

# STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



## Stockton College to Dedicate Nation's Largest Solar Carport on Oct. 27

Flipping the Switch: A Transition from Burning Fossil Fuels to Harnessing Clean  
Solar Energy

### ***For Immediate Release***

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**Galloway Township, NJ-** With the help of photovoltaic panels mounted on top of solar carports, New Jersey's Green College harnesses solar energy radiating downward from 93 million miles away, enabling the College to lower its carbon footprint and to give students the luxury of parking in the shade. The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will officially flip the switch on **Tuesday, October 27, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.** to celebrate the dedication of the College's 851.8kW solar carport.

The ceremony will take place under the carport in Parking Lot 7 on the Galloway Township campus. In the case of inclement weather, the dedication will be moved indoors to West Quad's Lecture Hall 103. Stockton's President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr., New Jersey Board of Public Utilities President Jeanne Fox, and other dignitaries will gather with guests to dedicate the nation's largest solar carport.

The solar project was funded in part by rebates issued to the College by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. The next phase of the solar initiative, to begin in the summer of 2010, will utilize \$3.46 million in funding, the single largest grant for a construction project in Stockton's history, awarded to the College in August 2009 by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities through the state's "Innovation in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy- Public Entities" program. The grant will be Stockton's first allocation of federal economic stimulus funding.

Money invested in alternative energy is returned in energy savings. Energy from the sun is free, clean, noiseless, and abundant. Stockton's complete photovoltaic initiative totals 1.2 megawatts, which includes panels mounted on the roofs of the Multipurpose Recreation Center (319.2kW); the F-Wing Overbuild (26kW); and the Arts and Sciences Building (12kW), in addition to 383.6kW on Parking Lot 7a and 468.2kW on Parking Lot 7b, all located on the Galloway Township campus.

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## **Dedication of Stockton's Solar Carport/ page 2**

While the project was still underway, President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr. observed that students intentionally parked further away from the building to have shaded parking under the solar carports. However, more importantly, President Saatkamp said, "The funding will allow us to re-invest in sustainable technology for a greater return in energy efficiency. Projects such as this one demonstrate our commitment to the green movement and to the responsible use of tax and tuition dollars."

Stockton also relies on other sources of renewable energy. Stockton is home to the nation's first Aquifer Thermal Energy Storage (ATES) system; faculty and students are partnering with the Atlantic County Utilities Authority to determine potential wind turbine sites; and the College utilizes geothermal energy throughout the campus.

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