

## Richard Stockton College Hosts its First Exchange Student from China

Four Stockton Students and Two Professors Return from Korea

## For Immediate Release Photos and Captions at End

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**Galloway Township**, **NJ-** The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey is hosting its first exchange student from China, while four students and two professors from Stockton just returned from South Korea, all part of the college's strategy to develop a globally diverse Stockton community.

Zhong Yuan, a 19-year-old student who attends <u>United International College</u> in Zhuhai, China, arrived in Galloway on Saturday and will be spending a month here, experiencing the dorms.

He is studying English with help from Barbara Somers, who teaches English as a Second Language (ESL) in Galloway.

"I want to feel the American life and better study English," Yuan said at a recent ESL lesson on campus. His first impression of Stockton: "Very nice. This place is very beautiful and comfortable. The environment around Stockton is beautiful, too."

Yuan is a resident of Zhanjiang, China, which has developed a sister-city relationship with Atlantic City in pursuit of political and economic ties. He has plans to meet next week with Mayor Lorenzo Langford as part of his visit, which was arranged by India Karavackas, director of Stockton's Office of International Services.

"This is a symbol of Stockton's concerted effort to promote internationalization at the College," said Karavackas. "Even though this is only one student, it represents the foundation of a potentially significant academic tie to the southern region of China."

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Karavackas has visited schools in China to help Stockton develop academic and cultural ties in Zhanjiang. She said Chinese school officials have visited Stockton and the college and Zhanjiang No. 2 Middle School have an agreement to continue expanding academic ties.

Karavackas also was instrumental in four Stockton students and two faculty members traveling to Jeju National University in South Korea from June 23-July 17.

Tarek Gad, an Economics major, with a minor in International Studies, Melanie Wallace and Kiyle Osgood, Business Studies majors, and Grachelle Gernalin, a Hospitality & Tourism Management Studies major, wrote essays that won them the exchange trip, paid for by Jeju.

Dr. Joseph Lema, associate professor of <u>Hospitality & Tourism Management Studies</u> in the School of Business, and Dr. Jung Lee, associate professor of <u>Instructional Technology</u> in the School of Education, taught classes this summer at Jeju National University and supervised the students.

Dr. Lee had previously taught there last summer, as part of Stockton's agreement to foster academic and cultural exchange with the South Korean university.

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