

Schering-Plough gives \$100,000 for 10 EOF scholarships

The Schering-Plough Foundation of Kenilworth, NJ, recently announced an award of \$100,000 to support the Educational Opportunity Fund Scholarship Program at TCNJ. The gift will provide for up to 10 Schering-Plough Foundation EOF Scholarships in the 2006–2007 academic year.

The scholarships will be awarded to as many as five undergraduate juniors or seniors majoring in business and five majoring in science at TCNJ. The gift is intended to help EOF upperclassmen continue their studies toward baccalaureate degree completion. Once a student is chosen as a Schering-Plough Foundation EOF Scholar, he or she will be strongly encouraged to participate in the pharmaceutical company's competitive summer internship program in Kenilworth this summer and again in 2007.

The College matriculates approximately 90–95 students per year through the EOF program. In addition to receiving financial aid, EOF students at TCNJ receive individual and group academic advising, tutoring, and leadership training. They have some of the highest graduation rates in the state.

New leadership for the Alumni Association

Earlier this month, Jonathan Peck '96 became president of The College of New Jersey Alumni Association, succeeding Greg Bellotti '92, who led the association for the past two years.

In recent years, the association has sought to reach out to as many alumni as possible to re-engage them with their alma mater. The executive board has

been working hard to establish itself as a group with its own identity, yet still tied to The College of New Jersey.

The group surveyed all alumni during the spring of 2004, asking for ideas they would like to see expressed in a new Alumni Association logo.

The graphic identity, which accompanies this article, attempts to combine the past and the present institution by using both the clock tower and the shield.



The board's support of TCNJ includes a \$150,000 donation to the College for the Sesquicentennial Celebration and establishment of a scholarship fund. Another big undertaking was the creation of the Alumni Grove, located between TCNJ's library and Eickhoff Hall. The grove features brick pavers donated by alumni and friends of the College.

Peck takes over at an important time. The board expects to continue hosting alumni events across the state and expanding to other parts of the country as well. In addition, this group hopes to partner with more businesses to obtain discounts for Alumni Association members and continue to host Homecoming in October and Reunion in the spring.

Lisa McCarthy '88 and '91

Gift annuities offer safe, higher-yielding alternative to CDs

Jan Kubik, the College's new director of planned giving, is promoting what he says is an excellent opportunity for many alumni to increase their incomes. How? By transferring low-yielding certificates of deposit to a charitable gift annuity that will pay far higher interest for life.

Here is a real-life illustration. Kubik has changed the alumna's name, but the facts and the quotations are accurate.

Amanda Potter is a retired elementary school teacher who graduated from Trenton State College in the fifties. Mindful of her parents' advice, she has always been a careful planner, buying certificates of deposit from her local bank.

"For about five years now," Potter said, "I have watched the return offered for CDs decline significantly to about 4.75 percent. I've looked for safe alternative investments, but there just are not any CDs with a nice rate of return. They all seem to be below 5 percent now."

Potter's financial adviser suggested that a charitable gift annuity might increase her income and provide a tax deduction. Potter thought a gift annuity could be helpful for her, but she wasn't sure how to research this option.

Said Potter, "I called TCNJ's gift planning office about this gift annuity thing. I discovered that at my age, a gift annuity would pay 6.7 percent. Plus, it provides an immediate tax deduction and part of my income will be tax-free.

"After learning how easy it is to set up, I transferred \$25,000 from a CD that had matured into a charitable gift annuity that gives me a 6.7 percent annuity for life.

"And I am helping the College—a place that was very important in my life. This college made a real difference in my life. It is nice to be able to give back—and help myself at the same time!"

Current gift annuity rates range from 5.7 percent beginning at age 60 to 11.3 percent for age 90, Kubik said.

To learn more about "gifts that give back," contact Jan Kubik at 609.771.3285 or visit www.tcnj.edu/~alumni/planned_giving/index.html.



© 2006 Don Hamerman

Mildred and Ernest E. Mayo Concert Hall

On April 27, President Gitenstein announced that the 300-seat concert hall in the Music Building—unnamed since its opening in 1993—will now be known as the Mildred and Ernest E. Mayo Concert Hall, in memory of Professor Herbert Mayo's parents.

Mayo, a professor of finance in the School of Business and an aficionado of classical vocal and instrumental music, has agreed to fund an endowment that will support performance activity in the School of Art, Media, and Music, including opera, operetta, and musical theater.

With plans in place to construct a new building for visual arts and interactive multimedia, Art, Media, and Music Dean James Lentini believes that the naming of the concert hall is a wonderful start to the kind of fundraising and development needed for the College to achieve future artistic excellence.

"We are very grateful to Dr. Mayo for this significant generosity," said John Marcy, vice president for development and alumni affairs. "In choosing to honor his parents and support a program in which he has had a longtime interest, he has made a mark that will endure for many, many years. His gesture is charitable in the purest sense of the word. It does not surprise me that he is a teacher...and a good one."

Come join TCNJ's Online Community! It's easy. It's useful. Here's how to do it.

TCNJ's Online Community allows you to stay connected to campus and fellow alumni! You can visit the community at www.tcnjalumni.org for the latest alumni events and news, to find a friend, upload photos to personal pages, or search for job opportunities! In addition, alumni can post class notes, including wedding and birth announcements, update their contact information, and sign up for TCNJ e-mail informational updates.

First time users: Click on the "First Time Login" link in the upper left corner of the alumni Web site. Enter the alumna/us' last name; then select the full name when it appears on the screen. Enter the login ID number listed at the top of the mailing label of this magazine and follow the directions to set up a user name and password.



College revives reunion weekend tradition

TNCJ revived an old tradition by hosting a spring Reunion Weekend on April 27-28. Staged for the first time since the spring of 1999, the event attracted alumni who were celebrating five-year reunions. The College decided to host a spring reunion along with the fall reunions in response to feedback from alums.

Among those who attended was a jovial group from the State Teachers College (STC) Class of 1956, who reunited for their 50th anniversary. Class President Paul Krauss helped arrange an opening night dinner, which included a medley of class songs that revived "step singing" – still another former College tradition – led by Bernie Cook '56.

The Class of 1956 combined to contribute more than \$100,000 in support of students and academic programs. The Class of 1951,

which returned to the College to celebrate its 55th anniversary

reunion, contributed more than \$50,000 to TCNJ's Annual Fund. Alumni whose graduating classes will be celebrating five-year anniversaries during the upcoming 2006-2007 academic year are encouraged to contact Alumni Affairs at 800.347.9621 or via e-mail at alumni@tcnj.edu. Preparations for Homecoming (October 13-14) and Reunion Weekend (spring of 2007) are already underway.



all photos this page © Frank Belluso



Class of 1956 Reunion

Pictured above, back row: left – right: Ann Argerakis Grainger, Masako Matsushita Lee, Marion Kutawski, Alice Feehan Ruch, Barbara Baldino Davis, Dolores Brienza, Joan Brickell Dersch, Karl Mehl, Janet Wilhelm Mehl, Lucille Rees Markay, Bob Scott, Paul Kumpel.

Middle row: left – right: Joan Padula Campbell, Joane Conover Skammer, Doris Oberc, Florence Snediker Vela, Mary Ellen Bowman Voorhees, Barbara Hart Hewitson, Lois Corson, Jane Davidson O'Donnell, Rudy Nadasky, Sister Lillian Harrington, David Gardner, Paula Goetschius Bartow.

Front row: left – right: Myra Zinka Wolgamuth, Marge Hoffman Oehm, Thelma Greenidge Taitt, Lucille Brzozowski McGann, Bernie Crook, John Amos, Paul Krauss, Despena Kalaris Eptamenitis, Lucy Muscatello Campanella, Catherine Fleming Bocci, Edith Dunfee Ries.

Extra! Extra!

A message from Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs John Marcy

We are pleased to announce an increase in the frequency of communications with alumni. We will soon be launching *Alumni Extra*, a newsletter for alumni of the College that will provide some additional correspondence between issues of *TCNJ Magazine*. (Of course, let me remind you that you can receive instantaneous communications by becoming a member of our online community at www.tcnjalumni.org.)

As we have corresponded and visited with alumni across the country this year, we have encountered enthusiastic, loyal, and genuinely interested grads eager to learn more about their College and help sustain its strength and mission. Alumni are proud of and grateful to their *alma mater*, and based on the response we have witnessed to this year's annual

giving effort, they are ready to help as best they can.

As I have mentioned before, The College of New Jersey is being compared favorably to some other top-ranked institutions around the country these days. To be included in the category of "most competitive" according to *Barron's Profiles of American Colleges* puts us on a par with public institutions like the University of Virginia, William and Mary, UNC Chapel Hill, Cal Berkeley, UCLA, and Florida. Only seven public institutions received this ranking, and TCNJ is one of them. What continues to sustain the strength of these colleges is the philanthropic support they receive from their college family – i.e., alumni/ae and friends. In addition, since the state of New Jersey and all states nationwide are clearly trending down

support of state colleges and universities, it is imperative for our college to seek other sources of financial support.

The good news is when we ask alumni to do what they can to help, they are responding.

Participation, participation, participation! Regardless of the size of individual contributions, all gifts mean a great deal to us; I am hoping all alumni recognize this.

The new *Alumni Extra* is intended to keep alumni informed and help them feel even more connected with their school. It seeks to reinforce the incredible work over the past few years by a very active and dedicated Alumni Board in endeavoring to make all alumni feel part of a 62,000 member family.

Stay tuned.

What continues to sustain the strength of these colleges is the philanthropic support they receive from their college family – i.e., alumni/ae and friends.

Alumni gatherings west and east

Over the past six months, alumni have been reconnecting with each other and the College. Here are a few event highlights:

On February 8, Alan and Diane Meinster, both Class of 1986, hosted an alumni couple's dinner for 40 alums at their Roebing Avenue restaurant, Marsilio's, in Trenton.

Diana Lygas '05, director of annual giving, ventured west to California and attended four receptions. Susan Drozdowski '86 hosted a wine-tasting at the Chancellor Hotel in San Francisco, where 15 alums sampled various selections. Pacific Grove was the venue for a group hosted by Joel Panzer '82. Next stop was Harper's Restaurant, just

off the Avenue of the Stars in Los Angeles, where 50 alumni had a great time reconnecting and meeting President R. Barbara Gitenstein. The last reception took place in San Diego, where alumni from many generations met for lunch overlooking the ocean.

Gathered at the Chancellor Hotel in San Francisco for an alumni reception are, at left: Skip Sikora and his wife, Susan '70, with Michael Steingraber '76 in the center.



Early March found us back east in Hoboken, where Dawn Kaplan '89, owner of Liberty Bar & Grill, opened her doors to 55 alums.

Approximately 15 of our EOF alumni gathered in Atlantic City at the Sheraton for a reception prior to the New Jersey EOF Gala, which celebrated 30 years of the EOF program in the state.

At the Chancellor Hotel in San Francisco for a regional alumni reception are Satyan Shah '98 and his wife, Rima.

