Atlantic City, NJ - Gary Loveman, chairman, CEO and president of Harrah’s Entertainment, has been named the first recipient of the annual Distinguished Leadership Award of the Lloyd D. Levenson Institute of Gaming, Hospitality and Tourism of the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. The award was presented yesterday at the East Coast Gaming Congress in Atlantic City, NJ.

The award recognizes the achievements of an individual for implementing significant, creative and innovative approaches in gaming, hospitality or tourism industries. According to Dr. Janet Wagner, dean of Stockton’s School of Business, which houses the Lloyd D. Levenson Institute, Loveman’s selection was natural for the initial award. “Through the leadership of Mr. Loveman, Harrah’s Entertainment has grown to become the world’s largest gaming company,” Wagner said.

“We are proud to house the Levenson Institute and to recognize Mr. Loveman’s contributions to the industry and our local and regional economy.”

The Lloyd D. Levenson Institute of Gaming, Hospitality and Tourism was established through a major gift from the prominent Atlantic City area attorney. Last week it named Dr. Israel Posner of Northfield as its executive director. Posner said, “The Institute will conduct gaming research and serve as a platform for engaging faculty, students and professionals on topics of interest and importance to gaming, hospitality and tourism.”

“The goal is to provide impartial insight and information in support of one of our region’s major industries,” Posner said.

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Photo: From left, Dr. Janet Wagner, dean of Stockton's School of Business, award recipient Gary Loveman, and Dr. Israel Posner, executive director of the Lloyd D. Levenson Institute for Gaming, Hospitality and Tourism.

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