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Media Advisory/ Invitation to Cover

Stockton College to Break Ground on Housing V Community Commons

Four New Residential Complexes to Rise; Ceremony Set for Wednesday, February 21, 2007

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Galloway Township, NJ -- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will officially break ground on its new Housing V Residential Commons project at 12 noon, on Wednesday, February 21, 2007.

The ceremony will take place at the construction site adjacent to the Lakeside Center on the Galloway Township campus. Limited parking for the ceremony will be available in the North Parking Lot, adjacent to the Housing IV complex. Taking part in the festivities will be President Herman J. Saatkamp Jr., members of the College Board of Trustees, and representatives of the student body and faculty.

"The groundbreaking marks another significant step in the progress of our facilities master plan," President Saatkamp said. "More students want the total experience of living on campus. The Housing V Community Commons will help us meet demand and create an environment to promote the 'living-learning' philosophy of the residential experience at Stockton. More than residence halls, these buildings will comprise an academic village."

The project, which will add 256 beds of available housing, consists of the design and construction of four new residential complexes, each with a gross area of approximately 26,000 square feet. The buildings are three stories, wood frame with flat roofs and will house 64 students each.

The College Board of Trustees recently approved funding for two additional buildings, which will provide an additional 125 beds to the site. Once completed, the entire complex will accommodate a total occupancy of 375 new residential students by Summer of 2008.

Focus groups that included student participants were utilized in the conceptual design of the complex. Such features as social lounges, laundry facilities with flat screen televisions, "study pods" and quiet study areas are just a few of the innovative features of the buildings. Each residential suite will include four single bedrooms, and a shared mini-kitchen, living and bathroom facilities. The design, location and orientation of the complexes will allow for a community atmosphere among residents.

The Princeton, NJ-based Hillier Architects is the principal design team on the project, which will be built by the Sambe Construction Company, Inc. of Pennsauken, NJ. The project began in January 2007 with a completion schedule of two buildings by January 2008 and two additional buildings to be completed by May 2008.

Following are other highlights of the project:

- Each building has a rectangular footprint measuring approximately 180 feet by 50 feet.
- LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System principles will be applied to the construction and provide a sustainable environment for the students. The LEED benchmark promotes sustainability in five areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.
- State-of-the-art-technology features will be built into the project, such as a cashless one-card security system that integrates student purchases on-site for laundry and vending services. This same card provides access to the wireless Internet and serves as a security card for entry into and within the complex.
- Additional parking has been designed to accommodate the estimated occupancy of 256 students.

President Saatkamp noted the project is the next phase of a campus-wide expansion that includes the recently dedicated F-Wing renovation and expansion and the planning for a new Campus Center.