

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Continuing Studies for Health Sciences and Human Services to Host Hospice Foundation of America's Teleconference

16th Annual National Bereavement Teleconference to Take Place Wednesday, April 29

For Immediate Release

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Galloway Township, NJ- Each year the Hospice Foundation of America (HFA) presents a nationally recognized distance learning program, live via satellite and webcast, to more than 125,000 people in 2,000 communities. For more than a decade, this annual educational program has been instrumental in educating health care professionals and families on issues affecting end-of-life care. The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey's Continuing Studies for Health Sciences and Human Services will present this year's teleconference on Wednesday, April 29, 2009 from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Townsend Residential Life Center at the Galloway Township campus.

The Hospice Foundation of America's 16th Annual National Bereavement Teleconference focus is "Diversity and End-of-Life Care." The teleconference will examine how diversity influences end-of-life decision making and the impact that culture has at the time of death and during bereavement. The program provides an opportunity for a wide variety of professionals, including doctors, nurses, funeral directors, psychologists, educators, social workers and bereavement counselors, to share and exchange ideas and obtain continuing education credits.

One of the goals of the teleconference is to increase sensitivity by helping professionals acknowledge how their own cultural values and assumptions influence the delivery of care. The program will also discuss the challenges that may occur when cultural considerations may cause ethical concerns or moral distress.

The conference will be moderated by Frank Sesno, Professor of Media and Public Affairs at George Washington University and Special Correspondent with CNN. Mr. Sesno will lead a panel of noted authorities that includes: Samira K. Beckwith, President and CEO of Hope Healthcare Services; Sandy Chen Stokes, Executive Director, Chinese American Coalition for Compassionate Care; Kenneth J. Doka, Professor of Gerontology, Graduate School of the College of New Rochelle; Wanda H. Jenkins, Manager of Bereavement Services at VITAS Innovative Hospice Care; Richard Payne, Director, Institute on Care at the End of Life, Duke University; Paul Rosenblatt, Professor, College of Education & Human Development, University of Minnesota; and Rev. Carlos Sandoval-Cros, MD, St. Simon's Episcopal Church, and psychiatrist, private practice.

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The teleconference is produced by Hospice Foundation of America, a not-for-profit organization, which acts as an advocate for the hospice concept of care through ongoing programs of professional education, public information and research on issues relating to illness, loss, grief and bereavement.

A \$30 registration fee includes lunch and a panel presentation by regional hospice professionals immediately following the conference. For more information or to register, please contact Stockton College Continuing Studies for Health Sciences and Human Services at 609-652-4227

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