Richard Stockton's School of Education to Launch New Master of Arts in Educational Leadership for the Fall 2010 Semester

New Master's Program to Introduce Year-Long Internship Experience

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Galloway Township, NJ- In response to the needs of area teachers and current educational research, the School of Education at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey expanded the current repertoire of graduate degree programs to include a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership (MAEL). This innovative and advanced degree program is specifically designed to prepare educators to become educational leaders such as school supervisors and principals. The MAEL program, consistent with the New Jersey Professional Standards for School Leaders and the Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium Standards, will build upon the success of the current graduate programs and will help the School of Education to expand its mission to incorporate educational leadership.

Over the past two years, Stockton College has increased the number of graduate and certificate/endorsement programs being offered through the School of Education. Enrollments have increased substantially, and that trend is expected to continue with the much anticipated arrival of the new Master of Arts in Educational Leadership program, which will launch in September 2010.

"Educators who have received their initial teaching certificates at Stockton are staying at the College to continue their studies. Others from throughout our region are also enrolling in our nationally accredited programs. Our undergraduate and graduate students indicated a need and desire for an educational leadership program. Our dedicated faculty answered by developing a first-rate Master of Arts in Educational Leadership Program to meet the needs of our education students and our local and regional school districts," said Dr. Harvey Kesselman, Dean of Stockton's School of Education.

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Students enrolled in the MAEL program will be eligible to apply for New Jersey Department of Education administrative certificates as both a supervisor and/or a principal. The objectives of the MAEL are as follows:

- Provide vision for the future
- Create a culture for learning
- Manage resources, time, and leadership
- Collaborate with coworkers, families, and the community
- Serve ethically, justly, and accountably
- Advocate for learners at the local, state, and national levels

The School of Education's post-baccalaureate teacher certification program utilizes a heavy emphasis on fieldwork experience for pre-service teachers. The MAEL will build upon the School's long-standing belief in the values of field-based experience by offering a unique six-credit, year-long internship experience that will stretch through the fall, spring, and summer semesters. The first semester of the internship will provide opportunities for students to investigate, analyze, and report on a variety of aspects that have an impact on student learning within a specific school community. The second semester of the internship will become more interactive as students establish relationships with current school leaders in a variety of service oriented capacities. The final semester will conclude leadership service activities, and interns will work collaboratively with college faculty and school leaders in conducting, documenting, and reflecting upon the research and experiences of the previous internship semesters.

Dr. Kesselman explained, "The year-long internship will challenge and broaden the knowledge of the next generation of educational leaders."

Stockton's post-baccalaureate teacher certification program has been in place since the College's founding and has grown substantially in the past decade to meet the region's need for new teachers. Stockton's School of Education was established in 2007, with Dr. Harvey Kesselman serving as the School's inaugural Dean. The single, unifying mission of the School of Education is to develop individuals into competent, caring, qualified educators and professionals. The Southern Regional Institute and the Educational Technology Training Center (SRI&ETTC), housed in the School of Education, provides professional development opportunities for pre-school-12th educators, technology coordinators, school administrators, and other professionals who offer support services to schools. Dr. Harvey Kesselman is the founder and Chairperson of the SRI&ETTC Consortium, which was formed in December of 1996.

For more information, please contact Stockton's School of Graduate and Continuing Studies at 609-652-4298.