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# PACE IS...

Program for Acceleration in Careers of Engineering

June 2000

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Traditional PACE Legacy ceremony.

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## Students Honored at Annual Banquet

Once again PACE students, parents, staff, friends, and family have gathered together for the annual end of year banquet. This year's celebration of student accomplishments was held on May 20 at Lane Hall on Fort Monmouth. In recent years the banquet has moved from a Sunday evening in June to a Saturday afternoon in May. Otherwise, the banquet is very much the same as it has been. It features a keynote speaker, an awards ceremony, and the Legacy ceremony.

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## Sony Wonder Technology Lab Field Trip

By Cynthia Jean  
*Student*

It was a cool Saturday morning in February; the sun was trying to break through the clouds and members of PACE-Monmouth sat in their cars waiting for a charter bus to arrive. As the minutes drew longer some began to wonder if the bus would even arrive. Sure enough, our bus showed up at 9 a.m. and everyone boarded. A head count and attendance was taken and then we were finally on our way.

As we rolled into New York we began to really take in the sites and saw some things that one would only see in New York. When we reached our destination some people took

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*Our trip finally answered one question for me, the one that usually comes up in math or engineering class, "What are we ever going to use this stuff for?"*

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advantage of the opportunity to take pictures. Afterwards we headed to the Sony Wonder Technology Lab in anticipation of what innovations we would encounter. Upon our arrival in the Sony building, Wonderbot, a talking robot that actually had a real conversation with some PACE students, greeted us. It was pretty interesting and some of us wondered how the robot was programmed to talk as it did. After our conversation with Wonderbot, we were given swipe cards to activate and then led into a room where we were instructed to take a picture, give voice samples, and type in our names. Our swipe cards served as a form of ID throughout the exhibits.

Each exhibit taught us something new about the technology we sometimes take for granted today. In order to activate the exhibit though, you had to swipe your card. Some of the exhibits we were able to interact with were: Sonograms,

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## Message from the Co-Administrators

Here we are at the end of another PACE year. Whenever you reach a milestone it is a good time to reflect on all the things you have accomplished and the many ways in which you have grown. We hope that each of you has grown through your involvement with PACE, kept your mind open to the prospect of science and engineering as a career possibility, and hopefully met a new friend.

The PACE Monmouth program has grown this past year as a result of the ideas and innovations of our staff, students and parents. Some new activities we tried this year included:

- Our new website which will enable us to bring the resources of the Internet to the PACE Family
- The student-planned and student-run Basketball Jamboree which showcased both the on-court and off-court leadership skills of our students
- Our first Open House in which we invited prospective new students and staff to spend the day with us

In addition to the new activities, we continued to offer tried-n-true PACE activities which have always provided value and broad, new experiences for PACE students. Some of these included:

- College Tour to several North Carolina universities as well as outings to the bowling alley, roller-skating rink and go-kart racing
- Kwanzaa celebration in which students showcased their performing talents and parents and staff showcased their culinary skills
- Math Bowl, Thinkathon and Essay contest in which students displayed the skills that they learned in the midst of competition against one another

Looking forward to next year we hope to continue to find new and interesting ways to inspire our students to take advantage of opportunities to develop and display leadership. And we hope that, along the way, we encourage some to become tomorrow's scientists, mathematicians and engineers.

To all our students, parents, staff and other supporters, we **thank you** for your part in making this past year successful!

John and Uneeda

## 1999-2000: Year in Review

PACE's eighteenth year was a full year. Here is a review of last year's events.

### Thinkathon

The Thinkathon is an annual fall student competition. Student teams visit six stations where they answer questions, or solve puzzles in an effort to accumulate as many points as possible. The stations test the students' reasoning ability or general knowledge. This year's event was held on October 30, 1999. One of the stations was PACE Family Feud. It's similar to the TV game show, Family Feud. Answers come from a survey of PACE students, staff, and parents. For fun, try to guess the top four answers to these two questions from last year's event:

1. Name a popular magazine.
2. Name a college that is difficult to get into.

Answers are at the end of this article.

### Kwanzaa

This is a PACE celebration of the African-American holiday. Students sang, rapped, recited poetry, danced and stepped. Many students and staff modeled multicultural garb in the fashion show. And, of course, there was plenty of good food. Kwanzaa held on December 11, 1999 and was a joyous wrap-up of the fall semester.

### Student Takeover Day

On March 11, 2000 the students became the teachers and the teachers became the students. That's the theme for Student Takeover Day. The Eye-Opener was a discussion lead by seniors Eleith Brown, Charlene Cooley, and Mercedes McElrath. The discussion went so well that it spilled over into the math period. Other students took over the math and engineering classes.

### Basketball Jamboree

The Jamboree was a basketball tournament fund-raiser. Students, lead by senior Mercedes McElrath, ran the event almost entirely. The tournament was open to the community and held at the Boy and Girls Club in Asbury Park on March 25. It was a great success.

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# PACE-Monmouth Goes Online!

By John M. Jones  
Staff

Early this Spring PACE-Monmouth unveiled its new website at <http://www.pace-monmouth.org>.

The website will provide a portal for access to high school, college, scholarship, and career development services located on the Internet. It will also feature access to cultural and historical information sites and provide community-of-interest services to PACE-Monmouth students, staff, parents, and alumni.

We are excited about the prospects for sharing information and providing services to the PACE Family via our website - both PACE-Monmouth members as well as our extended PACE YDC Family.

Currently, the website offers access to such services as:

- Homework Help and SAT/PSAT Help sites
- College resource listings
- Scholarship resource listings
- PACE-Monmouth Calendar of Events
- Inspirational Quotes and Sayings for each week
- Information on PACE-Monmouth mission, goals, classes

and operations

- Student and Staff recruitment brochures and forms
- Information about our recent *Class of 2000* Graduates

Our emphasis will always be on student related services. For example, we will be adding career development, job / internship search and black and latino culture / history links to the site over the summer. However, we will also begin to turn some of our energy towards making the site a useful vehicle for sharing information among staff and among the parents who get involved in planning events and activities. We would also like to see our over 200 PACE-Monmouth alumni begin to use the website to network among themselves, let us know what they are up to, and make PACE Family members aware of the services our alumni offer through their businesses and affiliate organizations.

Students, staff, parents and alumni are all encouraged to visit our site regularly. The site will feature many updates over the summer even though PACE Monmouth will be on hiatus.

Anyone with great ideas or useful links to contribute to our site should send these to [webmaster@pace-monmouth.org](mailto:webmaster@pace-monmouth.org).

We've only begun to tap into the value that the new site will provide. Through the ideas and innovations of our staff, students, parents and alumni, the site will become an invaluable tool to the **entire PACE Family!** ❖

*John M. Jones is the PACE-Monmouth Co-Administrator, teaches Computer Science, and serves as the PACE-Monmouth webmaster.*

## SENIOR DESTINATIONS

### PACE SCHOLAR

Shanelle Banks  
Naomi Bristol  
Eleith Brown  
Tristan Charles  
Charlene Cooley  
Darryl Douglas

Brennan Hackett  
Cynthia Jean  
Mercedes McElrath  
Kelly Patterson  
Michael Roberson

Darrius Seward  
Nehemiah Smith  
Tiffany Smith  
Wesley Underwood  
Vanessa Watson  
Jasmine Weaver

### PLANS TO ATTEND

Brookdale Community College  
University of Delaware  
Temple University  
University of Hartford  
Case Western Reserve University  
Rochester Institute of Technology

Yale University  
Nova Southeastern University  
Montclair State University  
Univ. of Medicine and Dentistry  
Manhattan College

Clark University  
Monmouth University  
George Washington University  
Drexel University  
Rutgers University  
University of Virginia

### INTENDS TO STUDY

Computer Science or Architecture  
Computer Engineering  
Biophysics; with concentration in pre-dentistry  
Mechanical Engineering  
Electrical or Computer Engineering  
Mechanical Engineering

Pre-med and neurobiology  
Pharmacy  
Computer Science  
Pre-Dentistry  
Cinematography

Criminal Justice  
Biology major / criminal justice minor  
Finance and International Business  
Architecture  
Psychology and Pre-med  
Forensics Science / Pre-Med

## College Tour

This year's college tour was to North Carolina. It featured visits to North Carolina A&T, North Carolina Central, UNC Chapel Hill, and Winston-Salem University. PACE alumnus Shayne O'Reilly, class of 1998, spoke to the group at North Carolina, A&T.

## Math Bowl

The Math Bowl is a student team competition held in the spring. Two students, one from each team, race against each other to solve a math problem. If the two students are taking the same math subject (algebra I, geometry, etc.) they solve a problem in that subject. If not, they solve a general problem. The first student to correctly answer the question (within the time limit) wins points for his or her team. Try doing this general problem from last year's Math Bowl. The answer is below. By the way, you have to answer within one minute to get any points.

There is a large box full of balls. All the balls are labeled

with one of the numbers 1, 5, 25, or 125. Someone has drawn four balls at random. The total of the numbers on the four balls is 56. How is each of the balls labeled?

The Math Bowl was created about eight years ago. It has evolved over the years to its present form. Fun, competitive, and exciting, the Math Bowl has become one of the favorite events of the year.

## Answers

Thinkathon answers: Name a popular magazine. The top four answers were Ebony, Essence, YSB, and Vibe. Name a college that is difficult to get into. The top four answers were Harvard, Princeton, MIT, and Yale.

Math Bowl answer: Two balls are labeled 25, one is 5, and one is 1.

Pictures of some of this last year's events are on this page and the next. ❖



Uneeda Williams, 1999-2000 Co-Administrator, Rosie Brown-Cooley, parent, and Banquet keynote speaker Dr. Lenworth Gunther.



Seniors Eleith Brown, Mercedes McElrath, and Charlene Cooley lead the Eye-Opener on Student Takeover day.



PACE staff and students across the street from the Sony Wonder Technology Lab in New York City.



Intro to Engineering class on Student Takeover Day.

## College Trip



## Math Bowl



## BANQUET AWARDS

### CLASS AWARDS

	MOST OUTSTANDING	MOST IMPROVED
Algebra I	Stephanie Kee	Shaneale Brown
Geometry	Dayon Saunders Mario Rojas	Natasha Nelson
Algebra II	Joanna Aiken Monet Williams	Kimberly Johnson
Advanced Math	Eleith Brown Cynthia Jean	—
Calculus	Wesley Underwood	Kelly Patterson
Intro to Engineering	Shaneale Brown Renaldo Sears	Meggai Fray
EE	Joanna Aiken	Corey Johnson
Computer Science	Eric Majette	Kimberly Johnson
Senior Engineering	Eleith Brown	—

### BRIDGE BUILDING AWARDS

1 <sup>st</sup>	Meggai Fray
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Michael Evans
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ronaldo Sears

### ESSAY CONTEST AWARDS

1 <sup>st</sup>	Joanna Aiken
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Darryl Douglas
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jessica Napoleon

### STUDENT CHOICE AWARDS

Student of the Year	Charlene Cooley
Parent of the Year	Deneen Hurley-Jackson
Staffers of the Year	Kraig Sanders Uneeda Williams Mike Perry

## Entertainment

Tracy Wilson and former PACE students Katrina, Sherelle, and Victor Rush provided entertainment. Tracy Wilson sang. Katrina and Sherelle did a dance. Victor provided musical accompaniment.

## Keynote Address

The keynote speaker was Dr. Lenworth Gunther. Dr. Gunther, a teacher and educational and business consultant, has taught African, Caribbean, and African American studies at a number of colleges in New Jersey. He gave a dynamic keynote address in which he talked about the importance of education and what one does with it. He gave historical references, urged the students to challenge themselves, and paid homage to those that started the PACE program 18 years ago.

## Awards

Nineteen different students, three staff, and a parent were recognized with awards. Awards for Most Outstanding Student and Most Improved Student were awarded for the math and engineering classes. Winners of these class awards received plaques or trophies. Cash awards were given for the Introduction to Engineering Bridge Building contest and the Essay contest. First place in the Bridge Building contest went to Meggai Fray who received \$30. Michael Evans (\$20) and Ronaldo Sears (\$15) were the second and third place finishers. Shaneale Brown received a participation award. Joanna Aiken won \$50 for first place in the Essay contest. Darryl Douglas, \$30 for second place, and Jessica Napoleon, \$20 for third place, were the other Essay contest winners.

Charlene Cooley was voted Student of the Year by her fellow students. Other student choice awards went to Deneen Hurley-Jackson as Parent of the Year, and to Kraig Sanders, Uneeda Williams, and Mike Perry as Staffers of the Year.

Finally, the Frederick Dempsey American Legion Post 266 awarded \$25 scholarships to all seventeen graduating seniors. (See the sidebar for a list of award winners.)

## Legacy Ceremony

Seventeen seniors graduated from PACE this year, the largest graduating class since 1995, when 19 graduated. Sixteen participated in the Legacy ceremony. (Kelly Patterson could not attend.) In the ceremony, the seniors stand side by side in front of the dimmed banquet hall with

continued on next page

## SENIOR LEGACY STATEMENTS

As I graduate from the PACE program I leave to the underclassmen - waking up early on Saturday, trying to stay awake and listening to what is going on during the Eye-opener - to remember "Wisdom can never be lost, it only can be gained."

*Shanelle Latreese Banks*

Nothing is impossible if you only believe. Possess an eagle mentality and you can rise to the highest heights and soar.

*Naomi C. Bristol*

If ever you find yourself desiring pleasure and happiness from things of this world remember that the grass withers and the flowers fade "but the Word of God stands forever." - Isaiah 40:8

*Eleith LaKita Brown*

As a graduating senior of PACE I leave behind an experience that is unlike any other; one that shows the possibilities of our future goals - to succeed.

*Tristan Charles*

The eye sees only what the mind is prepared to comprehend.

*Darryl Douglas*

I leave to the PACE underclassmen my initiative and perseverance. When opportunities arise in PACE and in life, take initiative, claim responsibility and persevere to the end. This will make you a more mature, well-rounded person, and furthermore will make PACE a better program. When all is said and done, never forget to share your knowledge with others. Remember: "We can choose to throw stones, to stumble upon them, to climb over them, or to *build* with them." You choose your own destiny.

*Charlene Cooley*

If you always color inside the lines, your life will never be a masterpiece.

*Brennan Hackett*

I leave to Meggai Fray all my notes from my engineering and math classes and I leave to all other PACE students the fond memories of past trips with PACE.

*Cynthia Jean*

I leave to all the PACE underclassmen my initiative and self-determination. Don't let someone else be the first to accomplish your dreams: "Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is like a broken wing bird that can't fly." - Langston Hughes

*Mercedes Lorene McElrath*

I would like to leave my strong will and determination, because in life if you get lemons - don't be sour faced, make lemonade.



PACE SENIORS: Front (L-R): Jasmine Weaver, Eleith Brown, Charlene Cooley, Mercedes McElrath, Shanelle Banks, Naomi Bristol. 2<sup>nd</sup> Row: Tiffany Smith, Vanessa Watson, Brennan Hackett, Cynthia Jean, Nehemiah Smith, Darryl Douglas, Tristan Charles, Darrius Seward. Back Row: Wesley Underwood, Michael Roberson. Not pictured: Kelly

a candle in hand. Starting at one end each senior, in turn, gives a legacy statement, what of themselves they leave to the younger students, and light the candle of the next senior. The last senior, passes the torch, on to the junior class, by lighting the candles of the junior class recipients. This year, Rebecca Watson and Eric Majette received the legacy.

The banquet went very well this year. Congratulations goes to all those on the banquet committee that worked hard to make

*Kelly Patterson*

It is always darkest before the dawn. Keep God in your sights and have a powerful spirit and push on for a brighter tomorrow.

*Michael Kellon Roberson*

I would like to leave to my underclassmen my strength and determination to do my best and succeed.

*Nehemiah Smith*

As I graduate from PACE, I leave to the underclassmen my leadership skills.

*Tiffany Jasmine Smith*

I have only just a minute. Only sixty seconds in it. Forced upon me, can't refuse it. Didn't seek it, didn't choose it. But it is up to me to use it. I must suffer if I lose it. Take account if I abuse it. Just a tiny little minute, but eternity is in it.

*Wesley Benjamin Underwood*

My legacy to PACE is for every student to remember that every exit is an entrance to somewhere else. Never forget your goals or dreams ... reach for the stars!

*Vanessa Watson*

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Charlene Cooley directs Vanessa Watson and Shanelle Banks at the Sony Wonder Technology Lab studio

Satellites, Televisions, Camcorders, and Weather Tracking Systems. With each swipe of a card our minds were expanded with information of the technology around us. At the end of the tour, everyone received a certificate that had their picture and a list of the exhibits visited. Our trip finally answered one question for me, the one that usually comes up in math or engineering class, “What are we ever going to use this stuff for?”

After our learning experience, we all sat down to enjoy some lunch and then went shopping at a nearby mall. The phrase “time flies when you’re having fun” truly applied to our trip to New York because before we knew it, it was time to go home. Happy and exhausted we boarded the bus and headed home with tokens to remember our trip by. Some had their certificates and others their purchases from the mall. Either way, we were all happy to go home. ❖

*Cynthia Jean graduated from PACE last month and will be attending Nova Southeastern University in the fall.*

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