



## **Stockton School of Education, Master's in Education Program Earn 7-Year Accreditation**

Highest Endorsement from Teacher Education Accreditation Council

### ***For Immediate Release***

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**Galloway, NJ** - Stockton's Teacher Education Program and its Master's in Education program have each received seven-year, unconditional accreditation from the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC.)

"This notification represents a significant accomplishment on the part of the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of the Teacher Education undergraduate and graduate programs at Stockton," said Dr. Harvey Kesselman, provost and executive vice president of The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. "Given the incredible achievements by so many of our graduates in the field of education, it is nice to see that the national accrediting body has awarded Stockton its highest endorsement."

Stockton's School of Education prepares students to become K-12 teachers who receive TEAC-accredited initial certification. The graduate school offers three programs: for master teachers, for instructional technologists and for aspiring educational leaders.

Dean Claudine Keenan, of the School of Education, said, "Thanks to the excellent work of our faculty and staff, we have received unconditional (no weaknesses, no stipulations) accreditation through the Teacher Education Accreditation Council effective 2013 – 2020."

"TEAC accreditation recognizes the strong commitment that our alumni, students, faculty, staff and community partners in K-12 schools have made to Stockton's education programs," Dean Keenan continued. "By reviewing our student learning

outcomes, interviewing and surveying our constituencies and verifying that our programs are succeeding on every measure, TEAC has endorsed our programs with the highest possible accreditation status. We are proud to have earned this designation.”

The TEAC panel said it found that the Education program’s faculty members are deeply involved in an ongoing culture of assessment and program improvement. “The types of data used by the program to monitor program effectiveness, both for student learning and for faculty learning, were impressive,” the TEAC said in a letter.

The Teacher Education Accreditation Council, founded in 1997, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving academic degree programs for professional educators, those who will teach and lead in schools, pre-K through grade 12, its web site states.

As of this May, TEAC said it had accredited programs in 134 institutions of higher education.

TEAC is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), according to TEAC’s web site.

The CHEA furnishes a report each year about the previous year’s totals on accreditation decisions nationwide. The report on the 2011 accreditation cycle shows:

- TEAC accredited 23 percent of providers up for review in 2011 with no weaknesses or stipulations cited in the accreditation letter.
- 77 percent of TEAC cases received accreditation with identified areas in which their work needed strengthening and, of these, some 17 percent are in the process of addressing and documenting their efforts in anticipation of an additional review within two years.

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