



Stockton, Atlantic City Historical Waterfront Foundation Join Forces

College and Atlantic City Aquarium to share facilities, programs, internships

For Immediate Release; with captions and [photo link](#)

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

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Galloway, NJ – The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and the Atlantic City Historical Waterfront Foundation joined forces today to expand educational programs for the public, increase internships and teacher training, and promote awareness of the coastal environment and eco-tourism.

Stockton President Herman Saatkamp and Jack Keith, executive director of the ACHWF, signed an agreement at the Atlantic City Aquarium in the Historic Gardner's Basin Waterfront Park, Atlantic City.

"Stockton welcomes the opportunity to expand its educational programs in Atlantic City and to support the Atlantic City Historic Waterfront Foundation," said President Saatkamp. "The college and the foundation are both vitally concerned with preparing our nation's young people to compete in the global fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM.) We also share the goal of protecting and preserving our marine environment."

"This agreement allows us to provide more training for science teachers, to offer eco-tourism internships for business students and to reach more youth in the community," President Saatkamp continued. "The foundation will have access to Stockton's facilities throughout the region for its programs, and we will work together to enhance public awareness of Atlantic City's historic waterfront."

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The foundation, established in 1976, operates the aquarium at 800 N. New Hampshire Avenue in cooperation with the City of Atlantic City.

Under the agreement, the college will hold classes and programs at the aquarium and the foundation will be able to conduct programs at Stockton's facilities throughout the region, including the Carnegie Center in Atlantic City, Kramer Hall in Hammonton, the Manahawkin Instructional Site, Anne Azeez Hall in Woodbine and the Nacote Creek Marine Science and Environmental Field Station in Port Republic.

The agreement lays the groundwork for Stockton and the foundation to work together to meet regional, state and national needs in STEM, with an eye toward global competitiveness. One aim is to attract more young people to science fields and to Stockton's School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (NAMS.)

"The Richard Stockton College plays a major role in educating young scientists and technical workers," said Jack Keith, executive director of Gardner's Basin and a graduate of Stockton's Marine Science program. "This agreement will have an enormous influence on our ability to engage young people in the sciences as well as open opportunities for continuing education in the area."

Dean Dennis Weiss of NAMS, who is also a member of the foundation, said the agreement "sets up a strong relationship that combines the academic and research efforts in the area of Marine Science at Stockton with the aquarium's educational and outreach programs. I envision our faculty and students working closely with the aquarium's staff on projects related to the coastal environment we share, the development of educational displays at the aquarium, as well as expanding the use of Stockton students as 'explainers' for visitors to the aquarium."

College internships in marine science and the business of eco-tourism will be offered at the aquarium.

The collaboration provides opportunities to support marine and environmental education training for student teachers and to augment professional training for certified teachers, as well as for Stockton students majoring in Marine Science, Biology or Environmental Science.

The college and foundation will provide the public, especially K-12 students in area schools, with information about the region's beaches and coastal environments. The aquarium's community outreach programs will be expanded through Stockton's Center for Community Schools (SCCS).

Stockton plans to assist the aquarium in its expansion and future marketing, and the two will apply for grants of mutual interest.

For additional information about the Atlantic City Aquarium, please visit www.acaquarium.com.

For additional information about The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, please visit www.stockton.edu

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