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Fall Issue 2009
October 2009



The College of New Jersey

Welcome to the Fall 2009 issue of TCNJ's Graduate Column Newsletter!

In this issue, we are pleased to share information regarding: one of our graduate professors and his new role on campus, information regarding Career Services, a PAWS tutorial, five outstanding graduate students within various programs, introductions to new faculty members, and important upcoming calendar dates and reminders for students!

On behalf of the Office of Graduate Studies, best wishes for an enjoyable Fall semester. We look forward to seeing you on campus!

Susan Hydro, Assistant Dean -Office of Graduate Studies

One of Our Own Embarks on a New TCNJ Experience!



Congratulations to
Dr. Mark Kiselica,
newly-appointed Vice Provost of
The College of New Jersey!

Dr. Kiselica has been with TCNJ's Department of Counselor Education since 1994 and now he begins a new journey outside of our graduate community. Within his time in the Counselor Education department, Dr. Kiselica has held a multitude of positions including chairperson, coordinator of community counseling, associate dean, and director of Faculty Recruitment and Development. He is the instructor of *Introduction to Counseling* as well as

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One of our own...cont.

Counseling Boys and Men, which he developed based on the area of his professional expertise. Dr. Kiselica is the author of 120 publications, which include five books, focusing his research on the misconception and needs of teenage fathers. Dr. Kiselica's professional credentials include National Certified Counselor, Licensed Professional Counselor, Licensed Psychologist, professor of Counselor Education, and faculty advisor for the Alpha Epsilon chapter of the Chi Sigma Ota counseling honor society.

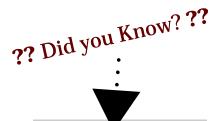
Beyond his professional credentials and achievements, Dr. Kiselica is very hospitable to his colleagues and students, and the genuineness of his care and interest is tangible. Every year he extends an invitation to professors and all students within the Department of Counselor Education to attend a Pot Lock

Dessert Party at his house. Dr. Kiselica warmly opens his home and encourages camaraderie and fun through good company, great conversation, and even better dessert!

Dr. Kiselica possesses the character that comforts a stranger, the enthusiasm and passion that becomes contagious, and the belief in his students that they can make anything possible. He has assisted many students in making headway in novel research areas, achieving publication credits, and presenting their work at various conferences. Additionally, Dr. Kiselica has motivated, supported, and guided many students throughout their graduate experience. He is a remarkable colleague, professor, and person who will be greatly missed within the department.

Dr. Kiselica will take on his full commitment to his new college-wide

position after this semester, and we wish him congratulations and best of luck from everyone in the graduate community!



Library Room
413 is a
group study
room reserved
for Graduate
Students!

Drop in to Career Services!

Planning on interning or applying for a job? Career Services offers a variety of resources to help you prepare and market yourself through your resume and interview process. Career Services is located on the first floor of Forcina Hall, room 158. Inside you will find many helpful counselors and resources to assist you with resumes, interviewing skills, career counseling, and job searches!

Workshops are held every fall and spring semester to help students

with cover letter writing, resume critiques, interviewing skills, and other useful tips for job searching! Career counseling services are available as one-on-one sessions to discuss career options, construct and edit resumes, and prepare and practice interviewing skills.

Stop in the Career Library with over 450 resources located in Forcina 155. Resources include career and employer information, job searching assistance, interviewing preparation materials, and much more!

Also visit
http://www.tcnj.edu/~career/guidance/library.html for online sources and the TCNJ Career Handbook.

Drop in hours are available!

- Monday and Thursday 1:30-3:30
- Tuesday 3:30-5:30
- Friday 10:00-12:00

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PAWS



PAWS is the new site of all student financial and registration activity! PAWS has an online "shopping cart" where students are able to store intended classes before the upcoming registration. Once their registration opens, students can submit their "shopping cart" of courses for the upcoming semester. Another feature is the financial aid "To Do" list, where students are able to access incomplete portions of their loans or financial payment forms without having to call campus offices. Students are able to use Self Service to attend to their financial to do list. Students are also able to view their academic advisor's information online. In addition, students are capable of seeing if they are on track to graduate by viewing their "Academic Requirements" to make sure they are fulfilling the necessary courses to graduate.

Graduate Studies would like to familiarize students with certain areas of PAWS in order to get a better understanding of the system for the upcoming registration window beginning November 3rd. Students can begin by logging onto PAWS using their email Username and Password and opening the Student Center.

Q. Wondering when your registration time is?

Begin by viewing the Enrollment Date tab, where students can see when their registration opportunity opens.

By clicking **details**, students can view their personalized registration time.



Enrollment Appoi	ntments	541	22 V	ac .	
Session	Appointment Begins	Appointment Ends	Max Total Units	Max No GPA Units	Max Audit Units
Regular Academic Session	March 19, 2009 9:50AM	June 15, 2009 11:00PM	4.50	1.00	1.00

O. Wondering how to search for upcoming classes?

Students can search their department to find the classes

that are interesting or required for screen of PAWS and click Search **Classes** on the top right hand side. Students then select the term they are interested in and identify the department or program where they are enrolled.

next semester. Begin on the student Select at least 2 search criteria. Click Search to view your search results. Class Search Criteria Course Subject Accounting (ACC) Course Number is exactly Course Career contains greater than or equal to Use Additional Search Criteria to narrow your search results Additional Search Criteria CLEAR CRITERIA

As students identify the classes they plan to take, they can add it to their

"enrollment shopping cart." This cart saves the classes which the student plans

to enroll in once the registration window opens. Click select **class** to add a class section to the shopping cart.

			View All Sections	First 1-2 of 2 Last
Section	01-LEC(80033)		Status 💮	select class
Session	1-REG ACAD			
	Days & Times	Room	Instructor	Meeting Dates
				09/25/2009 -

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PAWS...cont.



Q. How is the shopping cart used?

Once your registration begins, students can click the **Enrollment Shopping Cart** link on the beginning student screen, located under "This Week's Schedule." Students will be able to view their saved classes in their shopping cart, and then click **Enroll** to become registered in those classes.



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A screen will indicate whether it was a successful registration, a class has been filled, or prerequisites were not met.



Q. Where can I view my grades?

Students can open the drop box located in the **Academics Tab** and select the **Grade** option. It will then take students to a screen that allows them to choose the semester of interest. It will also display cumulative grades once the semester is selected.

How can I apply for graduation?

The same drop box (in the Academics Tab) also features an option to **Apply for Graduation**. Once clicked, students can direct their way through the information pages that follow.

This drop box contains many other options that are informative for students including Official and Unofficial Transcript Requests, Course History, and a Student Schedule.

Practice makes perfect! PAWS also offers a student tutorial and information page for students to visit for further assistance, located at http://www.tcnj.edu/~it/paws/index.html. Students are encouraged to practice navigating their way through PAWS and understanding the different features it has to offer!

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Meet the Students



he College of New Jersey offers degree and certificate programs that challenge graduate students to learn, apply, and excel in the career field of their choice. With the help of a very friendly and supportive faculty, graduate students experience the high caliber courses that will prepare them for their field. All of The College's students exhibit dedication within the various departments and in order to get a closer look at their experiences, the Office of Graduate Studies sought recommendations from program coordinators to highlight several outstanding students. These students were gracious enough to volunteer their time to allow an interview that highlights their work, achievements, and a glimpse of each of their programs. It was a privilege working with these students, and the Office of Graduate Studies is honored to feature them in this Fall 2009 issue.

Lauren Senko, Deaf and Hard of Hearing 5 Year Program



Introducing Lauren Senko! Lauren is finishing her last semester in the 5 year Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program in conjunction with Elementary Education. Lauren earned her bachelor's degree in December 2008 in Deaf and Hard of Hearing Elementary Education and Mathematics. She will earn her Master of Arts in Teaching along with her teacher certification in December of 2009.

Before TCNJ, Lauren had always been passionate about teaching and knew it was the direction she wanted to head towards with her education. Being hard of hearing herself, Lauren had no doubts that she was meant to enroll at TCNJ once learning about the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program.

Her status as an individual who is hard of hearing has ignited a passion in her for teaching in that field as well as led her towards involvement in several research projects with Dr. Jean Slobodzian, a professor in the program. Their research focuses on "the identity development of hard of hearing elementary-aged students as well as the accommodations offered to these students." The mentorship and opportunity to research, present, and publish their work has been such a rewarding experience for Lauren, one which has made her want to contribute to the field of education not only by teaching but also as a researcher.

Lauren completed the first semester of her student teaching last Spring, teaching six 5th and 6th graders in a resource room in Moorestown, NJ. The experience in the resource room was a fantastic one for Lauren, feeling as if it shaped her as a teacher and prepared her to work with students who are deaf and hard of hearing. Lauren is currently student teaching in a 4th grade classroom in Basking Ridge for her Elementary Education placement where she is already seeing herself improve in areas of classroom management and differentiated instruction. Her classroom contains 23 students from very diverse backgrounds and learning needs, and Lauren feels the setting is preparing her for any group of students the future has to offer her. While student teaching, Lauren is also completing her graduate courses. When Lauren does find time outside of graduate school, she loves to spend it with her family and friends, go running, and read for leisure.

As Lauren approaches the end of her TCNJ experience, she advises new graduate students to "savor every moment of your experiences here at TCNJ and learn all that you can in the short time that you are here!" Moreover, Lauren would like graduate students to know that through her

time here she learned that her classes and experiences will certainly have an impact in the upcoming years because they have helped positively shape her for her career. Lauren learned many life lessons here at TCNJ in addition to the preparation for her career and future endeavors. Lauren's advice to new students includes having a positive attitude and keeping an open mind, which is the key to being prepared for anything!

After graduation, Lauren hopes to obtain a position as a Teacher of the Deaf, ideally being able to work in a variety of different academic settings to deepen the breadth of her experiences. In the future, Lauren has hopes of pursuing her Ed.D. and becoming a professor in the field of Deaf Education. Lauren is very excited about life and all it has to offer and believes in embracing each day by living it to the fullest. TCNJ wishes Lauren the best of luck with all of her aspirations as she enters into the field of education!



Jason Smith, Counselor Education



Introducing Jason Smith, a full-time graduate student in the Department of Counselor Education. Jason is a student in the Community track of the program, with plans of graduating with a Master of Arts in Counselor Education: Community Counseling in May 2010.

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Meet the Students...cont.



Prior to the Counselor Education program, Jason has always enjoyed helping people, often being referred to as the "advice man" by not only his friends and family but also those who did not even know him very well. During those experiences, which began in high school, Jason realized he was interested in a career that allows him to help people through discussion. Jason came to TCNJ as an undergraduate student studying Psychology, and he graduated in 2008. Throughout his undergraduate studies, Jason shifted from research, psychological, and mental health- based interests and became directed towards personal communication, guided resolution, and supportive counseling. Upon extensive research, Jason found that because of TCNJ's reputation and the nationally accredited counseling program, TCNJ's Community Counseling program was the best place to prepare him for his career.

Part of the counseling program is made up of a two or three semester internship, and Jason began his first internship experience this semester in the TCNJ Clinic located in Forcina Hall. This clinical experience has allowed Jason to apply techniques, interventions, and communication styles which he learned throughout his coursework. He uses these skills everyday and witnesses the effectiveness they have in conveying his care and understanding of the client. Jason has seen the communication styles translate into his interactions with clients, colleagues, and students beyond just the counseling setting. In addition to his internship and full time class schedule, Jason is also a Graduate Assistant for the Regional Training Center in the School of Education. When he does manage to find free time outside of his graduate commitments, Jason loves watching sports and playing his bass guitar and drums. He is even a part of Gospel United, which plays on campus periodically!

While enrolled at TCNJ, Jason has enjoyed the insight he receives in his classes, the life lessons learned from the faculty, and the friendships he shared with colleagues. The most rewarding experience has been the joy of learning about the field he will be a part of in his future. In the meantime, Jason's advice to incoming students would be to utilize the classes that are so geared towards what the students really care about, which for Jason, has made it the most enjoyable

education he has received. In addition, Jason suggests students should speak with their advisors often because they will ensure a student is on the right track. They will convey all appropriate information regarding courses, internships, and the job hunt. It is also helpful to link up with someone who has been in the program to guide new students through the graduate experience.

As Jason nears graduation, he plans on applying for a job in New Jersey working with the "at-risk' adolescent population, perhaps through DYFS. In the future, Jason hopes to return to TCNJ to obtain his EdS. in Marriage and Family Therapy. TCNJ wishes Jason the best of luck as he finishes his semesters and continues with his internship!



The Regional Training Center

CNJ and the School of Education is partnered with The Regional Training Center to provide a program that offers professional development courses in addition to courses leading towards a Master of Education in Educational Leadership: Instruction. It is a 2-3 year program allowing teachers to attend classes which are offered at various times and locations to accommodate the schedules of working professionals. The coordinator of the program, Dr. Alan Amtzis, recommended three students for interviews who strongly reflect the teaching personalities and styles present in the RTC classroom. They display such impressive intelligence, strong engagement with the coursework, and challenging spirits that strengthen both the students and instructors. Their learning styles and classroom presence stands out as exemplary and this article is only a small glimpse into the exceptional qualities that these students possess.

Victoria Scarpa, RTC



Meet Victoria Scarpa, a student in the Masters of Education in Instruction program in conjunction with RTC! Victoria is currently a History teacher at Passaic County Technical Institute in Wayne as well as the History Club advisor. Victoria loves the convenience of RTC because it allows full-time teachers the ability to take courses in locations and times that works with a teacher's schedule. This allows Victoria the opportunity to maintain her extracurricular activities as a cheerleading coach and a local NJEA Union representative.

Victoria learned about program from her colleagues who previously completed it, and realized she could make her goal of earning a Master's degree a possibility while balancing her activities and commitments. Victoria began her teaching as an instructor for educational courses in Walt Disney World. This experience gave Victoria the opportunity to practice thinking on her feet while facilitating classes in the Disney park. Since then, Victoria was granted the opportunity from the National Endowment for the Humanities to travel and increase her knowledge. With this chance, she studied at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii and St. Augustine, Florida. These learning experiences increased Victoria's ability to put fun into her teaching and her own learning!

The program allows Victoria to immediately apply the new instructional methods she learns in her classroom. Later she can share the strengths and challenges of her students with her RTC classmates to facilitate feedback and improve her skills. Seeing her own students' success and achievement as a result of the application of these strategies is the motivation that drives Victoria through the coursework.

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Meet the Students...cont.



In addition, Victoria's favorite thing about being a part of the RTC and TCNJ program has been the professors because of the way they incorporate their real life experiences into the course. Victoria senses that it is a reciprocated feeling from the professors as well because so many of her classmates are extremely inspiring as students. This relationship in the classroom enables Victoria to attend class with an openness to change, share, and grow.

Victoria plans on completing the program in the Spring of 2011. In the meantime, she continues to see the effectiveness of her instruction inspire and motivate her students. Victoria sees that what is learned in her classes translates easily into her instruction with her students, meeting their needs and fostering their strengths. In addition to the recounting of these experiences, Victoria's advice to students who are preparing to enter this program is "plan and be excited because RTC makes goals possible even to the busiest teacher!" Best of luck to Victoria as she finishes the program.

newspaper in Nevada, and worked for an outdoor intervention program in California. David lives in Philadelphia with his wife and daughter and is also is a coach at his high school.

The experiences David has had with RTC have inspired him to reflect on his teaching and use the coursework as an opportunity to strengthen his skills. The balance between theory and practice in his courses is beneficial because students receive real and practical information that is classroom-ready. This aspect of RTC has improved David's understanding of assessment techniques, cooperative learning strategies, and differentiated instruction. David advises graduate students and those working on professional development to use coursework and opportunities like these in a meaningful way because "you really do get what you give!"

In the future, David would love to join the RTC faculty in helping teachers work on their craft. For now, David is going to continue doing what he loves: teaching. TCNJ and RTC wish David the best of luck with his continued educational endeavors.

Applied Behavioral Analysis Institute, which is associated with early intervention. Beginning to feel burnt out in the field, Michelle returned to her undergraduate degree and began teaching in the high school. While teaching, she simultaneously worked towards obtaining her New Jersey teaching certification. Once working in the high school, Michelle realized and valued the importance of a higher degree, and with the coercion of a colleague, she applied and enrolled for her Masters with RTC.

Michelle loves the social and professional networks she gains through RTC because she feels a professional comfort with other teachers who are working with administrative challenges, parent interactions, and classroom management experiences. Michelle takes strategies, knowledge, and skills she learns from her coursework and immediately applies them in her role as a teacher to address these different areas. The application shows because Michelle's students can tell when she has just attended an RTC course. They see that she brings an inspirational feeling to her classroom after each weekend she attends her RTC courses. She attempts to employ new and different techniques in her class, making the immediate application and use of her coursework the most beneficial aspect of the RTC program.

The Masters program with RTC has been an exciting and fulfilling journey for Michelle, especially realizing how soon she will finish. With the completion of the program rapidly approaching, Michelle's advice to incoming students is that the "experience will be what you make of it, and it will change your teaching and your classroom completely!" Michelle is also currently enrolled in a Reading certification program and would love to return to RTC as an instructor in the future. Congratulations to Michelle for the completion of the program and best of luck and continued success in the classroom!

David Scorsolini, RTC

(Photo not available)

Introducing David Scorsolini! David is currently an English and Film teacher at Haddonfield Memorial High School in Haddonfield, NJ. David's previous teaching experience includes Notre Dame High School in Lawrenceville. David is currently enrolled in the Master of Education in Instruction program in conjunction with RTC, and he hopes to complete the program in 2011. David became a part of the program after an RTC instructor was invited as a speaker to a professional development seminar at his school. David was able to utilize the non-matriculating opportunity to help get him on track towards earning his long time goal of a Master's degree. But even before working in education David was a resident on the West Coast with several different career ventures. He wrote for a

Michelle Jaross, RTC



Meet Michelle Jaross! Michelle is a Special Education teacher and basketball coach at Mendham High School, where she has been working for the past five years. Michelle plans on completing the RTC program this December, 2009.

Before teaching, Michelle earned her undergraduate degree in Special Education and began working in New Jersey for a private



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Meet the Faculty



CNJ would like to welcome several new faculty members to the graduate community. These new faculty members come from varied backgrounds and offer strengths and resources that will contribute to the development of professionals entering into the education field. These new instructors will contribute to the overall sense of support and community, which is offered by the faculty here at TCNJ. The professors help to make TCNJ's graduate school experience a productive and challenging one. Their instruction, support, and knowledge has challenged, inspired, and helped students succeed in their graduate programs and career fields. The Office of Graduate Studies is very excited to introduce new faculty members to the TCNJ community as well as showcase the talents they carry with



Dr. Nashia Magee, Department of Educational Adminitration and Secondary Education

Dr. Magee is currently holding a new position as the Science Education Coordinator. Under this title, her responsibilities are split between undergraduate and graduate courses. Within the graduate area of Secondary Education, Dr. Magee teaches the Science Methods course, the Curriculum course, as well as the Capstone course for students doing their student teaching.

Dr. Magee comes to The College of New Jersey after living in various areas. She earned her undergraduate degree in Environmental Health from the University of Washington and continued her studies at Washington State pursuing a Masters in Education. Dr. Magee then moved to Iowa where she taught high school

science while simultaneously attending the University of Northern Iowa for her doctorate. Her dissertation was a self study examining the teaching practice from her Biology class. Her dissertation was a part of the Teacher Research Movement which focused on providing teachers with a voice in academia by having the ability to research from their own classroom and then apply it in education. After completing her dissertation and still working in the high school, Dr. Magee wanted to teach in higher education, leading her to The College of New Jersey.

When she first visited TCNJ she was welcomed by the very friendly and warm faculty, and she was extremely impressed with the students who were so very nice and excited about education. Since being here, the faculty and students have kindly welcomed her and have been very supportive throughout her transition. Dr. Magee is awestruck with the luxurious library filled with resources, and she is impressed by the constant volume of studying students. She feels happy to be in a school where education is so valued.

The move to New Jersey and TCNJ is Dr. Magee's first time living on the East coast! When she is not teaching, Dr. Magee is exploring the new area with her three dogs, Parker, George, and Blake. She describes living in this area as a combination of Los Angeles and Iowa because she is 10 minutes from farms and 10 minutes from a city! Previous to New Jersey, Dr. Magee and her husband have lived in various areas in the West Coast and Midwest. Since her move to New Jersey, Dr. Magee has enjoyed visits to New York City and Philadelphia as well as taken advantage of the pumpkin and apple picking available in the area. It has been an enjoyable transition and Dr. Magee is looking forward to the time ahead of her here at TCNJ. Welcome, Dr. Magee, and we wish you well throughout the upcoming semesters!





Dr. Noreen Moore, Department of Special Education, Language, and Literacy

Dr. Moore teaches undergraduate literacy courses for students majoring in Elementary Education and Special Education. These courses explore the fundamental methods for teaching reading and writing at the elementary level. Dr. Moore exposes students to the field when she brings her classes to an elementary school so the students can see the theories put into practice. In addition to these courses, Dr. Moore will teach a graduate course in the spring for the Masters of Education in Reading and a course in the 5 year Special Education program in the summer.

Dr. Moore earned her undergraduate degree in English from Temple University. She then went on to graduate school to study English literature at the University of Delaware. After earning a Master's degree, Dr. Moore completed several education courses and began teaching English Language Arts for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. While teaching, Dr. Moore stayed at the University of Delaware to earn another degree, her Masters in Education. Dr. Moore then taught and researched at an elementary school while she earned her PhD in Literacy Education from the University of Delaware. Throughout her doctorate program, Dr. Moore focused her study on peer revision in 5th graders in order to bring audience awareness to mind so that young students consider different points of views when writing persuasive essays. All of these research areas and interests are related and applied to the courses Dr. Moore teaches in the School of Education here at TCNJ.

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Meet the Faculty...cont.



Dr. Moore has always heard of the great reputation TCNJ has by researching the school and through first- hand accounts from her close friends who are alumni of The College. So far, TCNJ has exceeded its reputation and high acclaim, according to Dr. Moore! The community feeling of the campus has helped in her transition, and the faculty has been extremely welcoming and supportive. Dr. Moore loves interacting with her students and feels the experience so far has provided a great environment to apply what she has been studying for so long.

As a veteran to school, and someone who can sympathize and understand the perspective of graduate students, Dr. Moore's advice to graduate students would be to be passionate! "Be passionate about

who and what you teach and use the resources in the classroom, the teachers, and other students to find answers and help chase your ideas about learning!"

The experiences and exposures that have led Dr. Moore to TCNJ have prepared her for all the challenges a graduate school may offer. She has learned from her research, understood the challenges teachers face at different education levels, and is using her experiences to strengthen the material in her courses. Welcome, Dr. Moore, and good luck with the upcoming academic year!







Mark Your Calendar!



Graduation/Program Completion Application Deadlines

October 15:

Deadline to apply for December 2009 graduation (degree/completion posting)

January 29:

Deadline to apply for May 2010 graduation (degree/completion posting and commencement)

February 23:

Deadline to apply for August 2010 graduation (degree/completion posting)

Graduation Notice

If you are planning to graduate in December, but have not yet applied to do so, please contact Records and Registration

at: 609-771-2647.

*A \$35 late fee will apply.

Visit
www.tcnj.edu/~recreg/calendars
for more details

Fall 2009/ Spring 2010

November

3rd-13th: Spring and summer registration window

(If you are a non-matriculated student applying for Spring matriculation, wait until admission decision and then register in January)

25th-27th: Thanksgiving Break

December

15th: Last day of fall Graduate classes

January

19th: First day of Spring classes **19th-27th:** Add/Drop Week

!!

Important Reminders





December Graduation Notes

Students planning to Graduate December '09 who have not yet filed an application for graduation and/or certificate completion must do so **immediately**. In addition to the \$100 graduation application fee, the \$35 late fee will apply as well.



May Graduation Notes

Students planning to Graduate May'10 MUST apply for graduation and/or certificate completion by January 29, 2010. Contact your program coordinator with any questions regarding your ability to graduate in May 2010.



Electronic Billing and Email

Students are reminded that all billing is completed electronically by using PAWS. Remember to check for E-mail notifications that are sent to your TCNJ account for any outstanding financial obligations because paper bills will NOT be sent. Students are expected to check their email two times per week.

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