Stockton College to Conduct Annual Fall Graduation on Sunday Dec. 18

761 Undergraduate Degree Candidates, 108 Graduate Degree Candidates Scheduled to Participate

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Galloway Township, NJ- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will conduct its annual Fall Commencement ceremonies on Sunday, December 18, 2011.

The degree conferral ceremony will be held at 1:00 p.m. in the Sports Center of the Galloway Township Campus. The Sports Center is located adjacent to parking lot 4, just off Vera King Farris Drive.

Stockton President Herman J. Saatkamp will present diplomas to 869 degree candidates in the eight academic schools of the College: Arts and Humanities, Business, Education, General Studies, Graduate and Continuing Studies, Health Sciences, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social and Behavioral Sciences. Included in that total are 108 advanced degree candidates.

Dr. Lynn Stiles, Professor Emeritus of Physics, will deliver the Commencement Address.

Dr. Jennifer Barr, Professor of Business Studies, is the Faculty Grand Marshal. Dr. Michael Frank, President of the Faculty Senate and Professor of Psychology, will address the graduating class on behalf of the faculty.

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The student speaker for the event is Samuel Wakawa, President of the Student Senate, a biology pre-med major.

About the Commencement Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Lynn Stiles, Professor Emeritus of Physics at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, was awarded the Ph.D. in Experimental Physics from Cornell University in 1969. Prior to joining the Stockton faculty in 1973 he was a research physicist at E. I. DuPont in the Engineering Physics Laboratory and taught at Hobart and William Smith Colleges and Swarthmore College.

In Stockton’s formative years, he chaired several committees that developed the current General Studies curriculum and academic calendar among other features that made Stockton distinctive. Dr. Stiles especially notes his commitment to General Studies and continues to teach a favorite course he developed – Optics for Artists. He served as Dean of the Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics for four years and as coordinator of Energy Studies for over 25 years. His research interests included low temperature quantum states in solids, laser optics and holography, and since coming to Stockton, green energy technology.

Dr. Stiles is an author of numerous articles on energy conservation and alternative energy use in buildings, and in the last 18 years he has focused his research on underground thermal energy storage and GeoExchange® technology. He was a major player in many of Stockton’s energy projects including the geothermal heat pump system, fuel cell, energy efficiency systems, and most recently the Aquifer Thermal Energy Storage system, which is the first commercially viable system in the U.S. He has trained over 1000 engineers and architects in the design of GeoExchange® systems. He also organized three international and several national conferences on this topic, bringing scientists and engineers from over a dozen countries to Stockton’s campus.

Dr. Stiles has been representing the U.S. on the International Energy Agency Executive Committee on Energy Conservation through Energy Storage since 1995 and serving on various experts groups on Underground Thermal Energy Storage since 1994. He has also worked with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection’s Office of Innovative Technology and the Geothermal Heat Pump Consortium, as well as industry groups in promoting sound design and installation of GHP and Aquifer Thermal Energy Storage systems.
He currently lives with his wife Vivian, in West Cape May, New Jersey and Marco Island, Florida. His two sons, Eric and Jonathan, and Eric’s wife, Lydia, are alumni of Stockton. Eric is President Designate of NJ Audubon and Jonathan an optical engineer with Accu-Sort Systems. Lydia teaches in an elementary/middle school, and Jon’s wife, Tina, manages food services in a New Jersey school district. Dr. Stiles is the proud grandfather of Mackenzie, Nate and Lilly Stiles.

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