



Stockton Reaches Comprehensive Campaign Goal Two Years Early

32nd Annual Scholarship Benefit Gala is Backdrop for Celebration, New Goal for “YOU Make the Difference” Campaign

For Immediate Release

Friday, April 20, 2012

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

Atlantic City., NJ – “You Make the Difference: The Campaign for Stockton College” has exceeded its \$20 million goal two years ahead of schedule.

Stockton College President Herman J. Saatkamp announced the comprehensive campaign had reached \$20.4 million at Saturday’s 32nd Annual Stockton College Scholarship Gala at the Borgata Hotel, Casino and Spa. The campaign supports all aspects of Stockton’s mission, programming, facilities, and especially student scholarships.

“The Gala is always a night to celebrate and this year we have an extra incentive to do so,” Dr. Saatkamp said. “Our community and our alumni responded in an overwhelmingly positive way to our first comprehensive campaign. The philanthropic support of Stockton and our students is real and tangible, helping deserving students receive quality education and attain their degrees.”

The campaign was announced last September during the kickoff to the College’s 40th Anniversary of Teaching. A goal was set to raise \$20 million by June 30, 2014. However, through the generosity of the community and attainment of several major gifts, that number was recently eclipsed more than two years prior to the stated deadline.

“As excited and grateful as we are to exceed our goal; we aim to keep the momentum going into the months ahead,” said Dr. Philip T. Ellmore, Chief Development Officer. “The need for scholarship funding has not abated.”

Accordingly, Dr Saatkamp announced that the Campaign will continue and will accept gifts for all college-related purposes. “In addition to the many things that will be generously funded between now and the end of June 2014 we seek to raise at least an additional \$2 million in scholarship support,” Dr. Saatkamp said.

Dr. Saatkamp noted the campaign's importance had never been greater as many families are currently struggling to pay for higher education in a difficult economy. At the same time, New Jersey's public colleges have endured 20 years of declines in state funding. “Many of our students are highly qualified, yet would not have the opportunity to pursue their education and aspirations were it not for scholarships and grants,” he said. “As a result, private support of Stockton is more important than ever. Our community has responded to the challenge in a significant way.”

Saturday's Gala, one of southern New Jersey's social events of the year, continued Stockton's march towards the new campaign goal. More than 650 attendees took part in the evening of fine dining, entertainment and a silent auction – and raised over \$450,000. Actual student scholarship recipients took part in the program and several of their stories were highlighted to provide attendees with examples of how their contributions make a difference.

The Gala's Honorary Chair is Auggie Cipollini, Senior Vice President of Operations at Borgata Hotel Casino and Spa. Gala Co-chairs this year are Mary Millar, Chairwoman, Avalon Carpet, Tile and Flooring; and Maryanne Adams, President and CEO, Avalon Carpet, Tile and Flooring. Auction Chair is Lisa Johnson, President of Lisa Johnson Communications.

Major sponsors include Chair's Circle Sponsors Avalon Carpet, Tile & Flooring, Borgata Heart & Soul Foundation, IBEW Local 351, and the Press of Atlantic City. Magna cum laude sponsors are AtlantiCare, Burris Construction Company, Cooper Levenson, Chartwells, Follett Higher Education Group, L. Gayle & Dr. Howard Gross, Interstate Outdoor Advertising, NBC 40, Stockton Seaview Resort and Dr. Jo Frances Stow.

#