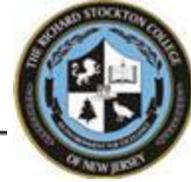


# STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



## **Stockton Provost Kesselman of Mays Landing Named to State Task Force on College and Career Readiness**

Group Charged With Development of Educational Standards and Assessment to Determine Student Readiness for College and Workforce

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

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**Galloway Township, NJ** – Dr. Harvey Kesselman, Provost and Executive Vice President of the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey has been appointed to the recently formed NJ Department of Education Task Force on College and Career Readiness.

The working group, which meets in Trenton, is charged with ensuring that New Jersey high school graduates master the specific skills and acquire the appropriate knowledge to enter college and the workforce.

“As higher education adjusts to meet the changing needs of an increasingly global economy, it is critical that our schools graduate students ready to compete in college and the working world,” said Dr. Kesselman, a resident of Mays Landing. “While I am honored to have been asked to serve on the Task Force on College and Career Readiness, our group faces an important challenge.”

The Task Force has been charged to define what college and career readiness means, and to develop ways to assess the appropriate level of student achievement to attain that definition. The group will be evaluating current standards and exams and recommend needed changes to the system.

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The Task Force will also:

- Develop and recommend specific means for the measurement of academic success for schools and school districts as a valid indication of student readiness, including a new exam
- Identify key data needs related to the diverse demographics of the state and alignment with best practices for appropriate high school and college completion
- Establishment of a transition plan and guidelines for the implementation of the new system
- Engage teachers, school, and business leaders and the general public in the process
- Conduct field testing to ensure effectiveness of the new standards and assessments
- Identify professional development needs for educators.

“We have much work ahead of us; however we expect the outcome to be of significant benefit for the state, its students, and workforce,” Dr. Kesselman said. “Assessment, measurability and accountability are here to stay. Students want to graduate high school with an expectation of getting into the college or university of their choice and to be qualified for a good job. Colleges want to maintain and improve retention rates and New Jersey wants to combat the out-migration of our students. It is quite a task, but that is what this Task Force will set out to help achieve.”

The group will compile and provide an extensive report of its recommendations before the end of 2011.

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