

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Stockton Reporting Historic Enrollment Numbers

Largest and Most Talented Freshman Class

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, September 09, 2009

Contact: Tim Kelly
Office of Public Relations
Galloway Township, NJ 08240
Tim.Kelly@stockton.edu
(609) 652-4950

Galloway Township, NJ- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey's incoming freshman class is its largest and most academically credentialed in the school's history.

"Some of the brightest students in the state are applying to Stockton," Dr. Saatkamp noted. "We offer some unique advantages such as valuable degree programs, stellar faculty, one of the largest and most environmentally conscious campuses in the region, a diverse community, and an attractive student-faculty ratio of 18.4 students to each faculty member."

According to Dr. Saatkamp, the College has become more selective than ever. The total freshmen applicant pool grew to 4550 which peaked competition for the available spots and produced a freshmen class of just over 870.

He said that Stockton, always a magnet for some of the best and brightest students in the state and region, had experienced a rise in the SAT scores of its applicants, bucking a nationwide trend of flat and even declining scores. The mean SAT score of Stockton applicants went up to 1143 in 2009, a 13-point rise over last year, and marked the third consecutive year of rising mean scores. That SAT score is 127 points above the 2009 national figure. National SAT mean scores dipped a point in 2009 following two consecutive years at 1017. The most recently available statewide number (2008) was even lower, at 1008, up slightly from the year before (1005) after two previous years of declines.

"It is heartening to see the continued progress Stockton is making as we welcome the most talented and largest group of first-year students we have ever had," Stockton President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr. said.

-more-

Stockton Welcomes Largest Freshman Class / page 2

Stockton has added new facilities in recent years such as new housing, classroom and office upgrades and new athletic facilities. In 2011, the 40th anniversary of teaching at the College, Stockton will open its new Campus Center to provide one-stop shopping for many student services, as well as a new theatre, dining facilities and space for student clubs and organizations. The campus center's opening will allow for the re-distribution of space in the existing buildings to provide much needed classrooms and academic space. Plans are also on the board for a new art gallery.

The changes at Stockton have not gone unnoticed by national rankings, such as *U.S. News and World Report*, the best-known magazine of the national publications that ranks higher education institutions. In 2003, Stockton was unranked (fourth tier) among master's institutions. In 2005 the College moved to the third tier, and in 2007, Stockton moved to the first tier for the first time. In 2007 Stockton was ranked 67th; in 2008 the College's rank was 52; and this year Stockton is ranked 45th in the northeast along with being tied for 10th among public master's colleges.

"Stockton's progress in attracting the best and brightest students and our ability to meet their needs is at an all-time high," Dr. Saatkamp concluded. "As we strive for even more improvement in the years ahead, it is useful to see how far we have advanced."

#