



Stockton College to Graduate 600 on Dec. 15

Undergraduate and Graduate Commencement Set for Sunday

For Immediate Release; coverage invited

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Galloway, NJ – Some 602 students of The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey are set to receive undergraduate and graduate degrees in ceremonies on **Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013** at 1 p.m. in the Sports Center on the college's main Galloway campus.

Dr. Robert Helsabeck will be commencement speaker. Dr. Helsabeck, a charter member of the Stockton faculty, retired in January 2013 and was named Professor Emeritus of Sociology. In addition to his many years as a Stockton faculty member, Helsabeck served two three-year terms as Dean of General Studies.

He is the author of three books and many papers and articles on conflict resolution, general education, urban development and the elderly, and religious beliefs among clergy and laity. A specialist on conflict resolution, he served on the Governor's Advisory Board for the New Jersey Institute on Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies. The New Jersey Supreme Court appointed him to a four-year term as a fee arbiter and a four-year term as a member of the ethics committee for the New Jersey Bar Association.

Maribeth Capelli, a senior Psychology major from Hammonton, will speak in her capacity as president of the Student Senate. She has been president of the Criminal Justice Society, secretary of Debate Team and chair of the Student Welfare Committee.

Lauren Stopa, a member of the college's inaugural Master of Science in Communications Disorders class, will speak at the Master's and Doctoral Hooding Ceremony for post-baccalaureate graduates at 10 a.m. in the Performing Arts Center. Stopa said she was inspired to pursue a career in the health professions after her father died of lung cancer when she was 18.

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The grand marshal at the commencement will be Dr. Mary Lou Galantino, professor of Physical Therapy in the School of Health Sciences. Dr. Galantino is on the roster of Fulbright specialists for her expertise in HIV-AIDS rehabilitation, cancer rehabilitation and integrative medicine.

Provost Dr. Harvey Kesselman, executive vice president of the college, will present the candidates and their degrees will be conferred by President Herman Saatkamp.

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