

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Stockton College Announces First Annual Civility in Government and Politics Award

Dinner Reception Event Proceeds to Benefit
Scholarships, Washington Internship Program

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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- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey's William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy today announced the first annual William J. Hughes Civility in Government and Politics Award.

This award will be presented at an annual dinner reception on September 13, 2011 at the Stockton College Campus Center. All net proceeds from the dinner will be dedicated to the development of scholarships that will be awarded to economically disadvantaged students attending the Washington Internship program.

William J. Hughes Civility in Government and Politics Award will recognize an appointed or elected New Jersey official that conducts the public's business with civility and respect for others.

"The current public commentary bemoans the rise of extreme partisanship and lack of respect for opposing points of view. Attention getting sound bites have become substitutes for real discussions about policy and this gets in the way of good government," explained William J. Hughes, former United States Ambassador to Panama and former congressman from the second congressional district.

"We must join the discussion by offering positive examples of individuals who vigorously pursue their public goals, but do so without rancor," stated Hughes.

"The Hughes Center Steering Committee decided to name the award after Bill Hughes himself as an example of a public servant putting his constituents' interest and well being over politics," said Sharon Schulman, Executive Director of the Hughes Center at Stockton College.

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Hughes Center Civility in government Award/ page 2

Nominations are being sought after for individuals who are currently, or have been, in the public sector of New Jersey who consistently demonstrates a majority of the following characteristics while attaining the position and fulfilling his/her fundamental duty to represent constituents:

- Political discourse is based on facts.
- Respects others' opinions without regard to political association.
- The government official and all representatives of the official (i.e., campaign and office staff) exhibit truthfulness as exhibited by candor, forthrightness and honesty when communicating with the public.
- Is inclusive in decision-making and policy development.
- Consistently exhibits behavior that is respectful and abstains from disruptive and/or abusive behavior.
- At all times acts with dignity, decency and courtesy.
- Strives to resolve human and societal problems in a rational, peaceful, and efficient manner.
- Strives for excellence.
- Recognizes the importance of cross-political party cooperation and encourages and practices actions that foster cooperation among political ideologies.

Schulman explained that the Hughes Center has mailed nominating information to approximately 100 public leaders in government and academia. Members of the public can also nominate someone who they think possess the characteristics described by downloading the nomination form at www.stockton.edu/hughescenter. All materials, including the completed nomination form and testimonial letters, must be submitted to the Hughes Center before June 15, 2011 at 5:00pm.

About the Hughes Center

The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey serves as a catalyst for research, analysis and innovative policy solutions on the economic, social and cultural issues facing New Jersey. The Center is named for Ambassador William J. Hughes of Ocean City, whose distinguished career includes service in the U.S. House of Representatives, Ambassador to Panama and teaching as a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the College.

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