

# STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



## Stockton to be First College in New Jersey to Offer Veterans Lounge

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Set for April 27

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

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**Contact:** Tim Kelly  
Susan Allen  
Office of Public Relations  
Galloway Township, NJ 08240  
[Tim.Kelly@stockton.edu](mailto:Tim.Kelly@stockton.edu)  
(609) 652-4950

**Galloway Township, NJ-** Flower pots filled with vibrant red and white begonias will be the finishing touch inside the new Veterans Lounge at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. Just after being named a Service Members Opportunity College, Stockton will now be the first college in New Jersey to offer a lounge for student-veterans.

On **Tuesday, April 27, 2010** from **1:30 p.m.** to **2:00 p.m.**, an official ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place at the new Veterans Lounge in Upper G-Wing room G-224. The Office of Veteran Affairs anticipates that 50 or more students, faculty, staff and community members will attend this exciting ceremony in honor of student-veterans.

Stockton's President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr., said, "Stockton's Office of Veteran Affairs and Operation College Promise— a consortium dedicated to helping service members reach their higher education goals— collaborated to make this lounge possible. The Veterans Lounge further illustrates Stockton's dedication to supporting its growing population of student-veterans."

The Veterans Lounge will overlook Veterans Park, the site of Stockton's war memorial, which is located adjacent to the G-Wing patio. The newly furnished lounge will serve as a space for studying and for recreation. A computer, television, DVD player, microwave and a refrigerator will be available to student-veterans to utilize during their breaks between classes.

There are more than 120 student-veterans enrolled at Stockton receiving educational benefits. In the spring 2010 semester alone, 19 veterans became new students at Stockton. Patrick Shields, coordinator of veteran affairs, said, "The new lounge will serve as a comfortable and welcoming setting where our student-veterans can go to meet and socialize with other student-veterans. We have always encouraged our student-veterans to come to us to learn about all of the educational benefits available, but now we have an official spot to go to for information and guidance."

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