

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey Named a College of Distinction

The College Continues to Capture the Attention of Educational Professionals

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Galloway Township, NJ- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey recently received national recognition from the annual survey of *America's Best Colleges* released by the U.S. News and World Report and from the Princeton Review's *2010 Best Colleges Region by Region* Web site and in their book, *The Best Northeastern Colleges: 2010 Edition*. The College continues to capture attention, and is now recognized as a College of Distinction. Only two other higher education institutions in the state, Seton Hall University and St. Peter's College, earned this high honor.

Colleges of Distinction is a college guide that seeks to distinguish the best colleges in which to learn, grow, and succeed. Their approach is unique because colleges and universities are not ranked; instead they are selected based on four distinctions. The four distinctions that allow a college to surpass standards are engaged students, great teaching, vibrant communities and successful outcomes. The elite characteristics of a College of Distinction include:

- National recognition by education professionals
- A strong focus on teaching undergraduates
- Home to a variety of innovative learning experiences
- An active campus with numerous opportunities for personal development
- Acknowledgement by graduate schools and employers for outstanding student preparation

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Stockton fits the four distinctions perfectly. Colleges of Distinction specifically highlighted Stockton's attributes that earned the College this special recognition.

Engaged Students: Stockton's students are given the opportunity to engage themselves in overseas study programs and in the Washington Internship Program. Colleges of Distinction points out that "comprehensive overseas study programs [are offered] at reasonable rates to help students gain experience and knowledge about the world and examine their attitudes towards others. Study programs may be for a term or for an entire academic year in countries including Africa, Australia, China, Eastern Europe, France, Germany, Israel, Mexico, Spain or the United Kingdom." The Washington Internship Program "offers students from all majors the opportunity to broaden their outlook and experience while earning academic credit in the nation's capital."

Great Teaching: The Harold Taylor Observatory, featuring a computer-controlled telescope and an auxiliary telescope, has the capability to capture images that can be displayed in classrooms during lectures and special events. The newly renovated Marine Science and Environmental Field Station, "with its laboratory space, research vessels, and a variety of modern sampling equipment[,] is an important teaching and research facility for the Natural Science Programs at Stockton." And Community of Scholars offers assistance in the form of tutoring, mentoring partnerships, skills and informational workshops, and social enrichment activities to first-generation college, low-income, and disabled students.

Vibrant Communities: Stockton offers 17 intercollegiate sports, and the Carnegie Library Center hosts graduate and undergraduate courses in addition to "serving the College and the residents of Atlantic City...as an educational and instructional facility, a meeting place, [and] a conference center."

Successful Outcomes: Colleges of Distinction points out that "the Office of Career Services offers a comprehensive range of programs and services that include career development, graduate and professional school preparation, the development of employability skills and the identification of internship and career opportunities."

Other qualities that attract attention towards Stockton include Stockton's student-oriented professors, a prime campus location, a commitment to preserving the environment, and strong academic programs that prepare students for the future. Faculty members focus on students first and research second. Students are not only welcomed, but they are encouraged to visit their professors during office hours. Stockton prepares students for continuing their education, and approximately 30 percent of students go directly to graduate school. Stockton graduates 21 percent of the math and science majors in our state, who fill the growing need nationwide for computer software engineers, network specialists, and math and science educators.

For more information on Colleges of Distinction, please visit their Web site at <http://www.collegesofdistinction.com/default.asp>.

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