

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Stockton Formalizes Relationship With Hammonton for Satellite Center

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Galloway Twp., NJ- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey Board of Trustees passed a resolution at today's meeting that will formally establish a satellite center in downtown Hammonton. Stockton has been offering classes at St. Joseph High School in Hammonton for more than a year, and will now have its own physical location close to rail transportation and downtown Hammonton's shops, restaurants and attractions.

"Hammonton is on the way to developing one of America's great downtowns and Stockton is proud to be a part of it," President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr., said. "We look forward to Hammonton becoming America's next great college town."

Dr. Saatkamp praised the cooperation of Hammonton Mayor Steve DiDonato and town officials Jim Donio, Brian Howell and Thomas Gribbin, Jr., for helping to bring the \$3 million project to fruition.

The partnership calls for Stockton and Hammonton to renovate the building at 24-30 Front Street beginning in January 2011 and for classes to begin September 2012. The first floor will include a bookstore/café, a location for the Noyes Museum of Art, computer facilities and possibly a home for the South Jersey Historical Center. The first floor mixed-use aspect of the facility is projected to open in August 2012.

The second and third floors will include classrooms, breakout space and a possible resource room to support workshops and continuing education programs. "Programs and courses will be developed by faculty and academic deans," stated Stockton Provost Dr. Harvey Kesselman.

The 13,500-sq. ft former commercial building is to be acquired by the Town of Hammonton with funds made available through Stockton, which will own the facility. Hammonton secured a \$250,000 federal grant to be applied to the project. The town is currently seeking additional funding to gentrify the surrounding area as well as to improve parking and to develop the streetscape.

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According to Stockton Vice President for Administration and Finance Matt Altier, the property will be managed by Stockton Affiliated Services, Inc. (SASI), which will facilitate financial payments related to the project at a total budget of no more than \$3 million. The funding source for the project is Stockton's capital investment fund. Hammonton will secure bids for architectural, engineering and related construction contracts. Stockton Associate VP for Administration and Finance, Donald Moore, will serve as the College (owner's) representative, Altier said.

"The acquisition and renovation of the building would save approximately \$1.7 million as compared to the previously discussed 20-year lease-purchase agreement," Altier said.

"Today's resolution marks a great milestone for Stockton and Hammonton," Dr. Saatkamp said. "We are looking forward to many years of a mutually rewarding partnership."

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