



Stockton, Gloucester County College Sign Agreement for Dual Degree Program

For Immediate Release; with link to caption, [photo](#)

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Galloway Township, NJ - The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and Gloucester County College have entered into an agreement for a new Dual Degree Program (DDP) that promises to benefit students by increasing degrees earned from both institutions, and reducing the cost of their education.

Students who complete their associate degrees at Gloucester County College (GCC) will be guaranteed admission to Stockton College under the agreement approved today at Stockton's Board of Trustees meeting.

"Stockton is proud to partner with Gloucester County College to offer a Dual Degree Program to students and provide another cost-effective way to obtain a college education," said President Herman Saatkamp. "This program will ease the transfer and admission processes, and provide credit to Gloucester County College for work completed there before transferring to Stockton College. This program provides the opportunity to earn degrees from both institutions."

Students who successfully complete the Dual Degree Program will earn two degrees, their associate from GCC and their bachelor's from Stockton. They will pay the lower GCC tuition rate for all or part of their lower division coursework and Stockton's tuition rate once they transition.

"This new Dual Advantage transfer partnership with Stockton College reinforces our mission to provide an affordable, quality education to students with direct access to bachelor degree opportunities," said Dr. Frederick Keating, president of Gloucester County College. "Two years at a community college followed by two years at a four-year institution helps to drastically reduce the financial burden of earning a bachelor's degree. Our partnership with Stockton College offers students another option."

Stockton will dually admit first-year applicants to GCC in the spring and fall terms, effective immediately.

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First-year students will be required to align their coursework at GCC to meet the requirements of their intended program of study at Stockton. After fulfilling the academic requirements at GCC, Dual Degree Program students will be guaranteed admission into their intended program of study at Stockton with no loss of credit earned at GCC, up to a maximum of 64 credits.

Transfer students currently enrolled at GCC are also eligible for the program; they will need to submit a DDP form along with their transfer application. The application fee to Stockton will be waived for transfer students.

DDP participants who complete an A.A. or an A.S. degree at GCC will be guaranteed admission to Stockton as juniors with no loss of credit, up to a maximum of 64 credits.

GCC students who transfer to Stockton before completing an A.A. or an A.S. may also participate in the DDP Program in a “reverse transfer” arrangement. The program requires students to meet the academic residency requirement at GCC by earning a minimum of 32 approved credits there. After earning the rest of their required credits at Stockton, students would be granted their associates’ degrees from GCC.

Both groups of students will be enrolled in a zero-credit “Orientation to Stockton” seminar, administered by Stockton, designed to ease their transition to the college.

President Saatkamp and Provost Kesselman signed the three-year agreement along with Judith Atkinson, vice president of Student Services at GCC, Dominick J. Burzichelli, vice president and chief operating officer, and Randee Davidson, assistant director of the Career and Academic Planning Center, on behalf of Dr. Keating, president of GCC. After three years, both institutions will evaluate it and consider its renewal.

Stockton also has a Dual Degree agreement with Atlantic Cape Community College and a similar guaranteed admissions agreement with Burlington County College.

The college has a variety of other Dual Degree programs, including those:

- with 13 area high schools, allowing students to take college courses while still in high school and transfer those credits to Stockton;
- with Rutgers and NJIT in Engineering;
- with the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers in Pharmacy.

Stockton also offers its own Dual Degree programs that enable Stockton students to earn both their bachelor’s and master’s degrees in five years.

In three other actions at Wednesday’s Board meeting:

- Dr. Donnetrice Allison, president of the Council of Black Faculty and Staff, and associate professor of Communications, presented a \$9,894 check to benefit student scholarships, funds raised at the council’s annual dinner.

The Council of Black Faculty and Staff awarded 25 scholarships of \$1,000 each to deserving students this academic year. Since 1981, the CBFS has awarded more than \$279,200 in scholarships.

“It has been my honor to serve as president of the council this year and participate in this most worthy endeavor – raising funds for needy and deserving minority students,” Dr. Allison said.

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- Provost Dr. Harvey Kesselman, executive vice president of the college, presented an update on the college's 2020 Strategic Planning Initiative.

Provost Kesselman said that since 2011, 25 projects have been funded through the process, in which faculty and staff can propose projects that build on the college's four themes: learning, community engagement, global perspectives, and sustainability. Six other proposals were funded through other sources.

"The 2020 process has been transparent, inclusive, and engaging for the Stockton community," Provost Kesselman said. "It allows us to match worthwhile initiatives to our priorities."

A total of \$385,737 has been committed to date for 2020 projects running from 2011-2016.

This year, five ongoing projects have been approved for continued 2020 Initiatives funding:

- A leadership team headed by Dean Rob Gregg of the School of General Studies, and the Common Core and the Partnership for the Assessment of College and Career Readiness (PARCC) Statewide Model project, is receiving \$13,000 (\$5,500 in FY2014; \$7,500 in FY2015) to support college- and community-wide preparation for Common Core of State Standards and PARCC, the national reform of K-College education.

- The Marching From Washington to Atlantic City and Beyond: Civil Rights Activists in N.J. exhibition, headed by Dr. Michelle Craig McDonald, program coordinator and associate professor of History, is receiving \$13,190 to support the exhibition and companion web site scheduled to open in Spring 2014 in Stockton's library with subsequent installations at the Atlantic County Public Libraries (ACPL) and the African American Heritage Museum of South Jersey (AAHMSJ).

- Supporting Essential Learning Outcomes in Students: Instructional Design and Assessment, co-facilitated by Dr. Mary Lou Galantino, professor of Physical Therapy; Dr. Carra Hood, associate professor of Writing; Dr. Marc Richard, associate professor of Chemistry and Dr. Susan Cydis, assistant professor of Education, is receiving \$14,500 to support professional development focused on strengthening competency-based pedagogy that better integrates campus-wide essential learning outcomes in course design.

- The Stockton Theatre Program received \$4,614 for the world premiere this month of its production, "Growing Up in the Other Atlantic City," a play adapted by Pamela Hendrick, professor of Theatre.

- The Stockton Performing Arts Program is receiving \$4,000 to re-establish The Stockton Chamber Players under the leadership of Dr. Lance Olsen, professor of Music, to fund student and faculty performances of music of all styles.

- In addition, the college officially signed an agreement to become a host site for the Intensive English program operated by ELS Educational Services later this year, enabling the college to reach more international students seeking to study for a degree in the United States.

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ELS, located in Princeton and owned by Benesse, which also owns Berlitz, is the largest provider of on-campus English for academic purposes. It has an international recruitment network and operates more than 60 centers worldwide, including 50 on U.S. campuses.

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