

Capital Campus

APRIL 2017

New Kelsey Complex Archway and Signage Welcomes All

The Kelsey Complex has a long and storied history. The newest chapter to hail from the corner of Barrack and West State streets is the renovation of the entryway and signage, completed in March.

The project was supported through the Higher Education Capital Improvement Fund. Of the 63 applications the state received for projects, 35 were chosen for funding, including the University's archway and signage renovation project.

"The Kelsey Complex University Archway project is an upgrade that will serve to reconfigure and define the main entranceway for students and visitors to the University's Kelsey Complex," said **Dr. George A. Pruitt**, president. "It is also intended to underscore the Kelsey Complex's historic significance, showcasing the Institution's new University status and creating a clear identity of the Institution and its place in the Capitol Complex area."

The facility improvements made to the Complex entryway included a brick and

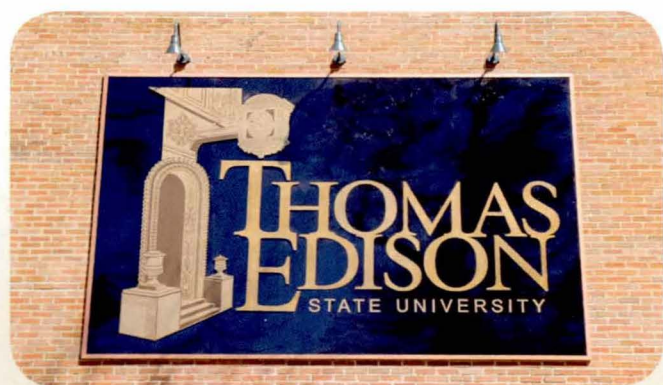
stone archway that displays new signage as well as paver replacement. This replacement involved the demolition and installation of new concrete sidewalks to address important safety issues for University staff, visitors and students.

The goal of the project was to reconfigure the existing entryway and signage at 111 West State Street to honor and celebrate the successful completion of the Strategic Plan objective to achieve University status. New signage also appears in the rear of Kelsey and on the side of the Townhouses facing the State House.

With the addition of this signage, including a stark black background and contrast bronze lettering, the institution is not easily missed driving down Barrack or West State streets.



The University's new brick and stone archway that welcomes University staff, students and visitors to the Institution's Kelsey Complex, which was completed in March.



New University signage displayed at the rear of the Kelsey Complex facing Barrack Street. A similar sign was installed on the west side of the Kelsey Complex facing the State House.

The graphics on the updated signage make use of the University's iconic graphic from its logo from the original signage, which has been remounted as part of the new look and feel of the display. The words, "Thomas Edison" are also from the previous bronze signage, which have also been remounted. The new text, "State

University" was added to match the existing signage, font, finish and material in bronze. Outdoor LED sign lights were added to illuminate the artwork and lettering at night.

"The Kelsey Complex has been a Trenton landmark that creates a clear identity for the institution that has called the building home for more than 37 years," said **Mary Hack**, director of Facilities and Operations. "Renovations to preserve and enhance the entryway and signage of this historically significant complex will have a positive effect on the surrounding historic area while enhancing the presence of the University on West State Street."

Focus On: Dr. Ann Marie Senior

It's been said that a picture is worth a thousand words. **Dr. Ann Marie Senior**, associate vice president in the Division of Institutional Planning and Research, knows that just as photos can tell a story, so can data.

"I like the varied nature of my position," said Senior, who has been with the University for 20 years. "I work with data in some form every day. I'm either checking it to ensure it is accurate or using it to address an issue or a question, or for a compliance report. I love working with data and seeing trends and patterns. There is something very rewarding in organizing numbers or codes so that they begin to tell their own story."

Working in a division that is fast paced, deadline driven and issue driven, Senior noted that the scope of her duties is vast.

There are routine reports and ad hoc reports that are needed for staff within the University as well as external audiences such as the N.J. Office of Higher Education, U.S. Department of Education, Middle States and specialized accrediting agencies. The Division provides the official enrollment numbers within the University, administers several University-wide surveys and is responsible for developing and/or reviewing surveys from other offices. It provides enrollment and specialty reports, conducts data analyses and summarizes results from surveys.

"I have been fortunate to be part of this Division. I really enjoy working with such a dedicated and hardworking group of individuals; we work as a team," said Senior,

who noted that she also likes working with the various offices and divisions across the University.

"I especially enjoy working on the special projects that seek to address new issues as well as old issues in a new way," she added. "We usually work with several datasets at a time and are always seeking the patterns and trends in the data. Our work helps the University understand the enrollment patterns, monitor student satisfaction and feedback to ensure we are meeting their needs, and provides information for official reporting."

Senior has a BA in psychology from Cornell University and a PhD from the University of Michigan from a combined program in education and psychology. She was also a Bush Fellow in child development and social policy.

It was during her educational journey that Senior realized her calling.

"I had started out as a biology major at Cornell, but just could not grasp physics or genetics. After taking a semester off, I discovered the field of psychology. When I returned to Cornell, I met a professor who offered me a research assistantship and the rest is history in terms of my research career. I was fascinated with doing research — all aspects of it, from preparing the materials, surveys and protocols, to getting permission to be in the K-12 schools, working with the teachers, administering the surveys to the students and then coding the surveys — manually, doing the analysis and writing the report."



Dr. Ann Marie Senior, associate vice president, Division of Institutional Planning and Research

Before joining Thomas Edison, Senior had been at Rider University, where she served on several committees doing applied research that informed decision making for administrative purposes. Prior to Rider, she was a researcher for Educational Testing Service.

Senior lives in the Berkeley Square district of Trenton with husband Bill; the couple will be celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary this year. "We have a strong neighborhood association and a real sense of community. It is a historical district that is much like my hometown in Providence, R.I."

Senior gets pleasure from singing in the Sanctuary Choir at church as well as in the N.J. Chapter of the Gospel Music Workshop of America. "I am an alto and love to hear how the notes from all the various voices come together to provide synergy, energy and good gospel music." Senior added that she enjoys taking photographs and, just like her data, she organizes those pictures so that they too tell a story.

Staff Activities

Dr. John Woznicki, dean, Heavin School of Arts and Sciences, was elected to the Lambertville Area Education Foundation (LAEF) in January. The LAEF, founded in 1992, is a nonprofit, volunteer-run organization dedicated to benefiting students attending schools in the South Hunterdon Regional district.

Marc Singer, vice provost, Center for the Assessment of Learning, attended a conference in Moscow, Russia, in October, and was invited to be the keynote speaker to discuss how prior learning assessment (PLA) is being used in the U.S. PLA, which is a new concept in Russia, is called VNIL: Validation of Nonformal and Informal Learning. Singer's keynote detailed PLA's history and noted what works in the United States and what has made it successful. Additionally, Singer visited The White House for its "Symposium on Higher Education Innovation that Reduces Costs and Strengthens Quality" in November. Other schools participating in the Educational Quality through Innovative Partnerships (EQUIP) pilot program with the U.S. Department of Education also took part.

Bob Herbst attended a themed-year planning meeting for the 40th annual Conference on Management, Executive and Professional Development Programs (CMED) at the University of Texas, in Austin, Texas, in February. In his role as a member of the international board of educators, Herbst participated in developing the conference agenda for the November Conference to be held in Austin. CMED hosts more than 150 international university and college department chairs, deans, directors and executive directors each year to share best practices, discuss new revenue streams and evaluate the latest education platforms and delivery systems.

Robin Walton, vice president for Community and Government Affairs, has been elected as a board member for Executive Women of New Jersey. EWNJ is the leading senior-level executive women's organization in New

Jersey committed to increasing the presence of women serving on corporate boards and in the top leadership of New Jersey companies.

Anal Berdecia, senior fellow/director, Center for the Positive Development of Urban Children, The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy, received the YWCA of Princeton's Tribute to Women Award at the Hyatt Regency in March. Berdecia, was selected in recognition of her 30-year career empowering women and children in the areas of women in crisis, early childhood and leadership.

Linda Meehan, chief of staff, graduated from Lead New Jersey (LNJ) in December. As a LNJ Fellow, Meehan participated in a year-long leadership program that fosters and enhances a robust network of informed and prepared leaders who work to make New Jersey a better place to live and work. Through timely leadership training and thought-provoking civic engagement opportunities, LNJ brings together leaders from the public, social and private sectors to educate, transform and empower our state's next generation of leaders from the public, social and private sectors.

Kelli Parlante-Givas, director, Strategic Partnership Management, and **Mildy Akumu-Taylor**, program coordinator, Strategic Partnerships and Outreach, attended EdAssist's Education Network Kickoff for 2017 webinar in January. The webinar provided an overview of the ways EdAssist communicates with partners like TESU, the latest client updates and steps partners can take to help EdAssist champion their network schools with EdAssist teams and clients.

Jessiah Styles, associate director, Strategic Partnerships and Outreach, has secured a new partnership with American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE), a national organization consisting of energy professionals committed to serving as a resource for policy discussion of the economic, social and political impact of environmental and energy policies on African Americans and other minorities.

Maureen Woodruff, director, Office of Test Administration, attended the 2017 Advocate Symposium in Jacksonville, Fla., in January. The one-day training focused on Advocate, the University's student complaint software system which is currently being rolled out.

Jacquelyn Rossetter, associate director, Office of Test Administration, attended the NJAhead Meeting at Middlesex County College in February. Also in attendance where **Laura Brenner-Scotti**, ADA and Student Special Services coordinator, and **Michael Fagioli**, instructional technologist. The discussion was based around making exams accessible to visually impaired students at the University.

Dr. Ken Lightfoot, assistant director, Course Improvement and Special Projects, recently served as an English language instructor for adult learners as well as children in Chongqing, China, from October through November.

Dr. Ying Huang, senior research analyst, Division of Institutional Planning and Research, recently co-authored a research paper, "Reasons for Becoming a Postdoc: Differences by Race and Foreign-Born Status," that was accepted by the Teachers College Record journal.

Dr. Ann Marie Senior, associate vice president, Division of Institutional Planning and Research, was recently installed as the president of the Northeast Association of Institutional Researchers (NEAIR) at its Annual Conference in Baltimore, Md. As president, she will be responsible for overseeing the Steering Committee meetings and hosting the next annual conference in Jersey City, N.J. During the Baltimore 2016 NEAIR conference, Senior facilitated a special interest group for Colleges that Enroll Primarily Adults and/or Online Students. The session discussed issues of importance to institutions that serve primarily adults and/or online students.

Barbara George Johnson, executive director, The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy, was presented with the 2016 Outstanding Women in Government Award by the New Jersey League of Municipalities at its annual conference held in Atlantic City, N.J., in November.

MIS Password Self-Service

Have you ever forgotten your password? Left caps lock on? Needed your password reset? Save yourself from password headaches by setting up your security questions now so you can regain access to your account when you need it.

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- > Establish your three security questions prior to using the portal in order to reset your Thomas Edison State University network password or unlock your account.

- > Follow the instructions to set up your security questions.
- > Once set up, access Password Self-Service by visiting <https://passwordreset.microsoftonline.com/>. Keep this link handy and saved to your phone or home computer, so you can still gain access to the site even if you are locked out. This site will only work as long as you have previously set up your three security questions.

For help with your account or for more information, contact the Office of Management Information Systems (MIS) via the HelpDesk by submitting a ticket through the myEdison® portal and selecting the appropriate category from the dropdown menu.

Women's Professional Network at TESU

The Women's Professional Network (WPN) of Thomas Edison State University welcomes employees of the University and New Jersey State Library to gather to network, support and promote the interests of women both on campus and in the community. Events include a monthly walking club, Story of Success events and general membership meetings.

Below are the group's upcoming events for the months of April and May:

> **April 20, Walking Club:** Meet in front of the New Jersey State Library at 12:30 p.m.

> **April 25, Dress for Success/Yoga:** Prudence Hall from noon to 1 p.m., clothing drive in TH103

Women's and men's clothing will be collected. For women, please only bring professional clothing including accessories such as

shoes, handbags and jewelry. All clothing should be on hangers. For men, please bring suits, dress pants, button down shirts, ties, etc. Donations will be provided to Dress for Success and UIH Family Partners of Trenton. No casual wear. Feel free to also bring your yoga mat or beach towel for a Yoga class by Angela, co-owner of Honor Yoga Aerial & Acro in Pennington, N.J.

> **May 18, Walking Club:** Meet in front of the New Jersey State Library at 12:30 p.m.

> **May 23, Story of Success featuring Dr. Jianping Wang, president of Mercer County Community College:** Prudence Hall from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, email tesuacenet@tesu.edu. Members are encouraged to dialogue via the group's LinkedIn page. The April topic is Dress for Success - Professionalism in the Workplace.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Dr. Ying Huang, senior research analyst, Division of Institutional Planning and Research, and her husband, Weimin Sun, are the proud parents of a baby girl, Selah C. Sun, who was born on Dec. 28, weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces.

Lauren Durkin, assessment specialist, Center for the Assessment of Learning, and her husband, Matthew Boyle, welcomed a son, Cavan Jude Boyle on Jan. 13. Cavan Jude weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 3/4 inches. Cavan was named after a county in Ireland that Durkin said she and her husband absolutely loved.

Debbie Lutz, confidential assistant, Office of the Provost and Vice President, married Bob Neise on Jan. 20. The newlyweds, who reside in Bordentown City, are going to Hawaii in May to celebrate.

Office of Strategic Partnerships and Outreach Announces New Corporate Choice® Partnerships



Tom Phillips, associate director, Strategic Partnership Initiatives, discusses educational options with SONJ employee and TESU alumna, Joanne Monaco, BSHS '09.

Thomas Edison State University has partnered with the Special Olympics of New Jersey (SONJ) to provide an avenue for the employees of SONJ to achieve their educational goals. As a new initiative for SONJ, **Thomas M. Phillips**, associate director, Strategic Partnership Initiatives, visited the Lawrenceville headquarters to meet with employees and discuss their educational options.

Kelli Parlante-Givas, director, Strategic Partnership Management, Strategic Partnerships and Outreach, initiated the first pilot program with UPS customer service in San Antonio, Texas. To date, there are approximately 40 students in the program. These students will be guided from application to graduation and followed every step of the way.

Capital Campus is produced by the Office of Communications at Thomas Edison State University. To submit a story idea for the newsletter or for more information, please contact Linda Soltis at extension 2065.