

# STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



## Judith Alton, Brian Hackney Selected for NJ Distinguished Student Teacher Honors

Stockton Education Majors Among 15 Statewide Recipients

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

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

**Galloway Township, NJ-** Stockton College student teachers Judith Alton and Brian Hackney were among 15 individuals named to receive the 2011 New Jersey Distinguished Student Teacher awards.

"The fact that two of our student teachers have earned this prestigious honor certainly reflects on the quality of our students, faculty and teacher preparation program," said Stockton Provost and Executive Vice President Harvey Kesselman.

Each year the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) solicits nominations from the higher education institutions in the state with teacher education programs. The Commissioner of Education, NJDOE staff and its selection committee then selects 15 recipients of the award.

Alton, a resident of Egg Harbor Township, earned a BA in Psychology (summa cum laude) in 2010 and a BA in Teacher Education (summa cum laude) in 2011, both from Stockton. She is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa and Psi Chi Honor Societies. She has developed papers on cognitive and psychosocial issue strategies for educational psychology, and has given a scholarly presentation on cognitive dissonance theory. Cognitive dissonance is an uncomfortable feeling caused by holding conflicting ideas at the same time.

Hackney is a resident of Northfield who holds a BA in Communications from Rowan University (2003) and a BA in Teacher Education (summa cum laude) from Stockton in 2011. He has worked with developmentally delayed students, and designed interactive classes utilizing high technology teaching tools. He is also a soccer coach in the Mainland Regional High School Summer League.

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