



## **Stockton's Hughes Center Scholarship Awarded to Damien Salamacha for Washington Internship**

***For Immediate Release; with photo of Salamacha***

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**Galloway Township** - Damien Salamacha, a Political Science major at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey working as a public policy intern in Washington, D.C., has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship by the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy.

"My internship is at the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)," said Salamacha, a 23-year-old senior from Hamilton Township in Mercer County, NJ. "ALEC is a nonpartisan public-private partnership of America's state legislators, members of the private sector and the general public who work to advance limited government, free markets, and federalism at the state level."

Stockton College's Washington, D.C. Internship program is an intensive para-professional and academic experience in which Stockton students live, work, and study in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan region. Stockton is affiliated with the nation's largest internship organization, The Washington Center (TWC) for Internships and Academic Seminars.

"I am getting a lot of valuable experience," Salamacha said about his work on the tax and fiscal task force and the education task force. "It feels great to be in a professional environment. This experience has enabled me to get a better understanding of my strengths and weaknesses."

"Stockton College has more intern alumni through the Washington Center than any other college or university in the country," said Dr. Michael Rodriguez, associate

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professor of Political Science, who coordinates the program.

Since the mid-1970s more than 1,000 Stockton students have completed para-professional internships in Washington, D.C.

The Hughes Center scholarship helps defray the cost of living in the nation's capital, making it possible for students to participate in internships, said Daniel J. Douglas, executive director.

Salamacha, who has spent past summers as a lifeguard in Wildwood, plans to pursue public policy work or possibly go to law school after graduation this May. "I really like the public policy type work that I am currently doing at my internship," he said.

For more information, click on the Washington [internship program](#).

### **About the Hughes Center**

The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy ([www.stockton.edu/hughescenter](http://www.stockton.edu/hughescenter)) at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey serves as a catalyst for research, analysis and innovative policy solutions on the economic, social and cultural issues facing New Jersey. The Center is named for William J. Hughes, whose distinguished career includes service in the U.S. House of Representatives, Ambassador to Panama and as a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Stockton College. The Hughes Center can be found on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/Hughes.Center.Stockton.College> and can be followed on Twitter @hughescenter



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