

Date picked for gubernatorial debate at Stockton

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Michael Ein / Staff Photographer

Stockton University President Harvey Kesselman looks over the Campus Center at the Pomona campus, Thursday Sep. 15, 2016, in Galloway Township. He was a student during the inaugural year of the college when it was housed at the Mayflower Hotel in Atlantic City. (Michael Ein/Staff Photographer)

GALLOWAY TOWNSHIP — The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at Stockton University will host Republican and Democratic gubernatorial debates May 9.

The debates will start at 6:30 and 8 p.m. in the Campus Center Theatre on Stockton's main campus. The order in which each party will debate is still being determined. Sharon Schulman, executive director the Hughes Center, will moderate.

"Holding the primary debates at Stockton University is a way for the people of South Jersey to hear what our future policy makers have to say and enable the candidates to reach the southern region of our state," Schulman said.

During the Republican debate, Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno and Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli will face off.

The Democratic debate will feature Phil Murphy, a former ambassador to Germany and a financier; state Sen. Ray Lesniak; Jim Johnson, a former Clinton administration Treasury official; and Assemblyman John Wisniewski.

The school has hosted legislative, congressional and senatorial debates. Most recently, the Hughes Center sponsored a 2nd Legislative District debate in 2015 with Republican Assemblyman Chris Brown and running mate Will Pauls and Democratic Assemblyman Vince Mazzeo and running mate Colin Bell.

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