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Pomona, NJ 08240

Richard Stockton College of NJ Receives Training Grants of Nearly \$500,000

College's New School of Graduate and Continuing Studies to Extend Training for Region's Casino Workforce

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

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Galloway Twp., NJ –The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey recently received two awards from the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development totaling nearly \$500,000 that extends funding for Stockton's Consortium for Leadership and Service Superiority (CLASS) through the end of 2008. The growing Consortium, led by Stockton, consists of six very large Atlantic County employers and has thus far trained more than 10,000 employees in Atlantic City and the region.

One of the awards, approved in late October, provides support to teach English as a Second Language to 400 employees at Resorts Atlantic City and the Atlantic City Hilton Casino and Resort. The second award will fund approximately 150 workshops in leadership, computer technology, business systems networking and security.

"These training programs are an example of the initiatives taken by Stockton to work cooperatively with employers in the region to continuously upgrade the skill set of the labor force. We are delighted to tap the human capital and talent of Stockton faculty and staff for those who seek professional development," said Dr. Deborah Figart, Dean of the College's new School of Graduate and Continuing Studies.

"Since its inception approximately 18 months ago, the Stockton Institute for Gaming Management has trained thousands of casino workers in customer service skills and more than 100 industry managers in leadership and advanced management skills," said President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr.

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In less than two years of existence, Stockton's Institute for Gaming Management, an alliance with Spectrum Gaming Group, L.L.C., has made an immediate impact by offering a wide range of training programs and educational opportunities for executives, managers and other employees in the gaming industry. In addition to the Resorts and Hilton, The Stockton Institute for Gaming Management has provided training services for Trump Entertainment, the Borgata Hotel Casino and Spa, Harrah's, Bally's, Caesar's and the Sands.

Dr. Lewis Leitner, Director of the Gaming Management Institute said, "Together, the two Department of Labor awards will enhance the skills of thousands more employees in Atlantic City, helping to make this region a superior destination for its 36 million annual visitors."

Dr. Israel Posner, Executive Director in the College's School of Graduate and Continuing Studies added, "We are extremely pleased that Stockton has become the "go-to" resource for professional development and continuing education in the region – not just for the gaming industry but for all individuals who seek lifelong learning opportunities."

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