

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Stockton Completes Community Trail Project

For Immediate Release

Monday, June 29, 2009

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Galloway Township, NJ- The scenic campus of The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey has become more jogger, biker, and hiker-friendly thanks to a \$7,000 grant to complete a community trail project. The result is a beautiful four-mile trail with views of Lakes Fred and Pam for the enjoyment of students, faculty, staff, and community members. The trail, configured in a loop, is connected to a myriad of other trails and paths meandering throughout sections of the Pine Barrens on Stockton's campus.

"People can stay on the main path for a continuous four-mile ride or jog," said Fred Burk, an Associate Supervisor in Stockton's Facilities department, who helped spearhead the project. "As a result, one need not be familiar with our campus to enjoy our beautiful surroundings," Burk continued.

The trail was made possible after the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) designated \$2.1 million in federal grant money to improve and maintain existing recreational trails throughout the state. Improvements to Stockton's pre-existing trail include path gradation, brush removal, and the addition of mile markers. The trail is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and as a result, it is easily accessible to students, faculty, and community members. The parking lot directly across from the Arts and Sciences Building is the trail's origin and a convenient location for bikers and runners to gather.

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DEP Commissioner Lisa P. Jackson asserts, "Recreational trails enhance our environment, economy and quality of life while offering health and fitness opportunities, outdoor classrooms for nature study, greenways for wildlife conservation and links with our historic past." Stockton's improved trail is only one of the numerous projects completed or currently in progress in the state. Other projects that were approved to receive funding include a Lizard Trail Swamp Preserve at the Nature Conservancy in Cape May County, a recreational rail-trail in Gloucester County, and the Dawson Brook Bikeway Bridge in Morris County.

For more information on the trail please contact Associate Supervisor of Facilities Planning Fred Burk at 609-652-4859 or Fred.Burk@stockton.edu.

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