

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Stockton College's Veterans Initiative and Conference: Lest We Forget

Event Slated for August 27th on the Galloway Twp. Campus

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Tim Kelly
Office of Public Relations
Galloway Township, NJ 08240
Tim.Kelly@stockton.edu
(609) 652-4950

Galloway Township, NJ- Many times, freedom, as we know it, is taken for granted. And the men and women who have fought for our country often find it difficult to re-enter civilian life and the workforce. Stockton College has taken the lead in supporting veterans throughout southern New Jersey. Stockton's initiative involves the creation of the Office of Veteran Affairs to support and guide veterans interested in seeking a degree at Stockton. As a result, Stockton has been recognized as a Yellow Ribbon College for their vet-friendly policies.

The most recent addition to the veteran program is a free conference designed to inform vets about available educational and employment options. This conference is supported through the Atlantic Cape Workforce Investment Board as a means of informing student-veterans about funding available for training and education, and a way for veterans to one-stop-shop the available resources they may need.

"The Three R's (Re-entry, Re-Invent, Resources) of Re-Employment" Veterans Conference will include employer panels that will address future job growth in southern New Jersey. Veterans are eligible for up to \$4,000 in funding toward certificate and training programs that can lead toward increased employability. "The stimulus money provides a unique opportunity for veterans to update their skills with training and education from Stockton College, Atlantic Cape Community College, Atlantic County Institute of Technology and Cape May County Technical High School," states Cynthia Sosnowski, Stockton College Executive Director of Continuing Studies for Health Sciences and Human Services.

The event is open to veterans in the state of New Jersey and will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 27th in the Alton Auditorium on the Galloway Township Campus.

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“As one of the stable segments in the economy, higher education has an obligation to help the community,” said Dr. Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr., President of The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. President Saatkamp continued, “Stockton has resources, expertise and facilities to help these venerable members of the community who have served our country through difficult times. We’re offering these resources to veterans in our community as well as our students.”

Assemblyman Jack Conners (D) who chairs the Military and Veterans’ Affairs Committee will provide the keynote address. The August conference offers specific strategies for unemployed veterans, according to event-organizing team member, Cynthia Sosnowski. “We will be helping vets with résumé development strategies, how to utilize 21st Century job search resources and even social networking to help find employment.”

An additional session at the conference will inform attendees about in-demand careers and the requirements to be marketable in today’s workforce and that of the future. Panelists will include a wide range of Stockton faculty and staff, and will also include representatives from Atlantic Cape Community College and the Workforce Investment Board One Stop Career Center.

“Although veterans have been displaced by the current state of the economy, there remain opportunities for those savvy enough to reposition, use the skills they have and acquire new skills,” Sosnowski said.

The conference is sponsored by The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey’s School of Graduate and Continuing Studies, The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey’s Office of Veteran Affairs and the Atlantic Cape Workforce Investment Board. Educational partners in this initiative are Atlantic Cape Community College, Atlantic County Institute of Technology and Cape May County Technical High School.

For more information or to register, please call 609-652-4227 or log onto www.stockton.edu/hshs and click on ‘Conferences.’ To be placed on the mailing list, please e-mail cs-hshs@stockton.edu. For more information on Stockton’s Office of Veteran Affairs, please contact Patrick Shields, Coordinator of Veteran Affairs at 609-652-4987.

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