving from Vision to Action."* There were 140 participants, and the keynote address was presented by the President and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. In other developments, Institute staff provided written testimony to Governor-elect Corzine's Human Service Policy Group and the Public Education Policy Group on recommendations for his focus during the first six months of his administration.

Health Information Network and Technologies (HINT)

The College continued to facilitate HINT/HIPAA implementation efforts. Work continued through contracts with DHSS, including the electronic hospital emergency department outpatient reporting system with all 89 acute care hospitals in NJ transmitting inpatient and outpatient data. The project to use emergency room data for identification of potential bioterrorism cases also continued to send data to the state epidemiologist's office on a daily basis.

Assistance to the DHSS continued to be provided through a contract with APG for the implementation phase of the gap analysis, risk assessment, awareness, and education for compliance activities related to the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). On August 25, 2005, the College received \$65,000 from the DHSS for continuing this APG contract, and the remaining \$195,000 in funds was received on December 21, 2005. As a result, Change Order # 3 was sent to APG., Inc., which will extend the current consulting services contract through June 30, 2006.

Institute staff assisted in the planning and sponsorship of an electronic health record educational program. College staff worked with the NJ Department of Banking and Insurance, state DHSS, Medical Society of NJ, NJ Hospital Association, Horizon Blue Cross/Blue Shield of NJ, and the NJ Business and Industry Association to plan and host a meeting related to this program, during which the College presented background on recent federal developments on interoperability, claims attachment, and national provider identifier. The meeting focused on national efforts to create interoperability of electronic health records and review regional efforts to establish regional health information organizations.

In other activities during the quarter, at the request of the Department of Banking and Insurance (DOBI), background information on electronic health records was provided to assist Governor-elect Corzine's transition committee on health issues; a presentation about electronic health records was made to a group of healthcare providers, and a meeting was held involving a representative from the DOBI, Institute staff, and representatives from Healthcare Qualities Strategies, Inc., to review efforts to help over 100 small physician's offices in New Jersey establish electronic medical records.

On December 12, 2005, Senate sponsors of NJ Senate bill S-2824, *"Health Claims Authorization, Processing and Payment Act,"* added the College's name to this bill, which passed by unanimous vote. Under this legislation, the College will expand its efforts on administrative simplification to include electronic health records in its continuing efforts to facilitate implementation of efficient healthcare delivery through health information technology.

The Center for the Urban Environment

Institute staff continued to facilitate work on reduction of concentrations of fine airborne particulate matter in New Jersey and provided administrative support for the New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance (NJEJA). Institute staff assumed primary responsibility for writing a document making recommendations for reducing fine particulate matter concentrations, and the document was submitted to the state Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) for its implementation plan. Staff also worked with the NJDEP and several environmental organizations to educate the public on a ballot ques-

tion regarding funding for legislation to reduce emissions of diesel exhaust particulate matter. The ballot questioned was passed by state voters.

The Institute staff helped the NJEJA organize a "*People's Assembly*" that was held in Trenton, and they finished a preliminary scientific report for the New Jersey Urban Air Quality Education and Awareness Initiative. The report, scheduled for dissemination during the third quarter, will be a critical part of an effort by the CUE and the NJEJA to establish a community air-monitoring system in New Jersey.

The Center for Leadership Development

Leadership Trenton

The 2006 Class of Leadership Trenton Fellows participated in a societal simulation called *Project TACT* during their October seminar. This seminar also incorporated Part I of the *Race, Diversity and Societal Divides* session. Part II was held during the November seminar. The December seminar, "*Technology and Social Change*," focused on nanotechnology, biotechnology, and information technology. The Fellows also attended enrichment seminars that focused on class project discussions and team building exercises.

Grant proposals were submitted to three foundations requesting support for the 2005-06 seminar year. The grant awards to Leadership Trenton were as follows: Princeton Area Community Foundation awarded \$45,000; Fund for New Jersey awarded \$22,500; and Janssen LP/Ortho-McNeil awarded \$10,000.

The Leadership Development through Sports Program

Institute staff began offering tutorial assistance to the student athletes participating in the *Play It Smart* program. Math and English tutors are currently committed to the program, and the Institute staff is actively recruiting science tutors. The tutorial sessions average between 10 and 15 participants.

Institute staff also formed a partnership with St. Paul AME Zion Church in Trenton to offer a SAT Prep program. St. Paul is the local provider of the "*Let's Get Ready*," a national program that provides SAT and College Prep sessions for inner-city students. There are 11 *Play It Smart* athletes participating in this program.

The Center for Evidence Based Education

The exchange visit of principals from Southwark, London (UK), was followed by a week-long study visit by central services administrators from Southwark. In another international activity, representatives from all three Trenton schools, the district central office, and the Institute attended the *Carpe Vitam Leadership for Learning* conference in Athens in October 2005.

CEBE began its Student Leadership Initiative work with Trenton Central High School – West, Trenton Central High School – Main Campus, and Cadwalader Elementary School. Three Trenton schools are becoming involved in international student-based projects arising out of the Student Leadership Initiative. One of these schools sent a student and a teacher to participate in meetings held in the UK (Edinburgh and the Shetland Islands) in early November.

The Technical Assistance and Support Services Center

Institute staff provided capacity-building services to five organizations located in cities that are members of the Urban Mayors Association. These services included board and staff training, assistance in grant submission to state and local funding sources, direct consultation, and coaching.

Institute staff also submitted a grant proposal to the Department of State, Office of Faith Based Initiatives for \$90,000 in continued funding and developed still other funding opportunities. Finally, Institute staff initiated meetings with organizations in Plainfield and Camden to begin discussions and construction of strategic alliances among service providers.

Policy

Institute staff attended meetings with policy leaders, community members, and policy professionals to inform them of the Institute's work, establish partnerships, obtain resources, and advance the mission of the Institute. Work was also begun on developing a public policy journal for the Institute.

The Institute staff held three advisory board meetings for the fellowship and internship program. A curriculum was developed and discussions on fundraising, identifying speakers, and learning activities have begun. The Institute staff continues outreach to persons in the fields of technology and in state government to advance the *"Using Technology to Advance Public Policy"* proposal.

Assuring Quality through Planning and Research

Division of Planning and Research

Major initiatives pursued by the Division of Planning and Research have been focused on four key areas: the implementation of the College's Strategic Vision Plan, the generation of and reporting out on student data, implementation of the new enrollment-counts methodology, and the development of learning outcomes and key assessment indicators.

The division led efforts to identify Goal and Strategy Leaders for the 11 goals and 83 strategies that comprise the Strategic Vision Plan. The President's Council appointed 32 staff members from across the College to take lead responsibility for the elements of the Plan. The "kick-off" meeting of this group will take place in early March. Key outcomes of the Plan will be discussed in the President's quarterly reports, and the Annual Report will detail progress on Plan initiatives over the course of each fiscal year, as well as describe any necessary recalibration at the strategy level.

The Office of Institutional Research and Outcomes Assessment produced and submitted annual student data reports to meet the requirements of the federal government's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The division completed several IPEDS surveys, including those related to Enrollment, Finance, and Human Resources. The division also completed the Institutional Accountability Profile report for the NJ Commission of Higher Education and responded to 12 College Guide Surveys and 12 internal requests for data. Student data elements specified by the Office of Management and Budget were also supplied to support our FY2007 state budget request.

During the quarter, the Division of Planning and Research was involved with the efforts of teams dealing with issues related to the implementation of the new enrollment-counts policy, military contracts and enrollment policies, and learning outcomes assessment. The division continued its efforts in retooling existing measures, aggressively mining data to inform decisions and directions, and developing quality indicators consistent with the visionary direction of the College.

Enrollment Counts

This President's Report includes a new analysis and table that tracks activity on applicants, new enrollments, continuing enrollments, and degrees awarded on a quarterly basis, School-by-School. This data is used to analyze the College's position in relation to growth across disciplines, to make comparisons to the same period in the prior fiscal year, and to set programmatic goals to meet enrollment targets.

Methodology

The table at the end of this section provides information on summary counts of applicants, new and continuing enrollments, and degrees awarded for the College overall, as well as for each School. It includes information on first- and second-quarter counts, the year-to-date counts as of the end of the second quarter, and the difference between FY2006 and FY2005 counts as of the end of the second quarter. This summary report does not yet reflect the new enrollment-counts methodology reviewed at the December 2, 2005, Board of Trustees meeting. (The new approach to enrollments defines an active student as being engaged in at least one Thomas Edison State College 3-credit option in the course of the fiscal year.) Subsequent reports will use the new approach for this table, which will then also show the comparison to the numbers generated using the old

methodology. FY2006 year-end data will be calculated and described using the new formula.

Analysis and Interpretation

Overall, with the exception of the number of degrees awarded, the second-quarter counts were lower than those for the first quarter. This is a typical finding for the second-quarter counts, given the various holidays during that time period. Compared to last year, the overall year-to-date counts of applicants and degrees awarded declined at the end of the second quarter. However, the new- and continuing-enrollment counts were higher than the counts from last year during the same period.

At the end of the second quarter, the overall applicant count was 2,985, a decrease of 89 applicants when compared to the end of the second quarter in FY2005. In contrast to last year, the School of Nursing and the Graduate School applicant counts were up, by 24 and eight applicants, respectively. All other schools experienced decreases in their applicant counts when compared to last year's counts at the end of the second quarter.

Overall, the new enrollment count at the end of the second quarter was 1,884, an increase of 353 new enrollments over last year's count for the same period. With one exception, the Heavin School, second-quarter new-enrollment counts for all schools were above last year's counts for the same period. Compared to the same period last year, the Heavin School of Social and Behavioral Sciences had 31 fewer new enrollments.

There were 1,709 students in the overall continuing-enrollment count at the end of the second quarter, an increase of 222 when compared to last year. Most schools experienced an increase in their continuing enrollments when compared to last year; the Heavin School of Social and Behavioral Sciences experienced a slight decrease of 5 students compared to last year's count.

As of the end of the second quarter, there were 894 degrees awarded, 159 fewer than for the same period last year. In general, most of the schools experienced a decrease in the number of degrees awarded. There were two exceptions, the Nursing School and the Graduate School: both of these schools experienced a slight increase in the number of degrees awarded at the end of the second quarter when compared to last year, up by six and five students, respectively.

RESIGNATIONS

The following staff have resigned from the College:

Edward George	Administrative Services
Margaret Bodnar	Instructional Design
Patricia Jackson	Learner Services
Linda Strating	Alumni Affairs
Donald Hart	Graduate School
Theodore Carrington	Watson Institute
Echo Fling	Communications
Vincent Zicolello	MIS

The following staff have resigned from the New Jersey State Library and the Library for the Blind and Handicapped:

Tina Lockhart	NJ State Library
Harold Dunn	NJ State Library
Matthew O'Neill	NJ State Library
Donna Wooton-Fasoli	LBH
James Urban	LBH