

# STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



## **Mr. and Mrs. Stephen B. Davis to Be Honored at the Council of Black Faculty and Staff's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Dinner and Dance**

First Husband and Wife Team to Be Honored in the Same Year

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

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**Galloway Township, NJ-** The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey's Council of Black Faculty and Staff will host the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner and Dance at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2009 at the Carriage House in Galloway Twp. The Honorary Chair for this year's event is College President Emerita Dr. Vera King Farris.

Cocktails begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner following at 7:00 p.m. Musical accompaniment will be provided by DJ Ahmed Kahn. The awards ceremony will commence at 8:00 p.m., and dancing and live entertainment will begin at 9:00 p.m.

The annual awards dinner and dance is held to honor and celebrate the diversity of exceptional individuals who have made an impact on the southern New Jersey and Stockton community. The event also serves as a fundraiser to help the Council of Black Faculty and Staff to continue to deliver scholarships to aspiring college students. Supporters from across the country have already begun their preparations and fundraising efforts to increase attendance to this unprecedented event.

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## **Mr. and Mrs. Davis Honored at 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Dinner and Dance/ page 2**

The Council of Black Faculty and Staff was established to act as a body to foster communication among the Stockton community and New Jersey concerning the voice and position of minority personnel and students at Stockton.

This year's award recipients include the following: Mr. Stephen B. Davis, Merit Award Recipient; Mrs. Rita Mack and Dr. Clarence C. Hoover, III, Life-Time Achievement Recipients; and Mrs. Paula Stewart Davis, Distinguished Stockton Alumna.

Mr. Stephen B. Davis is the proud husband of Mrs. Paula Stewart Davis. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are the first husband and wife team to be honored at the Council's awards dinner and dance in the same year.

Stephen B. Davis, Associate Dean of Students at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, received his Bachelor of Science and Master's degree in Health Administration from Penn State University where he played varsity football and was a member of the 1986 national championship team. Prior to his collegiate career at Penn State, he received several accolades as a student athlete at Deptford High School as an All American Football Player, All Group III Basketball Player, and All Gloucester County Track Weight Man. In this regard, Stephen was inducted into the 2003 class for the Gloucester County Sports Hall of Fame for an outstanding scholastic and collegiate career in sports. In addition to his athletic accolades, he graduated in the top fifth of his senior class and held membership in the National Honors Society.

Mr. Davis' professional leadership résumé is extensive. He has served on the Pleasantech Academy Charter School Board of Trustees in Pleasantville, NJ as Board Secretary and as a representative of Stockton College from 1998-2007; he served as a member of the New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund Professional Association (NJEOFPA) for 13 years on their executive board and as a chairperson for several of their conference committees; and he currently serves as President of Stockton's Council of Black Faculty and Staff. Under Davis' leadership, the Council of Black Faculty and Staff's members established the organizations first \$100,000 endowment agreement to provide scholarships to underrepresented students. Davis also served as the keynote speaker for the Cape May County chapter of the NAACP Martin Luther King Day celebration.

Mrs. Rita Mack, Life-Time Achievement Recipient, owns and operates three Atlantic City McDonald's Family Restaurants. Mack helped to launch the McDonald's Women Operator Network (WON) and served as a board member for four years. Rita currently serves as Chair and CEO of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association (NBMOA), which is the largest and most successful organization for African American franchises in the country.

Dr. Clarence C. Hoover, III, also a Life-Time Achievement Recipient, is currently the Superintendent of the East Orange Public School District and the immediate past Chairman of the Board of Trustees for The Richard Stockton College.

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**Mr. and Mrs. Davis Honored at 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Dinner and Dance/ page 3**

Paula Stewart Davis, Distinguished Stockton Alumna, was provided access to higher education through benefits of the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Program which provided financial, academic, and emotional support through the counseling staff. Davis utilized the services of the EOF program to earn a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Stockton in 1976 and a Master's degree in Counseling/Student Personnel Services in 1979 from Upsala College in East Orange NJ.

For more information on the event, please contact Yubi Pena at (609)-652-4382 or Trish Collins at (609)-652-4523.

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