

INVENTION

NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

Summer 1993

Neary's commitment to the community benefits Thomas Edison State College Foundation



Lori Mager

by Nina Malone

At CoreStates New Jersey National Bank (CSNJNB), there is a philosophy: inherent in the corporate history and mission is the responsibility to promote the growth and development of the communities it serves through support of, and involvement with, community groups. "It's a proactive community development effort," said John P. Neary, executive vice president in the Consumer Banking Division of CSNJNB. "We work in an environment that encourages all employees to go out and find a cause, and then to challenge the bank to utilize its resources to support the cause."

Fortunately for Thomas Edison State College, Neary met College President Dr. George A. Pruitt through the education committee of the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce, which Dr. Pruitt chairs. "I'd already heard of Thomas Edison through its excellent reputation and positive publicity. Dr. Pruitt convinced me to come on board and work with TOPS."

Neary's association with the College began as a member of the TOPS (Trenton Office of Policy Studies) advisory board. Recently, he was appointed to serve on the Thomas Edison State College Foundation Board of Directors. "There are good people and good things going on at the College," Neary noted. "It made me want to become involved."

John P. Thurber, executive director of TOPS, called Neary "an active voice" on the TOPS advisory board. "He has been extremely insightful in the areas of education and economic development. Jack has been heavily involved in examining policy options for our schools, as well as how to promote economic opportunity for the city of Trenton. He brings the strength of his management expertise to many, complex policy issues."

Learning about Thomas Edison State College

"When you first hear about the College, you want to find out more," Neary added. "At first, you don't

remember seeing a campus in downtown Trenton. When you learn about the College, its renowned reputation says it all—and that's before you even meet the people."

Neary continued: "You can't help but be impressed with someone of George Pruitt's stature. His dedication and commitment to bringing educational support to the adult community is unmatched. He provides leadership in the city of Trenton, as well, and is a very important person in the Trenton community."

The credentials that Neary brings to the Foundation board and the TOPS advisory board are just as impressive. "We're pleased to have someone come on board who not only has a wealth of professional experience, but staunch dedication to community service," said Dr. Natale S. Caliendo, vice president for Public Affairs at the College. "Jack Neary will be a tremendous asset to the Foundation and the College."

Neary joined NJNB in 1986, bringing more than 22 years of banking expertise to his position. He was previously affiliated with Manufacturers Hanover Financial Services, Inc., serving as executive vice president and director of the Financial Services Division, which included a nationwide network of financial centers, consumer finance offices and industrial banks in Colorado. He also served on the board of directors of Manufacturers Hanover

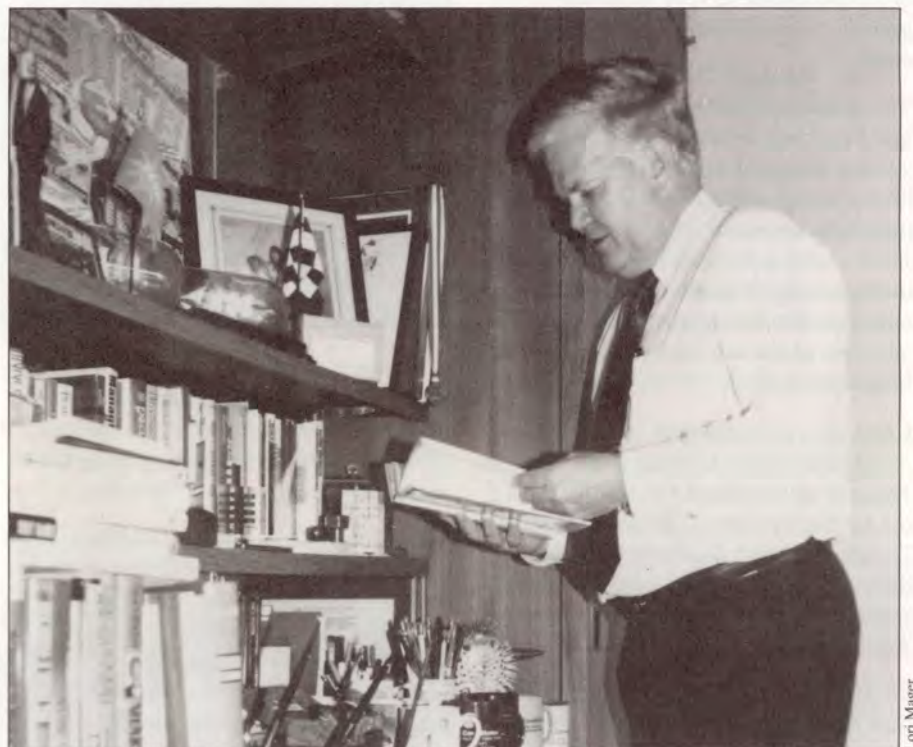
Industrial Bancorporation. Prior to his association with Manufacturers Hanover, Neary was employed by First Pennsylvania Corporation and held positions with First Pennsylvania Financial Services and First Pennsylvania Bank.

Corporate partners

Both Neary and CoreStates New Jersey National Bank make concerted efforts to support a variety of organizations in the Trenton area. Along with his Tho-

mas Edison appointments, Neary is currently vice chairman of the Trenton Urban League and a member of the board of the Capital City Academic Basketball Camp. He serves on the education committee of the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce, as well as the advisory board for the Center for Strategic Urban Leadership at Rutgers-Camden.

Helping his employees realize their dreams for a college degree is also on
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Lori Mager

Looking through the camera's eye: Lily Solmssen '92

by Linda Holt

We live in a world of visual images. Our consciousness has been shaped by images of rain-lashed "boat people" carrying nothing with them but the will to live . . . displaced refugees from Eastern Europe trying to make them-

selves understood in an unfamiliar western environment . . . earthquake victims in Italy trying to put back together the shattered fragments of their lives.

If one picture is worth a thousand words, then a gifted photographer

called to capture these poignant moments on film is a valued communicator, giving us portraits of people which are at once historical records and incentives to compassion and empathy.

Such a photographer is Lily Solmssen, B.A. Photography, Thomas Edison State College Class of '92.

"I was always in love with photography," Solmssen reflected recently in conversation with *Invention*. Now employed as a photo librarian at the United Nations, Solmssen has enjoyed a photography career spanning three decades which has taken her to Africa, South America, Europe, Southeast Asia and other parts of the world for various humanitarian and artistic organizations.

"Because my aunt (also named Lily Solmssen) was a talented photographer with her own darkroom, I grew up surrounded by beautiful photos of family and friends," she reflected. "I remember my grandmother's desks were a virtual arcade of photographs . . . I used to go into my friends' home and wonder, where do they keep all their pictures?"



United Nations/M. Tzavaras
At the United Nations, New York, Lily Solmssen works on the videodisc project, which is the computerization of the Photo Library.

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Thomas Edison State College receives two grants for policy center

Thomas Edison State College has received grants of \$30,000 from The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and \$5,000 from The Bunbury Company, Inc., of Princeton, N.J., to support the Trenton Office of Policy Studies (TOPS).

"TOPS continues to serve as a catalyst for new policies and programs in the capital city," wrote Scott McVay, the Dodge Foundation's executive director, in awarding the grant. "TOPS is continuing to make substantive ongoing contributions. The lead project . . . Trenton's Weed and Seed community-based, anti-drug program . . . has been quite successful in four neighborhoods. . . . It offers an example to others."

The Bunbury Company, Inc., is a grant-making private foundation whose general purposes are to support charitable and educational tax-exempt organizations, especially those in New Jersey, whose focus is handicapped or underprivileged youth, ecological and environmental concerns, the encouragement of the arts, or education in its broadest sense.

Created as a partnership between Thomas Edison State College—New Jersey's state college for adults—and the administration of Trenton's Mayor Douglas Palmer, TOPS has provided the capital city with independent policy review and recommendations since April 1991.

"TOPS has made a powerful contribution to the policy development dimension of city government," said Trenton Mayor Douglas Palmer. "Through

Think ahead: planned giving to the Thomas Edison State College Foundation

The history of the United States shows quite clearly that Americans are, and always have been, charitably inclined. All segments of our society have willingly been involved in a great number of charitable causes and have eagerly supported these causes with money and voluntary efforts.

Approximately 75 percent of adult Americans do not have wills. But they do spend a great deal of time planning for the future, including such expenses as a home, car, children, their education and their retirement. However, they often neglect to plan for their loved ones upon death. Probably no other legal document is as important as a will. A will enables an individual to:

- determine to whom, how and when assets will be distributed;
- name an executor to manage the estate in accordance with personal intentions;
- create trusts for a spouse, children and others;
- provide an income for beneficiaries;

- reduce and sometimes eliminate estate taxes;
- make a gift to charities and non-profit organizations;
- suggest a guardian for children.

According to S. John Quattrone, chairman of the Planned Giving Committee of the Foundation Board of Directors, "Remembering the College in a will is an excellent way to provide for the education of future generations while taking advantage of the current tax savings. A gift by will is one of the easiest, most effective means to insure that your family and friends are fully provided for by your estate."

A will can provide for the College a predetermined, fixed gift (cash, securities, property and so forth) or set aside the remainder of an estate after the needs of the family and friends have been addressed. Anything owned at the time of death may be passed on to the Thomas Edison Foundation through a will. Those who have already executed a will can amend it easily through a simple legal device known as a codicil. Simply put, a codicil is a clearly worded paragraph to be added to a will which amends its provisions. A codicil must be executed, signed and

witnessed in accordance with state law and is a practical way for legal professionals to designate the Thomas Edison State College Foundation as a beneficiary. Examples of simple codicils will be provided by the College's Office of Development upon request.

Bequests to the Thomas Edison State College Foundation are *not* subject to federal estate tax or inheritance taxes. Furthermore, the value of the bequest is deducted from the taxable estate and lowers estate taxes, and there is no limit on the amount of deduction for federal estate tax purposes. Regardless of the type of bequest selected, a will is essential to carrying out the wishes of the testator.

Planned giving is a convenient method to support Thomas Edison's unique adult-centered educational programs for generations to come. For more information, please contact Norma Manigan, director of Development, Thomas Edison State College, 101 W. State Street, Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176, or telephone (609) 984-1588. It's never too early to plan for the future!

TOPS, we are able to make government even more responsive to the needs of citizens and can continue to make the 'Trenton Renaissance' a reality."

According to Dr. George Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, TOPS has become a model of a municipal-collegiate partnership. "TOPS allows the best insights of the academic community to be focused on the vital public policy innovations of the city of Trenton," he added.

First regional breakfast meeting held in Trenton

The first group of alumni and students to meet for a Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association regional breakfast meeting gathered recently at the historic Kelsey Building that the College occupies in Trenton. The Alumni Association will be sponsoring these regional breakfast meetings throughout New Jersey.

Thirty-five alumni and students registered to hear College President Dr. George A. Pruitt give an informative overview of current happenings, and to listen to Dean of the College Dr. Ruth

McKeefery introduce the proposed Master of Science in Management degree. Guests were also given a guided tour of the Prudence Townsend Kelsey Memorial Room, which houses trinkets and artifacts collected by the building's original owners, the Kelseys.

Future meetings are being planned for New Jersey. All meetings will feature a speaker. For more information, or to express your interest and support, call the Office of Alumni Affairs at (201) 877-1450.

Thomas Edison alumni . . . your pride is showing!

Complete your circle of success by proudly wearing a Thomas Edison State College ring. A symbol of your achievement, your college ring will serve as a constant reminder of the successful completion of your college degree.

For more information or to receive an order form, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs, 156 Halsey St., 5th Floor, Newark, N.J. 07102-2898, (201) 877-1450.



Norma Manigan, director of Development, and Ida B. Hammond '78, president of the Alumni Association, chat during the Association's first regional breakfast meeting.



Charlotte Cooney, BSBA '91, of Titusville, N.J., director, Alumni Association Board, and Charles Quaste of Richboro, Pa., a student in the BSHS program, get acquainted at the Alumni Association's first regional breakfast meeting.

Photos by Nina Malone

A·L·U·M·N·I Highlights

Another wildly successful Alumni Annual Fund Phonathon

Alumni, students and friends of the College gathered in Trenton to bring in—and ring in—important fund-raising dollars. When all was said and done, more than \$64,000 was pledged and/or contributed to support the College.

"The wonderful part about the Phonathon is that alumni and students come from all parts of New Jersey and Pennsylvania to volunteer their time in support of this major fund-raising event," said Annette Singer, director of Alumni Affairs. To thank these dedicated volunteers, prizes donated by local corporations are awarded. This year's recipients included: John Kerlin '92, highest number of pledges, dollars raised and first-time donors; Mary Hinman, wife of alumnus and current baccalaureate student Richard Hinman '91, highest pledged dollars for one session, which she attributed to her skills as a dental hygienist; student Lance Douglas and staff member Mary Wyszynski for number of pledges and dollars pledged.

"The Alumni Annual Fund Committee is instrumental in making the Phonathon a success," said Singer. "It brings alumni, students and staff together to plan and implement this program. It shows how all three groups are an integral part of making this event successful. Paul Hays '89, vice president for Development for the Alumni Association, does a wonderful job of leading by example. His enthusiasm makes him an excellent role model for the committee and the volunteers."

Other members of the Alumni Annual Fund Phonathon Committee include: Co-Chairpersons Paul Hays '89; John



Volunteers made phone calls coast-to-coast over a six-day period during the Alumni Annual Fund Phonathon, including (from left) John Kerlin '92, Joyce Zeisler '85, Willie Mae Nicholson '92 and David Drukaroff '79.

Kerlin '92; Diana LoPinto '82; Gail Anne Palatine '91; Linda Soltis, staff; members: Charlotte Cooney '91; Jane Coult '86; Lance Douglas, B.A. student; Adele Ellis '88; Stephanie Feist '90; Nancy Goehrig '86; Ida B. Hammond '78; Joseph S. Kulak '92; Barbara Lynch, BSHS student; Nina Malone, staff; Katherine A. Novak, B.A. student; Suphrana Sargeant '90, staff; Joyce Wiley, friend; Mary Wyszynski, A.A. student, staff; Joyce Zeisler '85.

Thanks to these trusty volunteers

Alumni: Mir M. Ali, William A. Beachell, Linda Bork, Florence Broad-

way, Anthony M. Chibbaro, James Conway, Charlotte Cooney, John Costigan, Jane Coult, Beverly A. Cregar, Walter S. Curtis, Johanna Deighan, Marilyn DeCoster, David Drukaroff, Adele Ellis, Stephanie Feist, Jean A. Gibney, Nancy Goehrig, Hubert Greaves, Ida B. Hammond, Paul Hays, Richard Hinman, Carl G. Hoffman, Sr., Jean Hunt, Ondina Jeffers, James W. Keefe, Walter Keller, Jr., John Kerlin, Darlene Kline, Mildred Koslow, Sharon E. Kowalik, Nancy M. Kraynick, Janet R. Kronengold, Jeffrey S. Kuenn, Joe Kulak, Richard D. Lang, Diana LoPinto, Ronald McFarlane, Peter D. McKenzie, Claire Murphy, Willie M. Nicholson, Jean C. Olenick, Antoinette

Osvai, Gail Anne Palatine, Nancy Remer, Jesus A. Rodriguez, Dorothy Ruvel, Joann Schulz-Joseph, Michael Septer, Robert Spivey, Laura Termini, Michael D. Weiss, Marcia Wood, Stephanie J. Wood, Catherine S. Woodruff, Christopher Wynings, Joyce Zeisler.

Students: Catherine Ashby, Susan E. Boyd-Shelly, Marie P. Dey, Ellen L. Dockery, Lance Douglas, Barbara Lynch, Katherine Novak, William Schnorbus.

Friends: Steven Bessler, Mary Hinman, William Hunt, Wilfred Jeffers, Jerry Kronengold, Michael Schulz, Paul Shelly, Joyce Wiley.

Staff: Theresa Bowman, Mary Buzby, Belinda Dalton, Mary Haggerty, Linda Holt, Nina Malone, Ruth McKeefery, Suphrana Sargeant (also an alumna), Linda Soltis, Debbie Ware, Jayne Ulmer, Leslie Williams, Betty Wright, Mary Wyszynski (also a student).

Do you have prizes to donate?

Any individual or business interested in donating items to be given as prizes to Alumni Annual Fund Phonathon volunteers can contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at (201) 877-1450. Donors will be mentioned in *Invention*.

One of Our Best . . .

CHRISTOPHER WYNINGS

In six short months, Chris Wynings '82 went from being appointed an associate director on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, to a director's position, to board treasurer. Wynings is a fine example of how a little initiative and interest can go a long way.

Like many active Thomas Edison alumni, Wynings, who holds a BSBA, was called about participating in the Alumni Annual Fund Phonathon. "With very few exceptions, I've been phoning most every year," he noted.

This past year, Wynings received a letter asking him if he would be interested in an associate's or director's position on the Board of Directors. "I had been involved in some other activities that were winding down, so I found that I had some time available to devote to the College," Wynings recalled. "I like what Thomas Edison does—there's a really need.

"I'd like to help some individual become aware of the College's services and promote the College, as well," Wynings said. "I thought getting involved would be a worthwhile thing to do."

In January '93, Wynings became an associate director. A few months later he became a director. Recently, he took over the treasurer's duties, a natural progression from his interest in budgeting and long-range planning. "Chris has been a real asset to the Alumni Association," said Annette Singer, director of Alumni Affairs. "He's a great example of how alumni can jump right in, get involved and make a difference."

Wynings is project manager for the Workstation Support Group at Educational Testing Service (ETS), Princeton, N.J. He started at ETS as an electrical technician 27 years ago, progressing through a variety of engineering positions while



earning his associate's in data processing from Mercer County Community College. "Over the years, I saw that I was getting as far as I could go in electronics at ETS. When I got my associate's, it gave me the chance to change job families into the systems end," Wynings said.

His educational journey played a key role in his career advancement. About the time his BSBA was completed at Thomas Edison, Wynings was offered a manager's position at ETS. His current promotion coincided with the receipt of his master's in Management Science from Trenton State College.

No stranger to education, Wynings taught computer science at Mercer County Community College after earning his bachelor's degree, and currently teaches computer science and MIS at Trenton State College, thanks to his master's degree.

At Thomas Edison, Wynings sees two key areas for the Alumni Board of Directors. "First, we need to make people aware of the College, and the important role this College plays in higher education in this state and in the country.

"Next, we need to get more people involved in the Alumni Association," he continued. "We need people to help out. The College is doing great things, particularly with its electronic capabilities and the MSM program," Wynings stated. "Whatever we can do to help, to improve the College's visibility and to expand its services to all people in all walks of life, we need to do."

Wynings noted that the progression of the United States from a production-oriented economy to a technically and service-oriented economy will require more education and technical expertise. Thomas Edison State College is ready to handle that task. "When we help people, we help the College and that helps our country," Wynings commented.

As busy as he is with work and his family—wife of more than 27 years, Barbara, children Keith, 23, Jane, 20, Jill, 18 and Scott, 16—Wynings still finds time to have an impact at Thomas Edison. "The main thing is to give it a try," he said of volunteering for the College. "Involvement can be whatever you want it to be depending on the time you have. All you need to do is get out and give it a try."

Fortunately for Thomas Edison State College, that's exactly what Chris Wynings has done.

—Nina Malone

Distance learning educator takes expertise to Hong Kong



Linda Solitis

by Barbara W. Eklund

William J. Seaton, director of Directed Independent Adult Learning (DIAL) at Thomas Edison State College, joined distance learning experts from around the world who participated in a program validation of the Open Learning Institute of Hong Kong. This validation is similar to the process that colleges and universities undergo to become accredited in the United States.

The Open Learning Institute is the first institution in Hong Kong to provide higher education solely through distance learning. Established by the Hong Kong government in 1989, it provides busy adults with the opportunity to integrate learning into their busy, working lives.

While participating in the review, Seaton was struck by how similar most aspects of Hong Kong's distance learning program were to Thomas Edison's independent Guided Study program. In fact, two courses developed by the British Open University, "The Age of Enlightenment" and "The Religious Quest," are offered by both institutions. An added component of the Institute's program is the option for students to attend small group sessions for assistance with the materials. This can be quite helpful for Chinese students who are often taking courses in English.

Seaton was very impressed with how much the Institute has accomplished in just a few years. "They have a nice variety of courses and have worked hard, with the help of editors and writers on staff, to adapt the best of what is available in the Western Culture to the Hong Kong environment," Seaton explained. In Hong Kong, "Distance

learning" does not refer as much to geographical distance as it does a lifestyle that distances a student from the possibility of attending classes.

"What struck me most about the visit was how similar adult students are around the world—most of their concerns transcend cultural differences. They are concerned about fitting time to study into their busy lives; they are always looking for a quiet place to study; and they need faculty feedback and encouragement," he said.

Distance learning programs around the world provide students with the opportunity to learn independent of the classroom setting. Often, it involves extensive reading as well as audio or video components, or both. Testing is done to assure that learning has occurred. In the United States, Thomas Edison's program is recognized as one of the leaders in the nation for allowing busy adults to earn college credits and degrees through this independent study option. Variations of the same idea are being offered around the world as technology makes it possible for the delivery of education to occur in many different ways.

The distance learning program at Thomas Edison has been the fastest growing program at the college in the past few years. Seaton has served as director of DIAL for 10 years. In addition to his work at Thomas Edison, Seaton is a part-time faculty member of the Department of Sociology at Trenton State College. Other faculty appointments have included Susquehanna University, Pennsylvania State University and Bucknell University.

In Hong Kong, the organization responsible for assessing academic standards within higher education and providing authoritative advice to the Hong Kong government is the Hong Kong Council for Academic Accreditation (HKCAA). Seaton joined colleagues from England, Australia and Hong Kong, and others from the United States, for a four-day review of the Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences, Western Arts and Humanities, and Chinese Arts and Humanities degree programs of the Open Learning Institute. The review focused on course development and design, development of new courses, academic staff, scholarly activity, students, course evaluation and standards, resources, new technology, collaboration and past reviews.

Following four days of intensive review, Seaton was able to spend time on some personal adult education. What were his impressions of Hong Kong? "Clean, crowded and congenial," he said quickly, adding that there was a lot of hustle and bustle. As in many cities around the world, there was a distinct contrast between wealth and poverty. Shopping malls and restaurants abound, with seven of the 10 busiest McDonald's in the world in Hong Kong. By far, the personal highlight of his visit was a trip to the Po

Lin Monastery—an experience he remembers learning a little about while previewing a Guided Study course, "The Religious Quest."

Participating in this evaluation of another country's program with professionals from around the world has reinforced Seaton's belief that education needs to be more international and interdisciplinary. "As we plan for the future direction of Guided Study at Thomas Edison, I will be looking for courses that give our students a global awareness and perspective," he added.

An Arizona family for Thomas Edison



Breakfast, conversation and networking took place during a breakfast reception for Arizona alumni and students: Irene Wazzan '92, ASM; James Heyen, B.S. student; Leslie Wright, B.A. student; Joseph Ashley '93, BSBA; Geoffery Reid, B.S. student; Joseph Wilmet '82, BSBA; Gerri Collins, executive assistant to the president of Thomas Edison State College.

What do a horse parade and Thomas Edison have in common? They both happened to be in Old Town Scottsdale, Ariz., at the same time!

Gerri Collins, executive assistant to the president at Thomas Edison, mixed business with pleasure by meeting with six members of the College family—students and alumni—in Old Town Scottsdale, Ariz. "It's hard to express the wonderful experience we had together and how much it means to our Arizona alumni to know that there are others out there," Collins said. Approximately 80 alumni reside in Arizona.

During the breakfast meeting, student Geoffery Reid offered to work with the Office of Alumni Affairs as

the student/alumni organizer for Arizona. Joe Ashley of Tempe, Ariz., announced that he had completed his degree requirements—at press time, his graduation had been certified by the Board of Trustees. Collins spoke about recent developments at the College, including expansion of the facilities, technological advancements and alumni activities.

Arizona alumni and students interested in speaking with Geoffery Reid can contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at (201) 877-1450. Live in another state? Want to start a regional group? Call the Office of Alumni Affairs, or write to Director Annette Singer at 153 Halsey St., 5th Floor, Newark, N.J. 07102-2898.

Linda Holt, director of Communications and College Relations, stands outside the University of Innsbruck, Austria, prior to presenting a paper, "Communicating with the Adult Student." The presentation was made during the international conference, "Higher Education Reform in Europe and America," sponsored by the American Association of University Administrators and other participating organizations.



Michael Gleason

Thomas Edison alumni sponsor Trenton's only "Odyssey of the Mind" program

As part of its community outreach for 1993, the Alumni Association of Thomas Edison State College sponsored the "Odyssey of the Mind" program for gifted sixth grade students at the Joyce Kilmer Elementary School in Trenton. This was the only "Odyssey of the Mind" project in Trenton this year.

"We selected the 'Odyssey of the Mind' program in Trenton as our community service and outreach project this year," said Alumni Association President Ida B. Hammond '78, of Willingboro, N.J., "The Alumni Association is committed to giving something back to the Trenton community where Thomas Edison State College is based."

Under the program at the Joyce Kilmer Elementary School, members of the Alumni Association encouraged students as they prepared for the "Odyssey of the Mind" competition. Under the program, students competed as a team in problem-solving activities at the regional, state and national level. Monica Quaste, teacher of the gifted and talented, is the "Odyssey of the Mind" coach at Joyce Kilmer. John Goulding is the school principal.

"It was such a thrill to see the excitement in the bright, shining eyes of children who participated in 'Odyssey of the Mind,'" said Hammond. "Those of us who have gained so much from our education at Thomas Edison State College were pleased to be able to pass the gift of educational excitement on to a new generation of learners."

Staff appointments

Director of Administrative Services

Jane Coult '86 has been appointed director of Administrative Services for the College. In announcing the appointment, Michael J. Scheiring, vice president for Administration and Finance, noted: "Jane's leadership in this important area will allow her to play a critical role in the College's future."

Coult came to the College from the New Jersey Department of the Treasury's General Services Administration, where she was deputy director of Central Services. She brings to the College extensive experience in the areas of postal services, purchasing, central support services, risk management and facilities management.

An active alumna, Coult has served the College for many years through the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association. She is currently president-elect, and has held many positions on the Association Board of Directors since earning her Bachelor of Arts from Thomas Edison in 1986. Coult is also a member of the Advisory Board



Jane Coult



Mark Gordon



Norma Manigan

of the College's Center for Corporate and Public Partnerships.

Director of "Smart Card" project

Mark Gordon joined Thomas Edison State College as director of Special Studies for the Smart Card project. In announcing the appointment, College Vice President for Administration and Finance Michael J. Scheiring noted: "Mark brings with him both the skills and resourcefulness to lead this important initiative for the College and the state of New Jersey in examining alternative methods for managing the state's future health benefits."

Gordon will coordinate the efforts of the Thomas Edison staff involved in this joint venture with the New Jersey

Institute of Technology. The project, for which the College received supplemental funding from the legislature, will conduct a study on the feasibility of using technology in the retrieval and processing of medical information and payments.

Previously the administrator of the Borough of Princeton, Gordon brings to the Smart Card project a wealth of knowledge and experience in the field of benefits administration and negotiation. He holds a baccalaureate degree in political science from Hobart College in New York, and a master's from the program for administrators at Rider College.

Director of Development

Norma Manigan has been appointed

director of Development, according to Dr. Natale S. Caliendo, vice president for Public Affairs. "Norma's considerable experience in the fund-raising field will move the Foundation forward in its efforts to support the College," Dr. Caliendo commented.

Manigan is responsible for enhancing the College's strong regional ties with business and industry along the Route 1 corridor, throughout central New Jersey and beyond. She will also foster new partnerships in the state and throughout the nation with corporations, foundations and private individuals committed to the kind of forward-thinking higher education which Thomas Edison is uniquely equipped to deliver. Manigan also serves as secretary to the Thomas Edison State College Foundation, a nonprofit corporation which raises funds to support College initiatives.

Prior to her appointment to the College, Manigan was president of Events Associates, Inc. of East Orange, N.J., a fund-raising and event management company specializing in political, religious, educational and other nonprofit clients in New Jersey. She received her bachelor's degree in English from Seton Hall University, and is currently working on her master's in Education Administration at Seton Hall.

Thomas Edison State College embarks on massive facilities enhancement program

by Linda Holt

Thomas Edison State College is in the midst of an unparalleled facilities program of renovation, restoration and relocation to keep pace with phenomenal growth of its student body in recent years.

The College's facilities program includes:

- A new, two-story Academic Center at 167-69 E. Hanover St., Trenton, which the College occupied in October 1992;
- Relocation during 1993 of the College's Computer Center to serve distance learners, as well as extensive renovations to the administrative offices housed in the historic Kelsey Building at 101 W. State St.;
- Acquisition in 1993 of the Kuser Mansion at 315 W. State St. to house the Trenton Office of Policy Studies (TOPS) and a number of administrative, public affairs and academic offices. The Kuser Mansion previously was occupied by the Secretary of State;
- Restoration of the historic row of town houses extending between the Kelsey Building and the State House, to begin in fall 1993. These townhouses will support the admissions, corporate partnerships and Guided Study services of the College.

"Thanks to the efforts of our legislative delegation and the support of Gov. Jim Florio, this has been an unprecedented year of change, challenge and success," observed Michael J. Scheiring, vice president for Administration and Finance. "Despite the economic climate and the reduction in funding to state-assisted colleges and universities, Thomas Edison State College is experiencing a year of powerful transformation."

Created in 1972 by the New Jersey Board of Higher Education, the Col-

lege is a national leader in higher education for adults. Thomas Edison State College offers 11 associate and baccalaureate degree programs which may be completed through a combination of convenient methods, such as transfer of credits, testing, portfolio, courses taken at work or in the military, Guided Study courses taken at home or work, and other options. Alumni have gone on to succeed in graduate and professional schools including Harvard, Rutgers, University of Pennsylvania and Princeton.

"Inquiries from adults interested in completing degrees have reached an all-time high while our enrollments have soared 46 percent in the last six years," Scheiring said. "The demand throughout New Jersey and the nation for Thomas Edison's adult-centered programs is the force behind this massive program to upgrade facilities and technological resources."

The program was launched in 1992 when the College's academic, counseling and registration offices moved to a new two-story Academic Center on E. Hanover St., just two blocks from the College's headquarters. The Academic Center houses the offices of Academic Affairs, Testing and Assessment, Test Development and Research, Nursing and the Registrar. The facility includes ample parking for the College's many adult students who visit the Center for academic counseling or to take tests.

As finishing touches were put on the Academic Center in the fall, renovations were beginning at the College's headquarters in the historic Kelsey Building, a Trenton landmark since 1911. Improvements were made to the College's telecommunications equipment used to deliver services to adult students "at a distance." In addition, the Board Room and offices throughout the five-story brick building were enhanced to improve efficiency and better serve students.

During summer 1993, several College offices—including the Trenton Office of Policy Studies (TOPS)—were scheduled to relocate to the magnificent Kuser Mansion at 315 W. State St., previously occupied by the Office of the Secretary of State.

"The Kuser Mansion is the ideal site for offices dealing with our public service commitment to the city of Trenton and our partnerships in the business community," Scheiring said.

Probably the most impressive jewel in the College's facilities "crown" is the acquisition and proposed renovations to the historic row of town houses ranging from the Kelsey Building west toward the State House.

"We were extremely pleased with the legislation enacted to dedicate the town houses adjacent to the Kelsey Building for the College's exclusive use," Scheiring continued. Two bills, S-1140 and A-1062, permanently dedicated the townhouses to the College. (See story on page 7.)

Other legislation (S-662) enabling the town house restoration was enacted in December 1992, authorizing the New Jersey Building Authority to obtain funding support for renovations to historic buildings in the capitol district. The measure was supported by Sen. Dick LaRossa, Sen. Robert Littell, Assemblyman John Watson and the entire Mercer County delegation.

In addition to the acquisition and restoration of facilities, the College also has taken an active role in the creation of a new Stacy Park in the Capitol Campus. The park, to be completed in the mid-90s, will be fully integrated with College grounds and facilities and will provide both a historic and aesthetic context for College activities. College leaders are working closely with state officials and executive officers of surrounding historical sites to make the State House region one of the most

attractive capitol districts in the nation.

Looking toward the future, the College has been working on developing an educational training and conferencing center. "With over 70,000 state workers, as well as the presence of many leading corporate and non-profit associations headquartered in Trenton, the capital city desperately needs a quality training and conferencing center," Scheiring said. "Such a center would meet the business meeting and conference demands generated by Trenton's role as the capital of New Jersey."

As the College's physical campus expands, its technological resources—so important to adult students living many miles from the College—are continuing to keep pace with latest innovations. Gov. Florio signed into law A-2351 which establishes an equipment leasing fund enabling the College to acquire \$1 million of needed technology and institutional support equipment. "Because of fiscal constraints, acquisition of this equipment has been long deferred," said Scheiring. "This investment allows us to keep our technologies 'state-of-the-art' and enables us to provide the finest educational opportunities to our students."

The development of the College's Trenton campus is complemented by offices in Camden and Newark which offer access to students in the northern and southern sections of the state. The Camden office is primarily devoted to Veterans' Affairs and Financial Aid, while the Newark office houses the Office of Alumni Affairs.

"Increasingly, adults who never had time to complete a college degree are finding the Thomas Edison model the perfect complement to their busy lifestyles," Scheiring said. "It is their demand—and inspiration—which has been the driving force behind the College's expansion and success this year."

Neary's commitment to the community *(continued from page 1)*

Neary's sizeable agenda. He recently met with Dr. Caliendo and others at the College to discuss how CSNJNB can work with the College to develop a program for bank employees. "I want to be able to offer the Thomas Edison State College experience to our employees," Neary stated emphatically. "There are many who have taken some college courses and other 'formal' courses—inservice training, accounting and financial courses. Working with the College to put together a program for these employees is the forerunner of a process to get the word about Thomas Edison out to the corporate world.

"Education is never-ending," Neary continued. "This College is tremendously flexible relative to that process. Traditional colleges are inflexible: they set the rules, and you either fit into them or miss out. Here, the message is that the adult student comes first. The whole curriculum and process is geared to the student and serving the student. That's a strength of the College—and there's a deep appreciation for what is accomplished."

Neary cited the ever-changing nature of business as a key to opening corporate partnership doors. No longer seeing the status quo, businesses are taking new forms and new shapes, according to Neary, because of rapidly evolving technology, stiff competition and an expanding global economy. Employees are being forced to relearn and re-educate. Thomas Edison State College is ready to offer businesses and their employees the opportunities to augment skills.

"It's a combined responsibility," Neary said of the corporate-collegiate partnerships that Thomas Edison fosters. "Businesses need to get more involved, from the secondary school level up. Businesses are starting to question the educational process, and what is being sent into the workforce. Today," he continued, "Thomas Edison is in the perfect place to help businesses educate these individuals who need more skills, more training." He cites small and mid-sized businesses as primary targets for the College's unique services.

Getting the word out, bringing the support in

Neary sees his role on the Foundation board as one of support. He views the Foundation's mission as one of providing financial support and vision. "For example," he stated, "I can use my business ties and work with other board members to generate the support that the College needs.

"The Foundation is clearly important to the vitality of the College," he said. "There's a tremendous cross-section of the business community on the board, bringing a richness to that dynamic group. Our job is to be ambassadors to the community, speaking, supporting and promoting the College in order to generate support. I look forward to being an integral part of that process."

Neary noted that businesses are only as vital as the community in which they reside. If the community doesn't grow and prosper, the business won't grow and prosper. Championing causes such as the College, the Urban League and others brings a new life to the entire

community. "I see the College as an exciting lab," Neary stated. "The best come together from the academic world, the business world and the community to create a dynamic organization that benefits all." CSNJNB is quite experienced in this area, bringing to Trenton an international bike race that they had sponsored for four years in Freehold, N.J.—with much success.

Kudos to the adult student

"I just can't say enough about Thomas Edison State College students," Neary said. "They are special—raising a family, working, making ends meet. Then, they rediscover a process for completing their education and make the commitment to do it. I'm really pleased to be a part of this and to support it."

With the strength of his convictions and the proactive community development network of CoreStates New Jersey National Bank, Neary's affiliation has pleased the College and the Foundation, as well.

Lily Solmssen '92 *(continued from page 1)*

By the time she was seven, Solmssen was standing on a box in her aunt's darkroom, fishing slippery photo prints from developing solution in the soft red light. After her father gave her a Kodak developing kit and Brownie Hawkeye camera as Christmas presents, Solmssen was launched in the direction of her chosen vocation.

A graduate of Endicott Junior College in Beverly, Mass., Solmssen attended The University of the Arts in Philadelphia in the early '60s. An apprenticeship with the legendary Irving Penn in New York City helped her to refine her technique and develop a "photographic eye" which has served her well in subsequent positions.

"My parents asked if I would like to complete my education . . . but I really wanted to work," Solmssen recalled, reflecting an early life decision made by many Thomas Edison graduates. Assignments and career opportunities came her way steadily, as she moved from a position with "Modern Photography" magazine to an assignment with

the International Labor Office and the World Health Organization from 1967 to 1973 in Geneva, Switzerland. There she lived with a French family and mastered the language which would earn her 12 credits through CLEP testing at Thomas Edison State College.

From the mid-to-late 70s, Solmssen worked as the photo editor for the League of Red Cross Societies in Geneva. While with the League, she photographed the reconstruction after the devastating earthquake in Frioul, Italy, and was dispatched to West Africa (Chad, Ghana, Mauritania, Senegal, Togo) to take photos for Red Cross publications and lecture on the use of visual media as a tool in community development.

In 1980, she married a United Nations advisor in Rehabilitation of the Disabled, Ghislain F.L. Moureaux of Belgium, and relocated to Vienna where she worked for the United National High Commissioner for Refugees photographing Eastern European refugees and editing and translating resettlement

documents. Her concern for Asian refugees took her to their camps in Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, the Philippines and Macau in the mid-1980s, where she worked as a journalist-photographer.

"I was there when the 'boat people' were being picked up from the sea," she said. "It was incredible to see their determination to find a new life for themselves. And it was enormously satisfying to realize that as a photographer, I could actually do something positive to help these people so determined to overcome adversity."

Returning to the United States in 1985, Solmssen worked as a photo editor with UNICEF. She fondly recalled photographing UNICEF's Goodwill Ambassadors Harry Belafonte, Liv Ullmann and the late Audrey Hepburn. Other dignitaries included Itzhak Perlman, Issac Stern and the late Prime Minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi. She spoke warmly of Executive Director James P. Grant. She added, "It is the people in many lands who are strug-

gling to maintain their dignity and independence who are my greatest inspiration."

About the time she joined the U.N. as photo librarian in 1990, Solmssen began to see the real advantages of completing her formal education.

"My husband told me about a wonderful person named Janice Toliver who had spoken to him about a college for people like me," she said, "that is, someone who had completed two or three years of college but had been too busy working to return."

As a result, on a snowy day in January 1991, Solmssen visited Toliver at the Newark office of Thomas Edison State College and soon enrolled to complete 31.5 credits. "It was an excellent way to complete an education," she said. "I was just crazy about Ms. Toliver and my portfolio advisor Celeste Wynn. Jack Phillips, the registrar, was immensely helpful. I found I could really discuss my questions with staff and they would go the extra mile to help me find solutions."

Solmssen is thrilled with her current assignment at the U.N., creating a photographic library on videodisc. But her love of library activities has not displaced her passion for taking and exhibiting photographs. Freelance assignments have included photographing wheelchair athletics in Germany and Great Britain, Project HOPE at Tunisia, Skiing with the Blind in Switzerland and the Paralympics in Israel. Her photo-documentary work has taken her to assignments in Nepal, Pakistan, Paris (France), and South and Central America.

Solmssen's work has been exhibited in Brussels, Geneva, Vienna and as part of the highly acclaimed World Summit for Children Photo Exhibit at the United Nations in New York in 1990. A more recent one-person show was held in Meadow Lakes, Hightstown, N.J. In addition, she has set up numerous exhibitions and does extensive photo research for books and publications.

"When you are in the field, taking photos, you see life in a different way," said this engagingly modest artist-humanitarian. "The little, day-to-day cares fall aside, and you see what it really means to be fully human."



In 1969, Lily Solmssen took this photograph at the International Stoke Mandeville Games, Great Britain, a competition for disabled persons. In 1974, it was awarded a First Prize at the Photokina, Germany.

College Forums focus on variety: teamwork, fiberoptics

Teams are key to learning in the workplace

by Linda Holt

During the 1992 presidential election, supporters of George Bush praised his strong, decisive leadership style and criticized Bill Clinton for consulting with others before making a decision.

According to an expert on team learning, however, it's the more interactive style which may be better at getting results.

"Regardless which side of the political fence you choose, today's leaders are abandoning the old model of the independent, autonomous leader," said Dr. Victoria J. Marsick, associate professor at Teacher's College, Columbia University, during an academic Forum for staff at Thomas Edison State College titled "Links Between Team and Individual Learning: Implications for the Workplace."

"If there is any one word which characterizes the workplace in the '90s, it's 'change,'" said Dr. Marsick. At a recent conference, 70 percent of those polled said their jobs had changed in the past six months, she noted. This has required organizations to take a fresh look at the way they educate employees and to experiment with new, more interactive ways of learning.

"We are starting to see a shift in the way people learn," said Dr. Marsick, who is the author of *Learning in the Workplace* and other books on this topic. "There is more reliance today on

working and learning in teams."

Dr. Marsick admitted that concepts adopted in some corporations, such as Xerox's "Rugged Group-ism," grate against the grain of many Americans, who value individual achievement and personal independence. However, the outcomes of experiments in group learning have been positive from both organizational and individual perspectives, she said.

In companies which have embraced interactive learning, workers are grouped into transfunctional teams. "Our workplaces are so complex and constantly changing that we can no longer stay within our own 'box' in the organizational chart," Dr. Marsick said. "We need to work together across boundaries to accomplish tasks which are constantly shifting."

Sometimes the experience gained in these groups results in "metanoia," or a shift of the mind. She cited the scene from the film "The Dead Poet Society," in which a class of bored teenage boys is transformed into a dynamic learning environment by the unconventional style of their English teacher. "Sometimes, we need to be jolted out of our complacency and see things in a new light," she said.

As organizations continue to change and grow, leaders will increasingly need to "huddle" with other experts to enrich their perspectives and arrive at comprehensive decisions. The strong, silent "John Wayne" model of leadership may have served our nation in a simpler age, but the leaders of the future will succeed by learning from and with others within the organizations.

"The Promise of Fiberoptics for Education" proves to be almost limitless

by Nina Malone

Buying a new suit for a job interview. Checking on the lunch menu at the kids' school. Ordering groceries for a Super Bowl party. Selecting any movie, anytime of the day or night. What is so special about these everyday tasks? The fact that, one day soon, you'll be able to do them all from your home, 24 hours per day, 365 days per year.

Staff at Thomas Edison State College were brought up-to-date on the future of this amazing technology at a recent College Forum on "The Promise of Fiberoptics for Education," presented by representatives from New Jersey Bell and sponsored by the College. A leader in innovative approaches to learning since 1972, Thomas Edison brings higher education directly to adult students, regardless of their location, age or previous academic record. Over 8,600 students residing in 49 states and 65 other nations complete associate and baccalaureate degrees through a variety of options, including testing, assessment, Guided Study and transfer of credit. The College has pioneered the electronic delivery of academic services through its Computer Assisted Lifelong Learning (CALL) Network, which opens access to higher education to adult students throughout the nation.

Espe Diaz-Bello, systems engineer for Technical Sales Support, and Pat Chiaro, manager of Regulatory Matters and Issues Analysis, both of New Jer-

sey Bell, described Opportunity New Jersey, an array of technological opportunities that will provide New Jersey residents with advanced technical service capabilities at home. The plan is scheduled to be "deployed" in New Jersey over the next 17 years. By most estimates, this completion date is nearly 20 years earlier than any other plan currently in existence.

The system that will be in place in New Jersey by 2010 will progress from the narrowband services that are being implemented now such as slow-speed video, high-speed fax and multiple services on one phone line, to wideband services such as video on demand and video teleconferencing, and eventually to broadband services such as high-speed, high-resolution pictures via phone lines and high-definition television (HDTV). From there, the future promises calls that find the recipient and programmable phones that allow users to carry their home phone numbers with them.

All this and more will be made possible via a fiber optic network. New Jersey will become the first state to be entirely "wired" with fiber, which is more advanced than existing copper wires, and is lighter in weight and smaller than current wiring. This fiber network will carry massive amounts of information at high speeds throughout New Jersey—homes, business, schools—anywhere a phone line exists.

Opportunity New Jersey will begin to bring this fiber optic future to 50,000 select homes and businesses in Morris and Ocean counties over the next several years. The Video Dial Tone Pilot will test this ambitious plan from New Jersey Bell, pending approval from the Securities and Exchange Commission. Ready for 1,500 television channels? Can't wait to access reference books from the local library 24 hours per day? Anxious to preview the fall line of clothes from your favorite retailer? Fasten your seat belts, New Jerseyans—the ride to the future is being boarded through a telephone line near you.

Signed bill to provide town house renovation funding

Acting Gov. Chuck Haytaian, in New Jersey Gov. Jim Florio's absence, signed into law Senate Bill 662, sponsored by Sen. Dick LaRossa (R-15) and Sen. Robert Littell (R-24), which will provide funding to renovate the row of town houses adjoining the College's headquarters at 101 W. State St. in Trenton. Once completed, the College will occupy the entire eastern end of the block commanded by the state capitol.

"These historic town houses, when renovated, will preserve the charm of old Trenton while providing the College with first-rate academic facilities for use in serving its 9,000-plus student body," said Michael J. Scheiring, vice president for Administration and Finance.

Once completed, the two houses will centralize academic and student services offices now residing in several different locations. Improvements will include renovations to the first floor, conference room and elevator system of the Kelsey Building, as well. The College is hopeful that renovations will be underway by this fall.

"We are grateful to the legislature—especially Sens. Dick LaRossa and Robert Littell—and to Gov. Florio for their support and advocacy of this

legislation," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, College president. "Thomas Edison State College already has achieved national recognition for the excellence of its academic programs for adults. Once completed, our campus will reflect the high quality of our academic reputation."



Acting Gov. Chuck Haytaian (left) and College President Dr. George A. Pruitt take part in the bill signing ceremony which made the historic town houses adjacent to the Kelsey Building part of Thomas Edison State College.



College President Dr. George A. Pruitt and his daughter, Shayla, meet with New Jersey Gov. Jim Florio and his wife, Lucinda. Gov. Florio provided support for the "Town Houses Bill," which was recently signed into law.

Student News

William D. Wagoner (BSHS) of Newark, N.J., has accepted an appointment as the director of planning for Livingston County, Mich. Wagoner is responsible for the overall coordination of planning for 16 townships, two cities and two villages comprising an area of 571 square miles with a population of 115,645. Before this appointment, Wagoner served the City of Berkley, Mich., in the dual capacities of assistant city manager and director of Community Development, Planning and Research.

Michael Gumeny (B.A.) of Mercerville, N.J., has been appointed to the position of senior analyst programmer in Janssen Pharmaceutical's Information Services Department. Janssen is a member of Johnson & Johnson family of companies.

APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE

'80

Rev. George E. Nye (B.A.) of Lincoln, R.I., recently completed the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Christian Counseling magna cum laude from International Seminary in Plymouth, Fla. He earned his Master of Divinity degree with honors from Andover Newton Theological School in 1984. Rev. Nye was ordained in the United Church of Christ in 1984 and is currently serving as Pastor of Smithfield Avenue Congregational Church in Pawtucket, R.I. Rev. Nye and his wife, Carolyn, will spend two months of a sabbatical in England working in three churches, traveling and doing research. He writes, "Earning the Thomas Edison B.A. degree through nontraditional methods was really the key to our new life of extensive helping ministries to others. Thank you Thomas Edison State College."

'83

Douglas Batson (B.A.) of Reston, Va., recently earned certification as a senior professional in Human Resources (HRCI), and accepted a promotion with the United States Department of Interior in his native Virginia. Batson is the training officer for the Geological Survey, National Mapping Division, in Reston. The move concludes a 12 year overseas stint with the Department of the Army in Germany, during which time he used portfolio assessment in geography to complete his Thomas Edison degree.

'86

Coast Guard Lt. J.G. Yamil Perez (B.S.), was recently awarded the Coast Guard Humanitarian Service Medal while serving at Seventh Coast Guard District in Miami, Fla. Perez received the award for extraordinary service during the period from October 1991 through November 1992. During that period, the men and women of the Coast Guard undertook several massive operations that involved the entire service in selfless acts of humanitarian assistance far beyond the call of duty. Perez participate with other members of the Guard in duties ranging from maritime search and rescue, and marine environmental protection, to national defense and law enforcement. Perez joined the Coast Guard in August 1975.

Barbara Dan (B.A.) of Las Vegas, Nev., received her M.A. in humanities with an emphasis in literature from California State University in Dominguez-Hills, Calif. and is currently writing fiction for women. A number of her novels are circulating on editors' desks and she recently held a workshop for writers, publishers and agents in Las Vegas. Dan write, "All this because I heard about Thomas Edison State College and decided to pursue my dreams when most people are thinking of hanging it up or settling for second best. . . . Thanks, Thomas Edison, for opening new doors, giving me new encouragement and for doing the same for a number of people I've since sent in your direction."

Franco Acquaviva (B.A.) of Spring Lake, N.J., graduated from Vermont College of Norwich University in April with a M.A. in counseling psychology. He has candidacy status for board certification as a professional counselor. Acquaviva is a member of the Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy, the American Psychological Association and the American Mental Health Counselors Association. He plans to enroll in the Fielding Institute where he will pursue a Ph.D. in clinical psychology. He currently works at the VERA Institute of Justice in Newark, N.J., as a senior relapse prevention counselor. Acquaviva writes, "Edison was the catalyst which helped me develop the discipline and direction necessary to pursue my graduate studies."

'88

Gwen E. Kuebler (BSBA) of North Plainfield, N.J., recently earned the professional designation of Certified Travel Counselor (CTC) from the Institute of Certified Travel Agents in Wellesley, Mass. To receive the CTC, Kuebler completed four travel management courses and an individual writing project, and passed four lengthy essay exams. She also had to acquire at least five years travel industry experience before earning the right to use the CTC designation. Kuebler is national marketing manager for MTS Travel, a seven-branch travel management company serving primarily nonprofit, religious and relief organizations.

'89

Charles H. Jack, Jr., (BSBA) of Lakewood, N.J., was elected state president of the New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution in April. Several of his forefathers were in Washington's army. Jack, who is the owner of Pilot Realty Agency of Point Pleasant Beach, N.J., is an adjunct assistant professor at Ocean County College. Born in Elizabeth, N.J., Jack is a Courtesy Vessel Examiner and past Flotilla Commander of a United States Coast Guard Auxiliary unit. He is also an Army veteran.

'90

Joseph T. Althouse (BSAST) of Norwich, Conn., will graduate next semester from Wesleyan University with a M.A. in liberal studies with a concentration in environmental and ecological studies. Althouse will be pursuing a Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut with an emphasis on natural resources, particularly wetlands and waterfowl ecology.

James O. Wright, Jr., (ASPSS, BSBS) of Des Moines, Iowa, received his Master of Science in Education/Adult Education Training and Development from Drake University in Des Moines in May 1993. He writes, "Thomas Edison's philosophy of lifelong learning is a principle I plan to utilize well beyond my graduate education. I cannot say enough good about the one-on-one counseling and staff services provided by the College. I highly recommend Thomas Edison State College to anyone who wants an efficient, affordable and quality education as well as a useful credential."

If you would like news of your accomplishments included in the *Applause, Applause* section of *Invention*, please send information to: Office of Alumni Affairs, Thomas Edison State College, 153 Halsey St., 5th Floor, Newark, N.J. 07102-2898. You may enclose a black-and-white photograph for consideration.

IN·V·E·N·T·I·O·N

NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

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Invention is produced quarterly for the students, alumni and friends of Thomas Edison State College. Please direct any inquiries to the managing editor at (609) 984-4839.

DR. GEORGE A. PRUITT

DR. NATALE S. CALIENDO

LINDA HOLT

NINA MALONE

LINDA SOLTIS

BARBARA WATERS EKLUND

ANNETTE SINGER

CINDY WARRICK

IDA B. HAMMOND '78

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS AND
COLLEGE RELATIONS**

MANAGING EDITOR

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

DIRECTOR, ALUMNI AFFAIRS

**SECRETARY, COMMUNICATIONS AND
COLLEGE RELATIONS**

PRESIDENT, ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



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