

Thomas Edison State College



Twenty-Third Commencement

October 22, 1995

Crescent Shriner's Auditorium
Trenton, New Jersey

*The
Twenty-Third Commencement
of
Thomas Edison State College*

October 22, 1995
2 p.m.

Crescent Shriner's Auditorium
Trenton, New Jersey

Dr. Jerry Ice
Vice President and Provost
Presiding

Order of Ceremony



Processional	<i>"Pomp and Circumstance"</i> by Sir Edward Elgar
<i>"America the Beautiful"</i>	by Samuel A. Ward and Katherine Lee Bates
Welcome and Introduction	George L. Fricke Chairman Board of Trustees
Greetings	The Honorable Douglas Palmer Mayor, City of Trenton
Distinguished Service Award	Recipient Dr. Ruth McKeefery
Conferring of Honorary Degrees	Dr. George A. Pruitt President
Doctor of Humane Letters <i>honoris causa</i>	Dr. Shirley S. Chater
Commencement Address	Dr. Shirley S. Chater Commissioner Social Security Administration
Musical Presentation	<i>"Battle Hymn of the Republic"</i> by Peter Wilhousky
Conferring of Degrees	Dr. George A. Pruitt President
Presidential Charge	Dr. George A. Pruitt President
Response for Graduates	Adrienne Mosley

Induction into the Alumni
Association

Adele Ellis
President
Alumni Association

Closing Remarks

Dr. Jerry Ice
Vice President and Provost

Singing of the Alma Mater

The Pennsbury High School
Chamber Choir

Recessional

"Washington Post" and *"Semper Fidelis"*
by John Phillips Sousa



*Everyone is asked to stand during the Processional, the singing of
"Battle Hymn of the Republic," the singing of the Alma Mater,
and the Recessional.*

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**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, cont'd.**

Nancy L. Trowsdale
Renda N. Ultsch
Alexis O. Urena
Nancy L. Vegager
Peggy A. Wagner
Donald Walthour
Douglas G. Watson
Patsy D. Watts

Harry J. Welsh
Edwin A. White
Jeanne D. Whitmer
Joyce Wilkerson
Harold C. Williams
Ronald W. Yeasky
W. Lee Ziomek

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Joanne E. Aiken
Georgia R. Blair
Scott A. DeSimone
Janice M. Fitzgerald
Marilyn P. Garcia
Lorraine M. Hanson
Christine T. Hemphill
Mary E. Hess

Jodi A. Kaufman
Constance Kijek
Mary Beth Koehler
Catherine M. Lewis
Carol Quinn
Catherine K. Tanksley
Carole M. Trent
Lilia V. Valera

*This Commencement Program does not
constitute an official certification of graduation.*



Arnold Fletcher Award

The Arnold Fletcher Award recognizes Thomas Edison State College baccalaureate graduates for exceptional achievement in independent learning. Students selected have demonstrated excellence and have earned a large number of credits using one or more of the innovative learning modes recognized by the College: Assessment of Prior Learning through Portfolio, Testing, Guided Study, Correspondence Courses and Nursing Performance Examinations.

The award is named in honor of Dr. Arnold Fletcher, vice president for Academic Affairs from 1973-1983.

The Selection Committee, composed of the associate dean of Liberal Arts Programs, associate dean of Business Programs, associate dean of Applied Science and Technology Programs, associate dean of Human Services Programs, director of the Nursing Program and the academic dean, has chosen the following to receive the Arnold Fletcher Award at the Oct. 22, 1995 Commencement:

Bachelor of Arts degree

Peter Alfinito
Dominique Bee
Gary F. Bonnano
James E. Booth
Cynthia S. Brown
Regina D. Daniel
Cheryl Felsenthal
Adina Y. Finkelstein
Esther Gersten
Pamela A. Johanson
Francis Mezzatesta
Patrick J. O'Connor
Michal Rosen
Carin Rothchild
Lea Rowe
Marianna Siblani
Muriel G. Willich-Kennedy

Bachelor of Science in Business

Administration degree

Linda Beedie-Grashorn
Robert P. Berry
Georgina Boesch
Stewart J. Fleming
Peggy Flower
Sally Jones
Kenneth Lee
Ralph Ruffolo
Ronald Torretti
Nancy L. Vegager

**Bachelor of Science in Applied
Science and Technology degree**

Parke Adamson
Gordon Andrews
Craig Ash
Joseph Baumgardner
William Byrne
Gerald Crump
Millard Hanbury
William Hickey
Michael Kosallo
Francis Mastrangelo
Jose Mejia
John A. Miller
Barbara Moore
Stanley Nolan
Gloria Strickland
Joseph Witkins
Dudley Young

**Bachelor of Science in Human
Services degree**

Daniel DeMora
Leo Eggert
Adrienne Mosley

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing
degree**

Mary Ellen Hess
MaryBeth Kohler

Graduates wearing the gold *double honor cords* are the Arnold Fletcher Award recipients.

Acknowledgments

The staff of the College wishes to thank the Trenton Brass Quintet for providing music for the ceremony:

John Peraïno, trumpet
Charles Megules, trumpet
Nancy Gallagher, French horn
Peter Reichlin, trombone
Karl I. Megules, tuba, and artistic director of the group

The staff also wishes to thank the Pennsbury High School Chamber Choir

John McDonnell, conductor

Academic Heraldry: The Symbols of Learning

While the current code concerning the types of academic costumes to be used by the 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 color-coded and patterned according to the academic level and discipline. 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."

There are three principle features of academic dress: 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 dress 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 baccalaureate and above degrees, with pointed sleeves for the bachelor's degree; oblong sleeves for the master's degree; and bell-shaped 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. More recently, the official colors of the college have been used 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 the skull cap and 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 hood is not worn by the associate graduate. The associate's cap and gown are grey.

THE MACE. The mace — a heavy staff or club fashioned entirely of metal with a metal head — was originally a weapon of war. In the sixteenth century, it became a ceremonial standard and a scepter of office. It resembled the original weapon and was carried before officials at ceremonial occasions. It is still in use in the House of Commons, where it lies upon the table before the speaker as a symbol of the authority of the House.

The mace of Thomas Edison State College was designed by the College and was inaugurated as the scepter of office at the October 1990 Commencement ceremony. It is a solid maple scepter with a two-sided medallion mounted to the head by a brass collar. There are three brass bands on the shaft, upon which the names of the College's three presidents and their terms — James Douglas Brown, Jr., 1972-1978; Lorraine Rose Matusak, 1979-1982; and George A. Pruitt, 1982-present — are inscribed. The mace shaft and base are finished in mahogany.

Carried in the procession by Dr. Patricia Sparks, the academic dean, the mace symbolizes the authority of the Office of the President.

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	Christian Yegen



Honorary Degree Recipient and Commencement Speaker
THE HONORABLE SHIRLEY CHATER

Shirley Sears Chater is the Commissioner of Social Security for the United States of America. She brings a lifetime of leadership and public service experience to a position that has been frequently described as one of the most complex and challenging in the federal government. She heads an agency that delivers benefits each month to more than 48 million people. Chater is responsible for 65,000 employees who serve the needs of 24 million visitors each year to the Social Security Administration's (SSA) 1,300 field offices. These employees also answer 64 million phone calls annually on the agency's toll-free telephone lines.

In addition to ensuring that SSA does its work accurately and efficiently, Chater has established three goals to guide the agency into the future. She has pledged to rebuild public confidence in Social Security, to provide world-class service to the public and to provide a nurturing environment for SSA employees to better enable and inspire them to provide extraordinary service.

Chater came to SSA from Texas Woman's University, where she served as president for seven years. She has served as the chair for the Texas Health Policy Task Force; as an associate with the American Council on Education, Division of Academic Affairs and Institutional Relations; and as senior associate of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges. She was vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of California-San Francisco, and held faculty appointments there in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, School of Nursing, as well as in the School of Education at the University of California-Berkeley.

Chater, a native of Pennsylvania, received her B.S. degree in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania. She holds an M.S. degree in nursing from the University of California-San Francisco. She earned a Ph.D. in education from the University of California-Berkeley. She also holds a certificate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sloan School of Management.

Among her honors, Commissioner Chater has been elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. She is a member of the National Academy of Public Administration and the National Academy of Social Insurance.

America, the Beautiful

Music by Samuel A. Ward
Words by Katherine Lee Bates

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountains' 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.



Thomas Edison State College Alma Mater

Words and Music by Roy Meriwether

Here's to our Col - lege, our Al - ma Ma - ter. You met the
chal - lenge of our needs. Age didn't mat - ter, on - ly our
know - ledge. We did in - deed dare to suc - ceed in col - lege. You served our
life - long dream. You an - swered ev 'ry need. Now on this day we pay you
Tri - bute, Hon - or. Here's to our
Col - lege, our Al - ma Ma - ter. All hail to thee, Ed - i - son State, All
hail to thee. Thom - as Ed - I - son State
Col - lege. All hail to thee. To
thee.

Here's to our College
Our alma mater
You met the challenge of our needs.

Age didn't matter
Only our knowledge
We did indeed
Dare to succeed
In college.

You served our lifelong dream
You answered every need
Now on this day we pay you
Tribute-Honor.

Here's to our College
Our alma mater
All hail to thee
Edison State
All hail to thee.

Thomas Edison
State College
All hail to thee.

